

## **I-25 preview set**

### **April 15 open house to show latest design plans**

**BY DENNIS DARROW**

THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

The public will get the chance next week to see the updated design plans ahead of this summer's start of construction on the Interstate 25-Ilex Street interchange and bridge replacement project.

A project open house will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. April 15 at the Pueblo Convention Center, hosted by the Colorado Department of Transportation and project manager Flatiron Construction, based in Broomfield.

Planners from the state and Flatiron will present an overview of the \$69 million project.

The project will:

- z Replace the long I-25 viaduct that runs from City Center Drive to Ilex Street with a new roadway and series of bridges connected by earthen fill and landscaping improvements.
- z Replace the Ilex interchange and make local street improvements in the same area.
- z Add long acceleration/ deceleration lanes on I-25 from City Center Drive to the south.
- z Add a section of noise wall southeast of the I-25/City Center interchange.
- z Renovate several other I-25 bridges outside of the main project area.

City Center is the former First Street.

"This is an opportunity to introduce Flatiron into the community and talk about the design and the construction schedule," CDOT resident engineer Joe DeHeart said Monday.

Minimal traffic disruptions are expected during the long construction period because the work will be phased in such a way as to maintain two lanes of traffic in each direction, DeHeart said.

The project's current schedule calls for construction to begin in June.

For those unable to attend the open house, more information on the project is available by calling the project team at 753-7100 or emailing [I25ilex@publicinfoteam.com](mailto:I25ilex@publicinfoteam.com).

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**A section of the aged viaduct that will be replaced by a series of bridges as part of the Interstate 25-Ilex Street interchange and bridge reconstruction project. The Ilex interchange is located near the Runyon Field Sports Complex.**

CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/JOHN JAQUES

**An artist's drawing shows the new bridge planned for the I-25-Ilex area.**

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