



Project Mitigations

January 2016

Background

All large highway construction projects like I-70 East have impacts to residents and businesses. It is the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) goal to minimize those impacts whenever possible.

Mitigations

Based on extensive public involvement, CDOT has identified additional mitigation measures beyond those required or normally provided on CDOT transportation projects to lessen adverse impacts in the project area. These mitigation measures are integral to the project and, thus, would be fully funded and implemented as part of the final project. Some of the additional mitigation measures developed to date include:

- Provide targeted assistance to encourage businesses that are crucial to low-income and minority populations to find new locations in the same neighborhoods.
- Provide funding to Community Resources and Housing Development Corporation (CRHDC), a nonprofit housing agency, to assist displacees with financial counseling and procurement of financing for replacement property and securing business and residential loans.
- Provide residents close to the highway construction—between 45th and 47th Avenues from Brighton Boulevard to Colorado Boulevard—interior storm windows and two free portable or window-mounted air conditioning units with air filtration plus assistance to pay for the potential additional utility costs during construction to help mitigate dust and noise during construction.
- Facilitate opportunities to promote hiring individuals from the communities such as job fairs with contractors.
- Provide a new HVAC system, doors and windows for Swansea Elementary School to help mitigate the dust and noise expected during the construction period.
- Prior to the start of roadway construction, build two new classrooms at Swansea Elementary School to enhance the overall quality of the school.
- Research contributions to existing programs that facilitate access to fresh food.
- Construct a cover over the highway to mitigate community impacts and design an urban area on top of the highway cover adjacent to Swansea Elementary School.
- Provide \$2 million to develop affordable housing units in the Elyria and Swansea neighborhoods through available programs.

For a full list of the mitigation associated with the Preferred Alternative, please see Chapter 9 of the Final EIS at <http://www.i-70east.com/>.