

CHOOSE YOUR MOVE



US 36
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

XPRESS

March 2013

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Crews constructing a concrete land ditch

Enhancing the Workforce on US 36

The aggressive construction schedule on the US 36 Express Lanes Project means multiple shifts per day, six days a week, and requires a large workforce. Ames Granite Joint Venture has bid more than 1 million man hours to the project and is committed to hire, train and advance willing participants through a workforce development program. In partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the Regional Transportation District (RTD), the High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE), Workforce Initiative Now (WIN) and the Colorado Contractor's Association (CCA), the program has successfully enrolled more than 50 candidates to date. These candidates receive on-the-job and classroom trainings to advance their selected skill sets.

The program, which focuses on bringing minorities into the construction industry, will use an estimated 140,000 man hours on this project from participants.

Ames Granite Construction Manager, Jason Estes, has previous workforce development experience and is excited about the direction the program is headed.

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Wadsworth Bridge Girder Installation

March 21 - April 2

There will be nightly closures on east and westbound US 36 from 9 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. at the Wadsworth Parkway bridge for girder installation.

Closure Schedule:

- **Eastbound US 36 at Wadsworth Parkway**

March 21 - March 23

- **East and Westbound US 36 at Wadsworth Parkway**

March 24 - March 29

- **Westbound US 36 at Wadsworth Parkway**

March 30 - April 2

Expect delays during these times. Detours and more information will be made available as they are finalized.

Upcoming Construction Activities

- Wall construction on the BNSF and Sheridan Boulevard bridges, as well as the US 36 bridges over Lowell Boulevard and East and West Flatiron Crossing
- Noise wall relocation on the north side of US 36 between Federal and 80th Avenue and Oakwood Park
- Pavement removal and earthwork along the old eastbound US 36 alignment
- Installation of the new drainage and pedestrian tunnels on Big Dry Creek Trail, east of Church Ranch Boulevard
- Wadsworth bridge girder installation scheduled for late March
- 112th bridge girder installation scheduled for mid-April
- Roadway preparations for the traffic realignment from 88th to East Flatiron Crossing
- Electrical relocations throughout the project
- Parkland Street and Uptown Avenue intersection work requiring closure of the intersection on March 18-21
- Box culvert installations in multiple locations along the corridor
- Ongoing pothole maintenance throughout project



Installation of drainage and a pedestrian tunnel on Big Dry Creek Trail

Environmentally Conscious Construction

In November 2012, Ames Granite hired Fisher Industries to provide concrete and asphalt recycling services on the US 36 Express Lanes Project to be used throughout the 11-mile project.

Using a fleet of portable plants, Fisher Industries is recycling approximately 2,500 tons of material daily. Approximately two-thirds of this reprocessed material will be used as aggregate for future road base. Crushing old asphalt and concrete expends less energy than mining new aggregate, and recycling on-site lowers the costs of heavy material hauling and reduces air pollution on the roads.



Stockpile of recycled asphalt to be used for road base

The process of being environmentally conscious results in less deterioration on roads and equipment and reduces energy costs of transportation vehicles. Ames Granite recognizes the value of conservation and recycling and is committed to processes that promote environmental sustainability on the project.



US 36 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT FACTS

Project Boundaries

Federal Boulevard to 88th Street in Louisville/Superior.

Project Elements

The US 36 Express Lanes Project is a multi-modal project led by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Colorado High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE), and Regional Transportation District (RTD) to reconstruct 11 miles of US 36 from Federal Boulevard to 88th Street in Louisville/Superior.

The project will:

- Add an express lane in each direction of US 36 for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) and tolled Single Occupancy Vehicles (SOV);
- Reconstruct existing pavement on US 36 and widen the highway to accommodate 12-foot inside and outside shoulders;
- Replace the Wadsworth Parkway, Wadsworth Boulevard (at 112th Avenue), and Sheridan Boulevard bridges, and the US 36 bridges over Lowell Boulevard and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway;
- Make improvements to the Westminister Promenade, East and West Flatiron Crossing Bridges;
- Add BRT improvements, including new electronic display signage at stations and bus priority improvements at ramps. The improvements also will allow buses to operate on the shoulders of US 36 and between interchanges to decrease bus travel time.
- Install Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) for tolling, transit, traveler information, and incident management;
- Install a separate commuter bikeway along much of the corridor; and
- Improve RTD stations along the corridor, including new canopies with enhanced weather protection.

Telework Benefits to Employers

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies can help increase commuter mobility and decrease the amount of traffic during construction projects like the US 36 Express Lanes Project. One strategy is telework. 36 Commuting Solutions is offering “Teleworkshops” and financial assistance to employers wanting to establish new programs.

Recruiting the Best Talent

Telework removes geography and travel as a constraint. After all, work is what you do, not where you are – does it really make sense to drive an hour to get from one computer screen to the next? Employers can increase their pool of talent and decrease time spent traveling or stuck in traffic through teleworking, and this is increasingly expected by the younger generation of workers who have grown up with technology.

Retaining the Best Talent

Employee turnover cost = the cost of hiring a new employee + the costs of training the new employee. A rule of thumb is that turnover costs an employer between 50 and 200 percent of the employee’s annual salary. Surveys have demonstrated that teleworking increases employee morale and retention.

Continuity of Operations

Maintaining continuity of critical business functions during adverse weather, flu pandemics or other emergencies is impossible without an established telework program in place and functioning. Once the emergency strikes, it is too late to start a telework program.

Increased Productivity and Reduced Absenteeism

Surveys of employers shows that productivity can increase in the range of 10-20 percent due to a quieter, more comfortable work environment at home. Surveys conducted nationally also demonstrate that telework programs reduce absenteeism by 2-4 days per year per teleworker.

Control of Real Estate and Office Costs

Through telework strategies like office hoteling or hot-desking, employers can reduce inefficiencies and consolidate office space even for part-time teleworkers. Along with reducing office space needs, telework can also reduce parking lease expenses. While savings will depend on the specific arrangement, prominent employers report significant savings. For example, according to IBM, its 80,000 teleworkers save the company more than \$700 million a year in real estate costs alone.

To learn more about implementing a telework program at your organization, please contact 36 Commuting Solutions at info@36commutingsolutions.org or 303.604.4383.



Workforce Development

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“We hope to continue to enroll candidates over the course of the project with the ultimate goal of training employees who recognize the opportunity we are providing them, and in turn supply them with life and work skills to use in future jobs,” Estes said.

The US 36 Express Lanes workforce development program provides a wide variety of training opportunities, including engineering, design, document control, and other construction disciplines like safety, heavy equipment operating, carpentry, traffic control, and surveying. Watch for workforce development employee profiles in the months to come.

Big Dry Creek Trail Closure

The Big Dry Creek Trail at the US 36 undercrossing is closed March 4 through April 15, 2013. Signs will be placed along the trail indicating the detour at Walnut Creek.



Move Your Vehicle

Please use caution navigating through work areas. It is easy to become distracted, and accidents can happen very quickly. If an accident occurs on the highway, please adhere to Colorado Revised Statute 42-4-1602, which says to move the vehicles safely off of the highway to the shoulder, the nearest suitable cross street, emergency pullout or other suitable location, to prevent the obstruction of traffic.