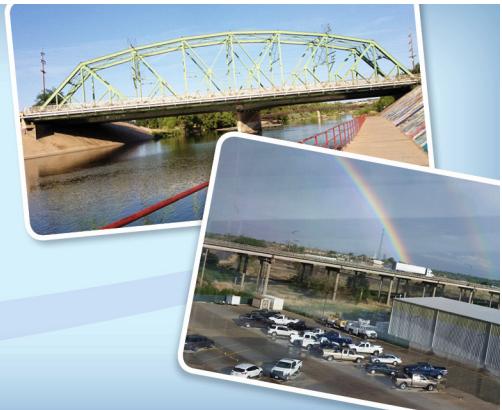# I-25: The New Pueblo Freeway

ILEX STREET TO CITY CENTER DRIVE

Did you know?

- The project is named Ilex for the street that currently connects Santa Fe Avenue to I-25/Runyon Field. When the project is completed, the connection to I-25 and Runyon will be the extension of D Street and Ilex Street will no longer exist.

- 952,000 tons of roadway embankment will be imported, which is equivalent to 11,200 full train cars of material.

- 26,000 tons of asphalt will be placed, which is enough to cover the entire footprint of Sports Authority Field at Mile High Stadium with three inches of asphalt!
(Footprint = 1,717,000 square feet)

- 6,000 cubic yards of concrete will be used, which is equal to 27,405 full wheelbarrows.

CONTRACTOR: FLATIRON CONSTRUCTORS OF BROOMFIELD, COLORADO

FACT SHEET

The Colorado Department of Transportation Ilex Design-Build project will replace bridges on Interstate-25 between Ilex Street and City Center Drive in Pueblo and rehabilitate other bridges. The project is expected to take approximately two years to complete. This is the first segment currently being constructed as part of the New Pueblo Freeway. Most of this highway segment is more than 60 years old and needs a more efficient, updated design to better accommodate the travelling public. Roadway safety and local and regional mobility within and through the City of Pueblo to meet existing and future travel demands will be improved as a result of this project.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Widening of I-25 bridges over City Center Drive, Santa Fe Avenue (US 50C), and Indiana Avenue
- Replacing the bridges on I-25 over D Street, Phelps Creek Trail, Union Pacific railroad tracks, and Gruma Drive
- Rehabilitating the Santa Fe Avenue (US 50C) bridge over the Arkansas River, Northern Avenue and Mesa Avenue bridges over I-25, and bridges on I-25, including northbound over Santa Fe Avenue (US 50C) and over Indiana Avenue
- Adding acceleration/deceleration lanes on I-25 from City Center Drive to the Exit to Santa Fe Avenue (US 50C) to the south
- Softening roadway curves to improve visibility and safety for drivers
- Installing a noise wall near City Center Drive to reduce highway noise for a surrounding neighborhood
- Improving drainage and water quality
- Introducing community-focused aesthetics on bridges and retaining walls
- Improving local roadways
- Crafting landscaping consistent with the local region's terrain

PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE JULY 2015.

Deck poured at I-25 over City Center Drive to widen the bridge

Steel H pilings installed to support D Street walls

D Street walls under construction

Crews place girders as part of widening the I-25 bridge over Santa Fe Avenue (US 50C)

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 2000, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) initiated an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of I-25 through Pueblo, Colorado. This project was designed with respect for the traditions and trends of the Pueblo community, and is consistent with the New Pueblo Freeway and aesthetic guidelines established for the I-25 corridor through Pueblo.

FUNDING

Construction cost estimate = $69 million

State of Colorado revenues from a safety fee placed on vehicle registrations have helped fund the Ilex Design-Build project.

- Bridge Enterprise
- RAMP (Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships)

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

- Began in July 2015 and is scheduled for completion in the fall 2017
- Normal working hours: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Some night and weekend work is expected
- No lane or road closures will be scheduled on national holidays or during other major local events

NEED MORE INFORMATION OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact the Ilex Design-Build project team at **i25ilex@PublicInfoTeam.com** or **719-470-2270**.
Or, visit the project page at **codot.gov/projects/ilexbridges**.
To receive future Ilex Design-Build project e-newsletters and construction notices send an email to **i25ilex@PublicInfoTeam.com**

*As of March 2016