



January 2015

Project comes through for the community

Just before the holidays, the US 6 Bridges Design Build Project team was proud to make a donation of about \$2,000 to the Sam Sandos Christmas Baskets Program. This program is supported strongly by Hon. Paul D. Lopez, Denver City Councilman (Dist. 3), who benefitted from the program growing up.

Special recognition goes to Slaton Brothers, Inc. – the project’s retaining wall subcontractor. Their sizable donation of \$1,000 to this great cause showcases the company’s generous support of the community. Thank you, Slaton Brothers!

The team raised enough money to provide baskets to nearly 60 families in the community.

The photo to the right shows (from the left): Kevin Sullivan, CDOT; Mike Ingram, Edward Kraemer and Sons; Kassie Watson, Edward Kraemer and Sons; Hon. Paul D. Lopez, Denver City Councilman (Dist. 3).

If you’d like to support this program and help bring a healthy holiday meal to families in need in this community, you can do so by donating all year long.



Checks can be made out to:

***Sam Sandos Christmas Baskets
c/o Councilman Paul Lopez
4200 Morrison Road, Unit 7
Denver, CO 80219***

Construction update

December accomplishments

- Shifted both I-25 off-ramps to westbound US 6 into their new, permanent locations
- Demolished the west half of the Federal Boulevard bridge over US 6
- Set girders on the northbound I-25 to westbound US 6 off-ramp bridge over a segment of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad tracks, just east of I-25
- Set girders on the Federal Boulevard bridge over the new westbound US 6 collector-distributor road
- Installed new, permanent signs along US 6 and I-25
- Continued work in the Barnum parks

January updates

- Pouring the bridge deck on the northbound I-25 to westbound US 6 off-ramp bridge over a segment of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad tracks, just east of I-25
- Shifting both directions of US 6 traffic onto the new bridges over Bryant Street and the S. Platte River, resulting in a six month closure of the southbound I-25 off-ramp to eastbound US 6
- Opening the brand new Federal Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound US 6 and closing the old eastbound US 6 on-ramp from 5th Avenue
- Shifting a segment of westbound US 6 traffic, between Federal Boulevard and Knox Court, to the north onto new, permanent concrete
- Demolishing the southern portion of the US 6 bridge over Bryant Street
- Implementing a two month closure of the S. Platte River Trail between 8th Avenue and Bayaud Avenue for total reconstruction and improvements to a 1-mile stretch of the trail

2015 begins with traffic shifts and a busy weekend

The project team is off and running in the early going in 2015, starting things off with a substantial weekend of work in late January. Here are the details:

What

Crews will shift traffic in three locations onto new bridges, ramps and permanent concrete.

When

- Begins Wednesday, Jan. 21, and Thursday, Jan. 22, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. each night.
- Bulk of work occurs from 10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, until 5 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26.

Why

The three shifts outlined below will free up significant room for additional work as the US 6 Bridges Design Build Project moves into the home stretch.

Shift Details

- **Eastern shift:**
 - Crews will move both directions of US 6 traffic to the north onto the new US 6 bridges over the S. Platte River and Bryant Street on the east end of the project corridor.
 - Crews will shift westbound US 6 traffic onto these two bridges Wednesday and Thursday nights, requiring various lane closures on US 6 as needed.

- Crews will shift eastbound US 6 traffic onto these two bridges the weekend of Jan. 23. Shifting the lanes of eastbound US 6 to the north will impact traffic in these three ways:
 - ***The southbound I-25 off-ramp to eastbound US 6 will close Friday night and remain closed for about six months.***
 - There will be no access to I-25 from eastbound US 6 from 10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, until 5 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26, so crews can pave a new, temporary on-ramp that will accommodate the new traffic pattern.
 - There will be various lane closures on US 6 throughout the weekend as needed.
- ***Effective the morning of Monday, Jan. 26, westbound US 6 traffic coming out of downtown Denver will once again be able to exit at Federal Boulevard.***
- **Shift onto a brand new Federal ramp:**
 - ***Crews are completing the diamond interchange at Federal Boulevard and US 6 by adding an on-ramp ramp to eastbound US 6 from Federal Boulevard.***
 - The new Federal Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound US 6 opens the morning of Monday, Jan. 26 (see graphic below).
 - The night of Friday, Jan. 23, the 5th Avenue on-ramp to eastbound US 6 closes permanently.
 - During the weekend, there will be no access to eastbound US 6 from Federal Boulevard or 5th Avenue.
 - This new Federal Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound US 6 improves safety by increasing the distance between traffic merging onto the highway and traffic exiting at I-25.
- **Western shift:**
 - The final shift of the weekend will move all lanes of westbound US 6 traffic between Federal Boulevard and Knox Court to the north onto new, permanent concrete.
 - This shift will require various US 6 lane closures during the weekend.
 - Moving traffic to the north will create room to finish rebuilding the south half of US 6.

