

COMMUNITY



# Commitments to the Community



Central 70



**SIMULTANEOUS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS** in the GES neighborhoods have a cumulative effect on the community that the Project team takes very seriously. With this in mind, the Central 70 team has made nearly 150 community commitments to be completed over the Project's lifespan.

These commitments include major renovations to and expansion of Swansea Elementary School, contributions to local affordable housing efforts, and continuous air monitoring for dust during construction. In addition, the Project offered home improvements to nearly 300 homes within a one-block radius of I-70, providing these residences with air conditioning units, attic insulation, interior storm windows and better weatherization.

In addition to community revitalization, the Central 70 Project set a goal of hiring 20% of the workforce from the 13 ZIP codes adjacent to the Project. This goal was met in spring of 2021. Grant funding awarded to the Project assists with funding a support program through WORKNOW that offers hands-on training courses, career coaching, networking events and job fairs.

# Central 70 Community Commitments

January 2021



**Central 70**

## OUR PROMISE



The Central 70 Project will include many measures designed to reduce the Project's impact, reconnect communities and ensure the economic opportunities of the Project are provided to local residents.

## HOUSING



- CDOT acquired 56 residential units and 17 business/commercial units and worked to identify a suitable replacement property and provide acquisition benefits for the value of their home.
- Renters of impacted residential properties were relocated to appropriate housing and assisted with moving. If the rent payment was higher at the new property, CDOT paid the difference for up to 42 months (3.5 years). Renters may choose to have this payment provided in a lump sum so that they can use it as a down payment on a home purchase. 24 renters elected for a down payment.
- Residents displaced by construction were provided financial counseling and potential access to financing through the Community Resources and Housing Development Corporation.
- Provided \$2 million to the Globeville, Elyria-Swansea Affordable Housing Collaborative to support affordable housing in the Elyria-Swansea neighborhood.

## COMMUNITY



- Provide \$100,000 to help increase access to fresh food.
- Created a documentary covering the history of I-70 East and its relationship to the GES neighborhoods.
- Use regular and varied communication methods to share Project information with residents.
- Provide eligible residents of GES assistance with access to the tolled Express Lanes through either free transponders, pre-loading of tolls, or other means.

