I-270 Corridor Improvements

Project Details

Beginning in October 2026, the Colorado Department of Transportation will reconstruct Interstate 270, which spans east to west between Adams County and north Denver. Built in 1965, I-270 is the only interstate in Colorado that has never received an upgrade. With more than 100,000 vehicles traveling I-270 daily, the I-270 Corridor Improvements project will improve safety, travel time reliability, freight operations and multimodal connectivity on a congested interstate that carries more traffic than it was designed for.

Project Improvements:

- ✓ Replaces 12 aging bridges built in the 1960s.
- ✓ Adds one new tolled Express Lane in each direction of I-270, free for buses, motorcycles and carpools of three or more, alongside two general-purpose lanes.
- ✓ Rebuilds the Vasquez Boulevard interchange.
- ✓ Improves ramps at I-76, York Street and Quebec Street to reduce merging and weaving crashes.
- ✓ Adds a continuous auxiliary lane on I-270 between Vasquez Boulevard and York Street.
- ✓ Widens shoulders and adds emergency turnarounds so crashes and breakdowns can be cleared more quickly and safely.
- ✓ Builds a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over I-270 between East 56th Avenue and Quebec Street.
- ✓ Adds new sidewalks, multi-use paths and safer crossings at Brighton Boulevard, East 56th Avenue, York Street, Vasquez Boulevard and South Sandcreek Drive.
- ✓ Improves connections to the South Platte River and Sand Creek trails.
- ✓ Adds four new RTD bus stops near the Quebec Street interchange.
- ✓ Adds air quality monitoring and reporting, water quality ponds and wetlands mitigation.

Project Phasing:

The I-270 Corridor Improvements project will be constructed in three phases.

Phase 1 (October 2026 - Early 2030)

Embankment, critical bridges and mainline I-270

Elevate the roadway on the northern edge on westbound I-270 between 60th Avenue and the South Platte River Trail to support the addition of future travel lanes. Rebuild eight of the 12 bridges in the poorest condition over the South Platte River, Burlington Ditch, Brighton Boulevard/ Union Pacific and BNSF railroads and 60th Avenue/BNSF railroad. This phase will also reconstruct mainline I-270 from the South Platte River to the start of the Vasquez Boulevard ramps.

Phase 2 (Early 2030 - 2033)

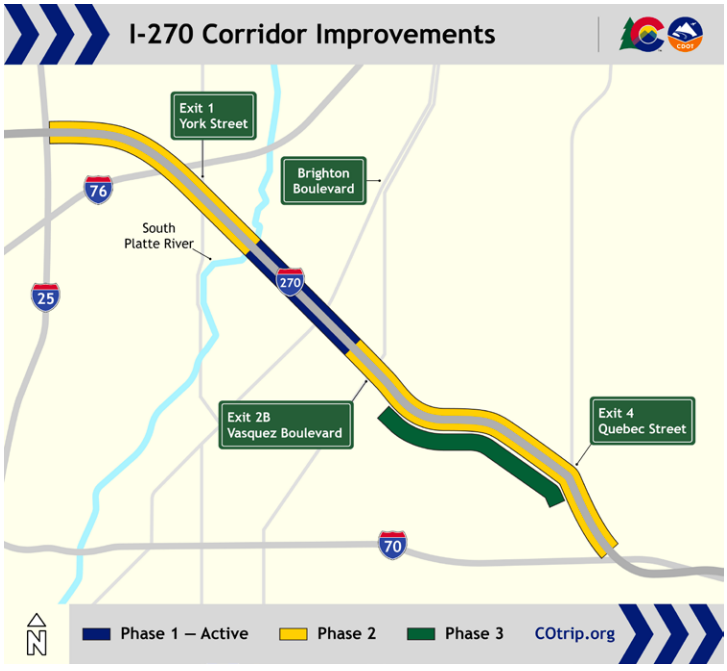
Reconstruct mainline I-270 and interchanges

Reconstruct remaining mainline I-270, the Vasquez Boulevard/I-270 interchange, and York Street and 56th Avenue bridges.

Phase 3 (Early 2030 - 2033)

Vasquez Boulevard and Sand Creek improvements

Reconstruct the Vasquez Boulevard bridge over Sand Creek, improve Sandcreek Drive/frontage road and build a new bicycle and pedestrian overpass over I-270.



CDOT's Nine Community Commitments:

A key project goal is to minimize environmental and community impacts resulting from construction. Based on a multi-year stakeholder and community involvement process, the I-270 Corridor Improvements project committed to the following:

- Supporting greener streets, parks and trails. More trees, shade, public art and natural screening between neighborhoods and local industry.
- Expanding transportation options for corridor residents to improve access and mobility.
- A highway that better fits the context of the community through plantings, landscaping and public art.
- More efficient freight travel, reducing the effects of truck traffic on nearby neighborhoods.
- Air quality that is monitored, measured and reported on before, during and after construction.
- Investing in the local workforce and supporting corridor businesses through construction.
- Investing in community led projects that reach past the highway and into the places where people live, learn and play.
- Keeping the community informed every step of the way by regular reporting on commitments and progress.
- Enhancing the work zone to provide safer, smoother travel through construction.

Stay In the Know:

Real-time traffic impacts:
COtrip.org

Project Hotline
720-743-7653

Project Website
codot.gov/projects/i270corridor

Project Email
cdoti270project@gmail.com

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