



I-270 Corridor Improvements



Welcome to the I-270 Corridor Improvements Project Open House

Please take this opportunity to learn more about the project by viewing the exhibits throughout the room, listening to the project video presentation, and talking with project staff.

Your comments and insights are important

- Fill out and return a comment sheet
- Share your ideas with project team members
- Identify areas of interest or concern on the project map
- Send an email or call the hotline with your comments

Thank you for taking the time to get involved in the I-270 Corridor Improvements Project

Project team members will be available throughout the meeting to talk with you and answer your questions. If you need translation services, child care, or any other assistance please let a staff member know.

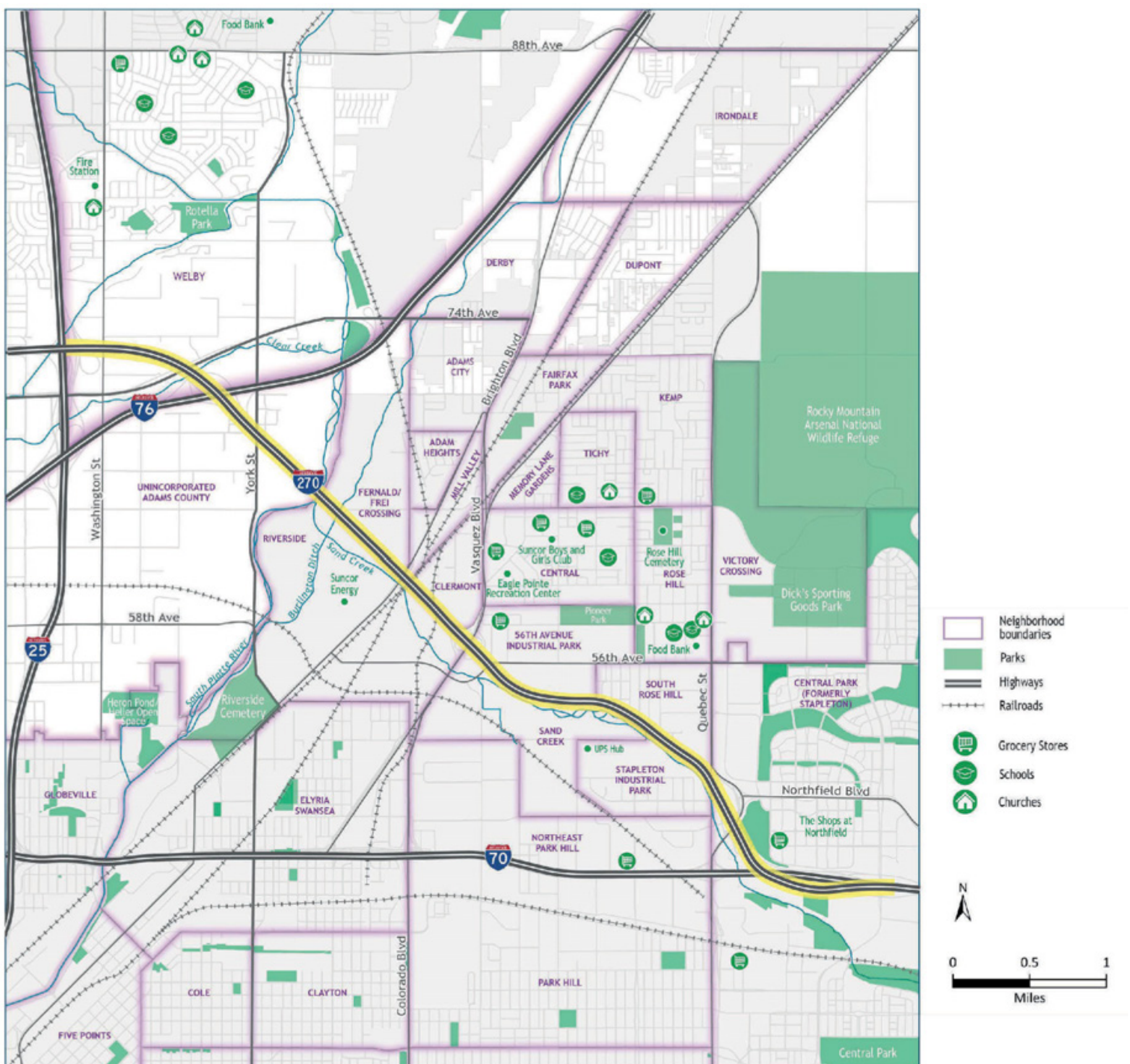
Project Background



I-270 Corridor Improvements

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are conducting an environmental study to evaluate transportation improvements for the I-270 corridor. The project would improve traffic flow and safety on the I-270 mainline; reconfigure interchanges and ramps; enhance bicycle and pedestrian connectivity across I-270; and replace deficient bridges and other infrastructure.