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

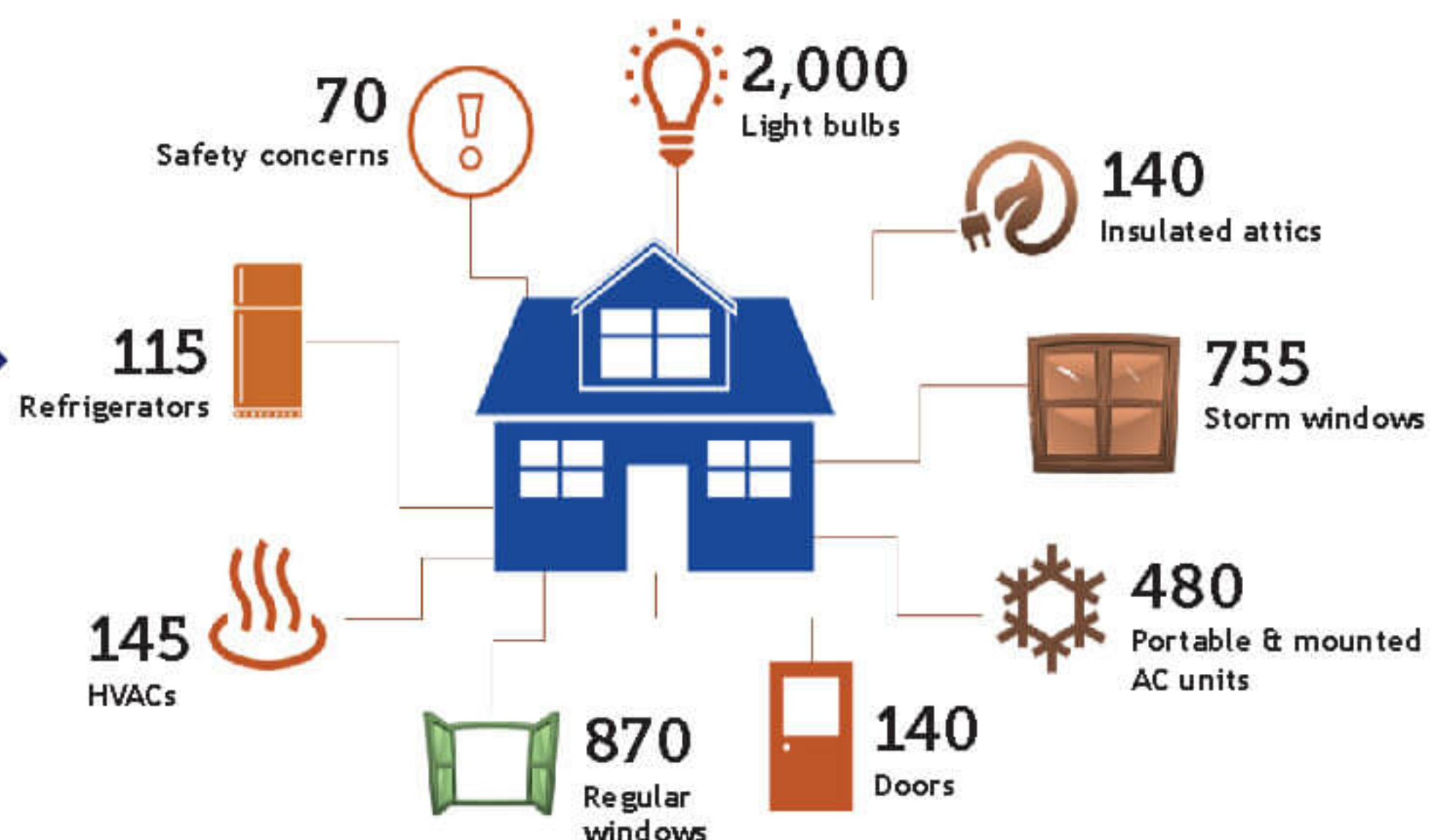


**289**  
Eligible  
Homes

**260**  
Participating  
Homes

**= 90%**  
Participation Rate

## Program Outcomes



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## WORKFORCE COMMITMENTS

- Ensure job opportunities for residents through a 20 percent local (geographic based) hiring requirement.
- Require on-the-job training to provide opportunities for workers to advance to high-skill positions during the construction period.
- Leverage a \$400,000 grant to support workforce development, on-the-job training, and safety, pre-apprenticeship and basic skills training courses in the Denver metro area.

## COMMUNITY AND TRAVELER ACCESS

- Provide incentives for carpooling and transit use to reduce traffic during construction.
- Since Feb. 2018, more than 1 million Vehicle Miles Traveled were saved through this program.

## CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

- Provide interior storm windows and two portable or window-mounted air conditioning units, plus financial assistance for utility costs to residents – between 45th and 47th avenues and Brighton and Colorado boulevards – to help mitigate dust and noise during construction.
- Require the use of clean, low emitting construction equipment.
- Installed four air monitors in community.

## SWANSEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- \$19 million worth of improvements completed
- Two new Early Childhood Education (ECE) Classrooms
- New, comprehensive HVAC system
- Relocated and renovated main entrance and administration offices
- Renovated interior courtyard, includes ECE playground
- New school bus parking area
- Protective sound barrier
- Relocated playground and parking lot to northeast side of the school, farther away from construction area, and new playground equipment installed.

## COVER PARK

- Construct a four-acre park over the lowered section. Students, parents and members of the surrounding community were involved in designing the park's amenities.
- 100+ trees will be planted in the park.



## COVER PARK AMENITIES



### Two 25 x 50 yard soccer fields

for use of the  
elementary school  
during school hours



### Amphitheater

artfully designed  
pavilion structure with  
tree-lined events lawn



### Splash pad

five water features,  
designed with sustainability  
and energy conservation



### Tot lot and additional playground area

1,500 square feet with seat  
walls for easy supervision

Central 70 issued a \$2 million check to the GES Affordable Housing Collaborative on July 30, 2018 to assist with affordable housing in the neighborhood.





SCAN THE QR CODE to your left with your smartphone camera to view the video: Central 70 Workforce Update, 2021.

