

Air Quality

Analysis

Air quality analysis remains one of the most critical components from the environmental study and is a key concern for local residents, CDOT and FHWA (Federal Highway Administration). CDOT must follow the requirements of the Clean Air Act along with guidance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Based on comments received during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, CDOT updated certain aspects of the air quality analysis to provide a picture of air quality results through 2040. This reanalysis gave CDOT the opportunity to utilize the latest available traffic models for air quality analysis. The Central 70 Project met federal air quality conformity requirements to 2035 in the analysis performed during the EIS, and following the re-analysis, the Central 70 Project still meets the federal air quality standards to 2040. The 4-acre park over I-70 provides additional air quality benefits. Modeled receptors at Swansea Elementary School, which is directly adjacent to the 4-acre park, found that PM10 concentrations will be lower due to the presence of the park.

Air Quality Monitors

In addition, as a response to community concerns regarding air quality, CDOT installed an air quality monitor at Swansea Elementary School in 2017. The monitor will take readings throughout construction and will continue for a full year after construction ends. In addition to the Swansea Air Monitor (SAM), there are four additional air quality monitors installed adjacent to the Project to monitor PM10 (dust) during construction. The monitors are set to send an alert to both CDOT and Kiewit if PM10 levels start to rise. This allows the teams to identify the dust-causing operation and implement additional dust mitigation measures prior to the PM10 levels exceeding regulations.



Construction Emissions

Kiewit Meridiam Partners and all subcontractors working on the Central 70 Project are required to use construction equipment equipped with modern EPA-approved pollution controls or to retrofit their fleet to add these controls.