- The project area includes the entire extent of I-270 between I-25 and I-70.
- No major improvements have occurred since the highway was constructed between 1965 and 1970.
- Several studies over the past decade have identified the need for corridor improvements.
- The need for improvements has become more urgent as the infrastructure has deteriorated and traffic volumes have increased.



Environmental Study and Public Input Opportunities



I-270 Corridor Improvements

Environmental Study & Public Input Opportunities

2020-2025



Bridge maintenance and emergency repairs will be on-going until construction of the critical bridges is complete.

Environmental Study & Public Input Opportunities

EIS (2024-2025)



Future I-270 Complete

2025

2025-2026

2026+

Purpose of this Study



I-270 Corridor Improvements

Why are CDOT and FHWA conducting this environmental study?

- I-270 corridor improvements are important and needed.
- We need input from residents and businesses in the area, highway and transit users, and other interested groups on how to improve the corridor.
- CDOT and FHWA are committed to addressing transportation needs and minimizing environmental and community impacts.

An environmental study will:

- Document the need for the project.
- Identify potential alternatives to address the needs.
- Describe the environment in the affected area.
- Analyze the benefits and effects of the project to the environment and community.
- Commit to measures to mitigate community and environmental impacts of the project.



Purpose and Need



I-270 Corridor Improvements



The purpose of the I-270 Corridor Improvements project is to:

- Implement transportation solutions that modernize the I-270 corridor to accommodate existing and forecasted transportation demand.

The identified transportation needs are as follows:

- Traveler safety
- Transit on the corridor
- Bicycle and pedestrian connectivity across I-270
- Travel time reliability
- Freight mobility

Goal: Minimize environmental impacts (including air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, community impacts) from the project.

The project Purpose and Need



Frames the transportation problems



Presents a case for doing something (compared to doing nothing)



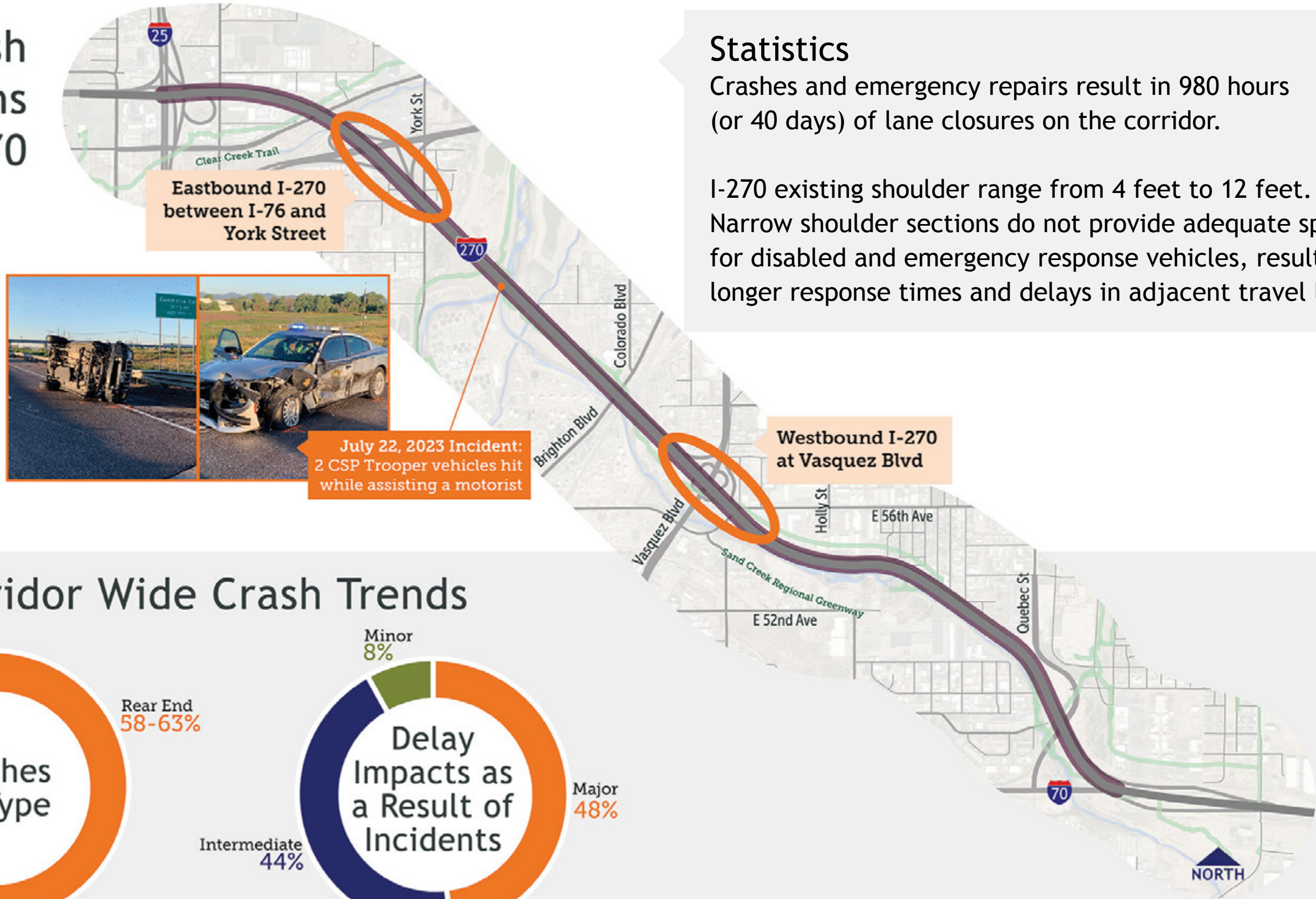
Provides the foundation for evaluating how improvements solve problem

