



February 3, 2017

Dear Residents,

As residents and community members directly impacted by future changes to I-70, we wanted to provide you with an overview of some major steps taken recently that move this project forward. On January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) officially signed a Record of Decision (ROD) approving the reconstruction of Interstate 70, concluding a 14-year study. This approval allows CDOT to move forward with a plan to remove one of Colorado's largest and poorest bridges, to add new capacity to the highway making travel more reliable and safer and to reconnect neighborhoods by constructing a park over I-70 adjacent to Swansea Elementary School.

The ROD essentially is our promise to you and the region about how we save lives and make people's lives better. It also allows CDOT to begin to implement some of the commitments we've made to the community even before construction begins. This includes new windows and doors at Swansea Elementary School, a workforce development program that includes training and hiring of local residents, and contributions to affordable housing and fresh food access in the Globeville, Elyria and Swansea neighborhoods.

The ROD also works through complicated issues like how we handle drainage needed for the lowered highway and how air quality will impact your community. We care deeply about these issues and have taken the time to study them in depth and have brought in a series of experts to help us with this work. In fact, a key reason why CDOT must study projects like I-70 before taking any action is to ensure we are able to safeguard community health at the same time as delivering a safer highway for all Coloradans.

In the coming months CDOT will be selecting a team to finalize design and build the Central 70 Project. CDOT will require this team to also engage and commit to the community, including hiring a bi-lingual community liaison, constructing temporary noise barriers, maintaining local street access, and installing pollution controls on construction equipment. We look forward to introducing you to this team later this summer, and sharing their winning approach to this project.

The Record of Decision is the result of more than a decade of engagement and outreach. We thank you for your participation, and for your patience, through this process and hope you will stay engaged as the project moves forward. Our team is available to answer your questions and walk through specifics of the project design. Please contact [central70info@codot.gov](mailto:central70info@codot.gov) or 303-757-9413.

Sincerely,

Shailen P. Bhatt  
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