Detours

- **Eastbound US 6 traffic looking to access I-25 during the weekend closure:** Drivers should exit US 6 at Sheridan Boulevard, then take Sheridan to either Alameda Avenue or Colfax Avenue, then go east and follow the signage to the I-25 on-ramp.
- **Federal Boulevard traffic looking to access eastbound US 6 during the weekend closure:** Drivers should use Alameda, 8th or Colfax avenues to travel east to downtown or access I-25.
- **Southbound I-25 traffic looking to access eastbound US 6 during the six month off-ramp closure:** Drivers should exit I-25 at 8th Avenue and follow the signs to take 8th Avenue east toward downtown Denver.

CDOT encourages smart, safe winter driving with I-70 Mountain Travel Radio



Are you planning to head to the mountains this winter? CDOT is trying to improve that experience for all drivers in the region. Make sure you check out the brand new **I-70 Mountain Travel Radio** for up-to-date, real-time road and traffic conditions on I-70 between Denver and Vail, including live weather and traffic updates, information about winter driving, carpooling, snow plow safety, tire safety and discounts to local businesses along the corridor.

Starting Saturday, Jan. 17, the new I-70 Mountain Travel Radio will broadcast every Saturday and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. throughout the winter, coinciding with peak travel times along I-70. Listeners can tune in to the live broadcasts through either CoTrip.org or the [CDOT Mobile](#) app.

This is just the latest in CDOT's season-long effort to improve the mountain driving experience along I-70.

As part of that, this is another reminder to keep your vehicles safe and ready for anything this winter, beginning with your tires. Try taking the quarter test to find out if yours make the cut:

- Insert a quarter into the tire tread upside down, with Washington's head going in first
- If the top of George's head is covered by the tread, your tires are OK – do this test at multiple points around each tire
- If the top of his head is visible at any point around the tire, ***you need new tires***

Consider investing in a set of winter tires. Winter tires are specially designed to grip cold and wet roads better than all-season tires.

Meet the project team

Mike McKenzie, Slaton Brothers, Inc.

What is your role on the US 6 Bridges Design Build Project?

I am the project manager for the Mechanically Stabilized Earth/Soil Nail Veneer walls on the project.

How long have you been with Slaton Brothers Inc.?

I have been with Slaton for a year and a half.

What is the most rewarding part of what you do?

The most rewarding part of what I do is to help solve problems with innovative ideas and processes. This project has had several challenges that I have enjoyed working with the project team to resolve. This is a great group of people out here and I am honored to work alongside them.

Where did you attend school?

THE Weber State University!

If you could have dinner with someone, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

First off, what kind of question is this?! If I could have dinner with someone it would be George Washington... I am kind of a history buff and think it would be cool to actually hear his side of the story first hand on the trials and tribulations that he faced in starting the country that we all live in... cheesy, I know.

Where is your favorite place you've traveled?

Tough one. I would have to say that to date my favorite place was Costa Rica with my wife.

What are your hobbies?

I was born and raised in Idaho so hunting and fishing are at the top of my list. I also enjoy spending time with my wife Cynthia and three kids: Mason, Madison, and Isabella. I definitely love to play golf in my spare time, which is minimal. With my time on this project and the hours required to get the work done, I could include working as a hobby.

What was your first concert?

Garth Brooks at the Boise Pavilion (a long time ago).

What was your first car?

Ferrari... Just kidding. It was a beat down old F-150 farm truck with more miles on it than you could count.



Do you prefer dogs or cats and why?

Growing up on a farm we had both animals but I spent most of my time with my hunting dog and have had one ever since so I am definitely a dog lover. You know what they say, “man’s best friend.”

Note from the Project Director

We’re so excited to jump into 2015 – the year our project will finish. We’ve already accomplished so much and look forward to the year ahead with many major milestones and corridor improvements to come.

This is truly a standout team of industry-leading talent and it’s a pleasure to work with them day in and day out. Aside from their abilities on the job, I’m perhaps most proud of the collective commitment to making a positive impact in this community, illustrated by their support of the Sam Sandos Christmas Baskets Program.

I’d like to thank our whole team, including Slaton Brothers, Inc. once again, for their contribution to making the holidays better for families in need. We’re grateful to work in this community every day and can’t wait for everyone to be able to enjoy the finished product in just a few short months.

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Kevin Sullivan

*Project Director, US 6 Bridges Design Build Project
Colorado Department of Transportation*

Want more information?

Website: www.coloradodot.info/projects/US6Bridges

Hotline: 720-881-5540

Email: us6bridgesinfo@cig-pr.com

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