Corridor Safety



I-270 Corridor Improvements

High Crash Locations Along I-270



Eastbound I-270 between I-76 and York Street



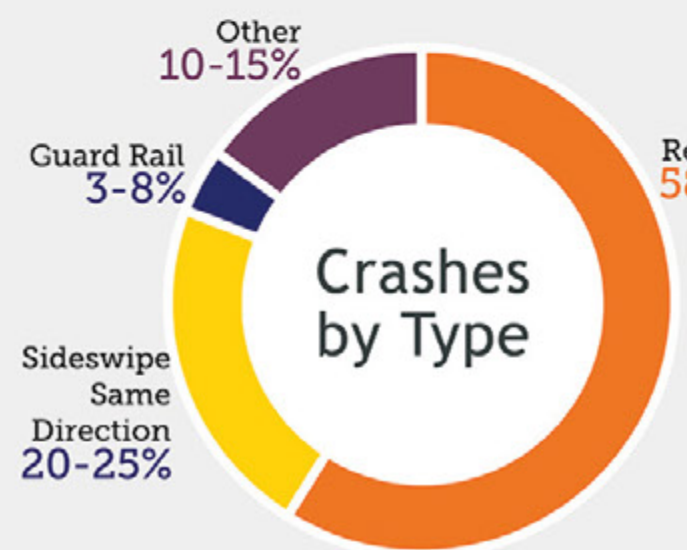
July 22, 2023 Incident: 2 CSP Trooper vehicles hit while assisting a motorist

Statistics

Crashes and emergency repairs result in 980 hours (or 40 days) of lane closures on the corridor.

I-270 existing shoulder range from 4 feet to 12 feet. Narrow shoulder sections do not provide adequate space for disabled and emergency response vehicles, resulting in longer response times and delays in adjacent travel lanes.

Corridor Wide Crash Trends



Existing Traffic (2023)



I-270 Corridor Improvements



Origin and Destination Study



I-270 Corridor Improvements

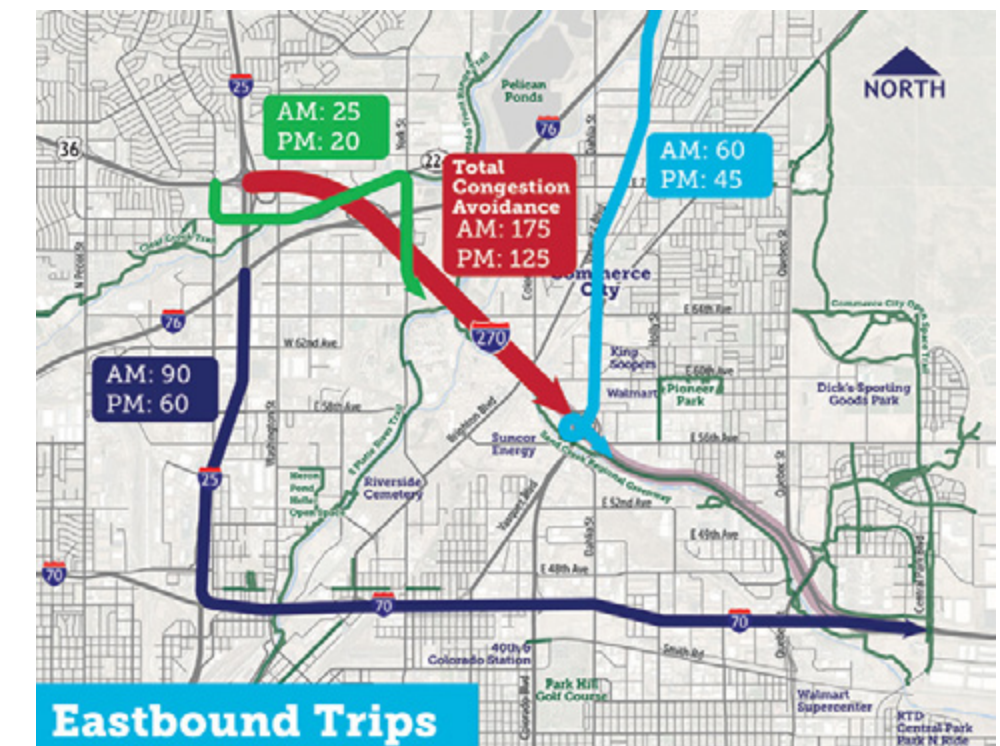
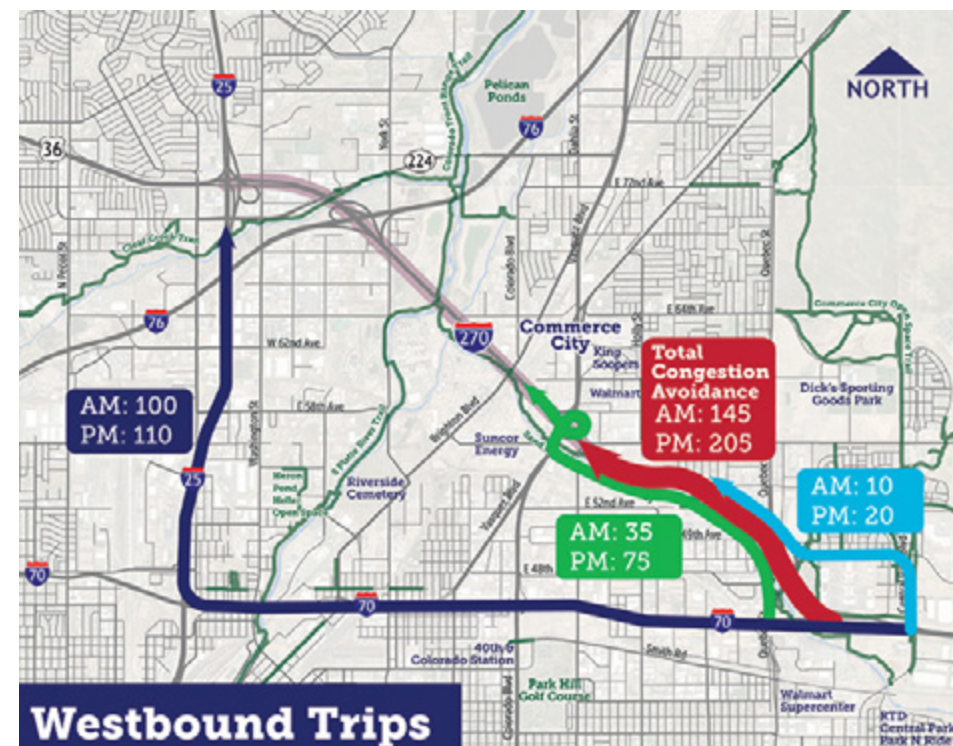
Percent of vehicles that travel the length of I-270

Through-trip traffic analysis was conducted from September to November 2021 to determine:

- Percent of traffic traveling on I-270 without stopping
- Percent of traffic traveling on I-270 diverting to other routes

Peak hour congestion avoidance on I-270

- Congestion on I-270 during peak hours makes some drivers seek alternate routes
- Use of alternate routes increases traffic on local neighborhood streets and on other highways, increasing the total distance vehicles travel
- 5-6% of all westbound vehicles and 4-5% of all eastbound vehicles use alternate routes during the peak hour



Critical Bridges



I-270 Corridor Improvements

Need

These bridges are reaching the end of their useful life. They are in need of replacement and are critical to improving safety and travel time reliability.

In the last 10 years this section of I-270 experienced:

65
emergency maintenance repairs

57%
have occurred since 2020

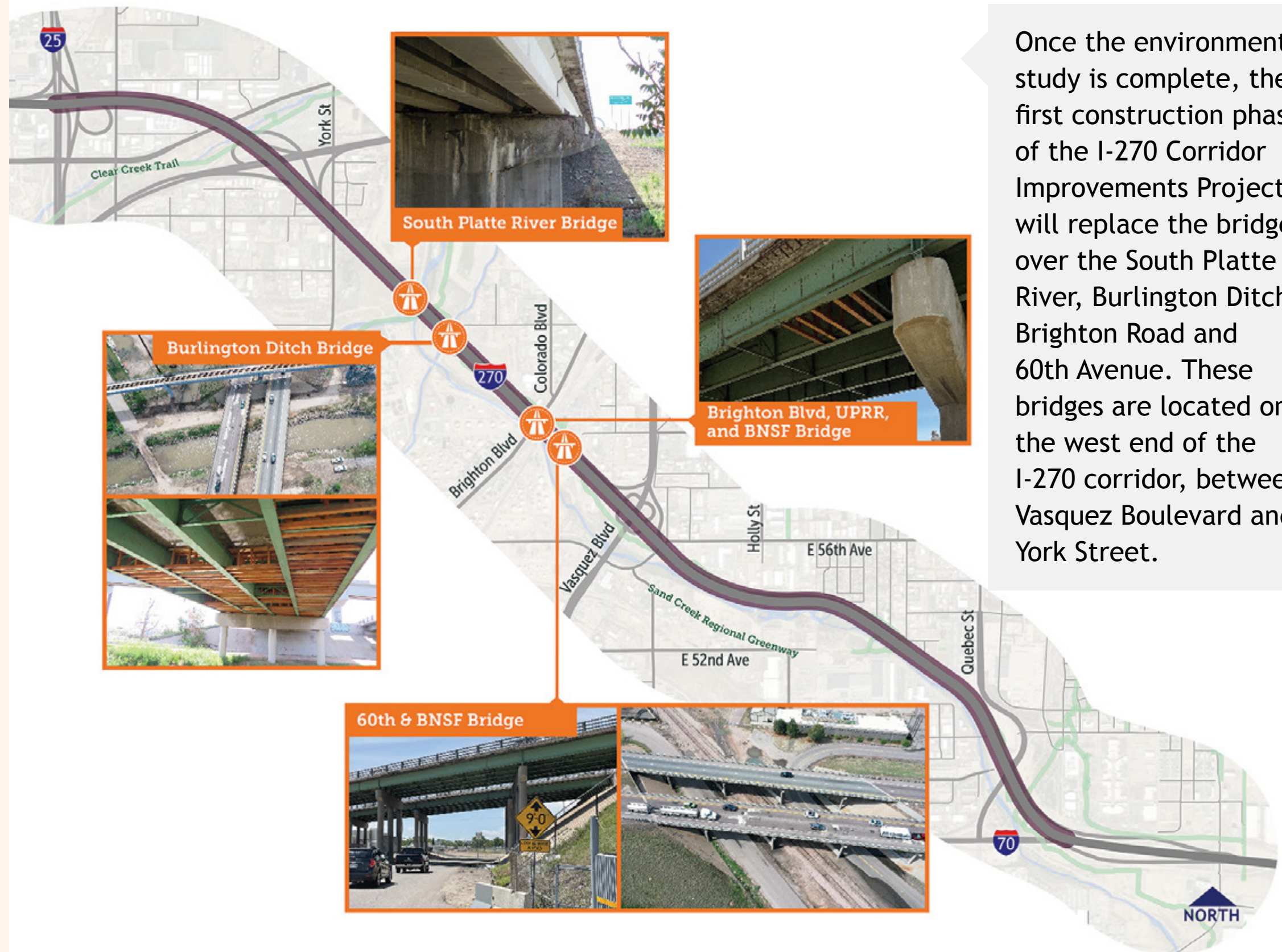
10
emergency repairs per year
from 2020-present

160
planned maintenance repairs

44%
have occurred since 2020

20
planned maintenance repairs
per year from 2020-present

Since 2020, CDOT maintenance crews have spent \$150,000 and 300 hours of traffic control to maintain these bridges, per year.



Once the environmental study is complete, the first construction phase of the I-270 Corridor Improvements Project will replace the bridges over the South Platte River, Burlington Ditch, Brighton Road and 60th Avenue. These bridges are located on the west end of the I-270 corridor, between Vasquez Boulevard and York Street.

Developing and evaluating project alternatives is the heart of the environmental study process.

Evaluation Process Includes:

- Rigorous exploration of all reasonable alternatives.
- Comparison and screening of alternatives to determine which best meet needs and should be carried forward for detailed evaluation in the environmental study.
- Evaluation of the No Action Alternative.

Each alternative will be evaluated to determine its potential to address the project's Purpose and Need and to compare its environmental impacts. Alternatives will be refined through the process to select a Preferred Alternative.

Seven I-270 Alternatives are being explored.

These include:

- No Action Alternative
- Two General Purpose Lanes and Increased Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Enhancements Alternative
- Three General Purpose Lanes Alternative
- Two General Purpose Lanes and a Transit Only Lane Alternative
- Two General Purpose Lanes and an Express Lane Accommodating Transit Alternative
- Two General Purpose Lanes and Two Express Lanes Accommodating Transit Alternative
- Three General Purpose Lanes and an Express Lane Accommodating Transit Alternative

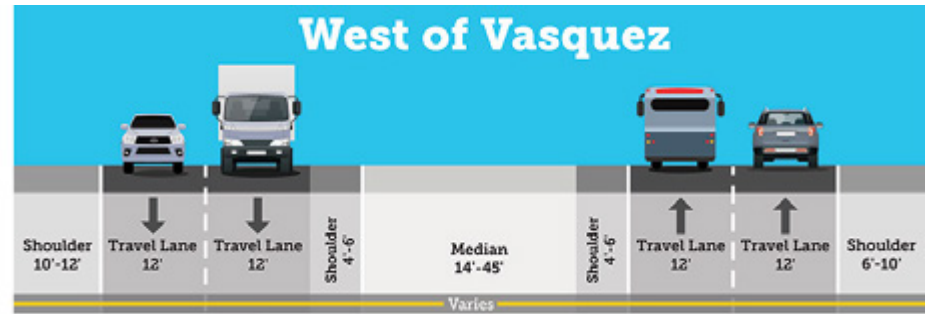
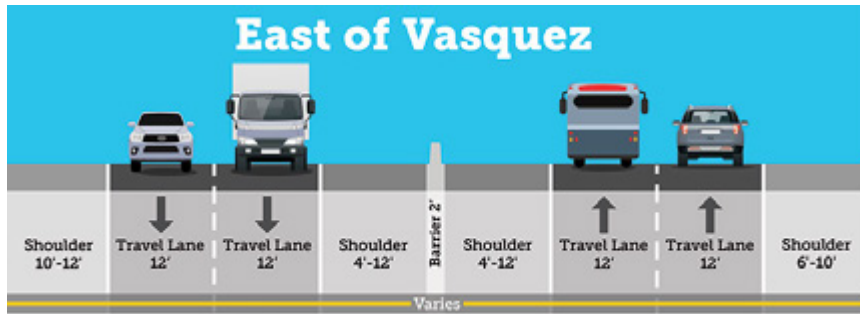
Cross sections and additional information on each of these alternatives are included on the separate boards.

Proposed Alternatives

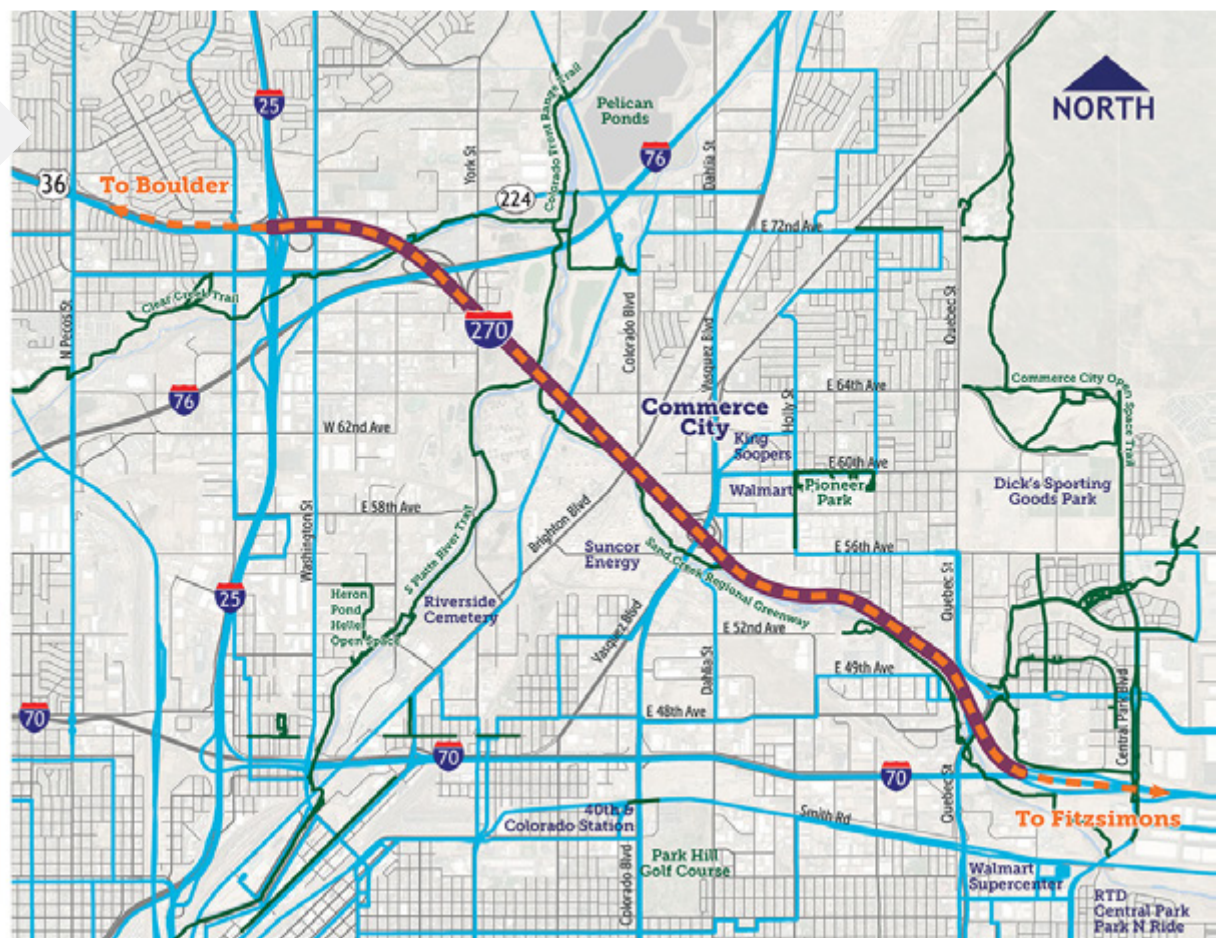


I-270 Corridor Improvements

Existing Corridor Cross Section



No Action Alternative
 Maintain existing highway configuration. Bridges and pavement will have routine maintenance only.

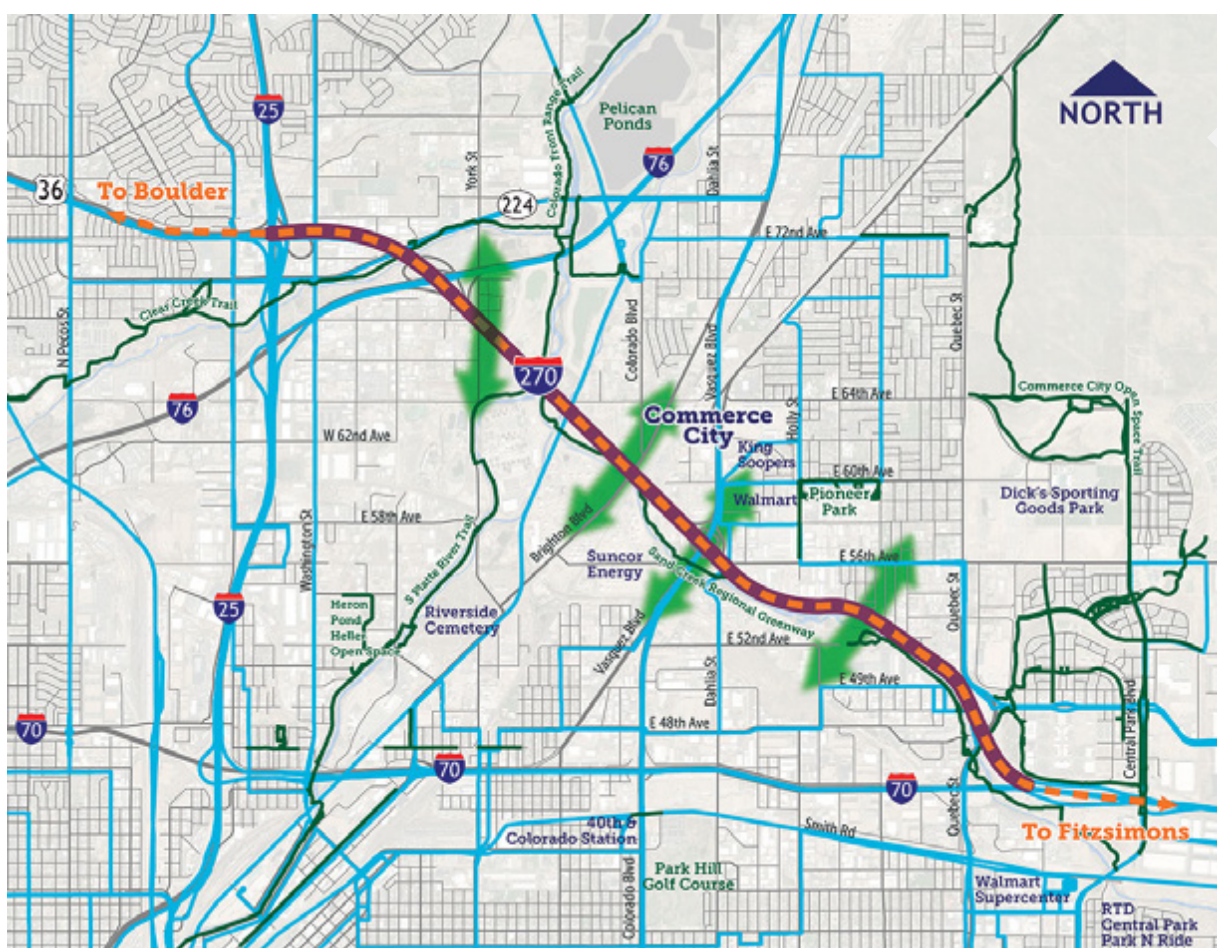


Legend

- = Project Limits
- = Existing Regional Bike/Trail Network

Transit Routes

- = Existing RTD Route FF5 - Peak Period Service
- = Existing Bus Routes



Two General Purpose Lanes and Increased Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Enhancements Alternative
 Maintain existing highway configuration. Replace critical I-270 bridges.

= Opportunities for Bicycle & Pedestrian Connectivity to be Evaluated

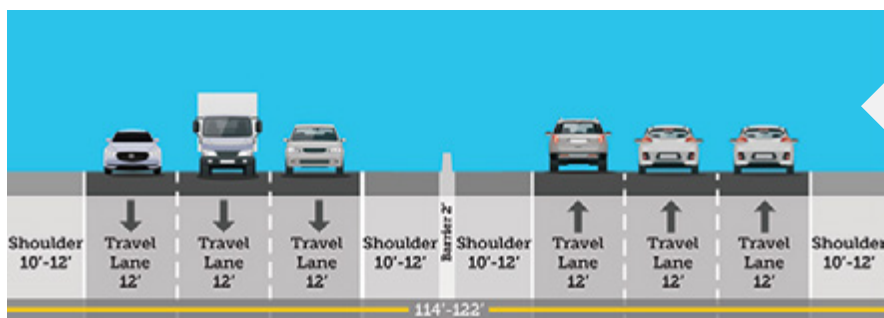
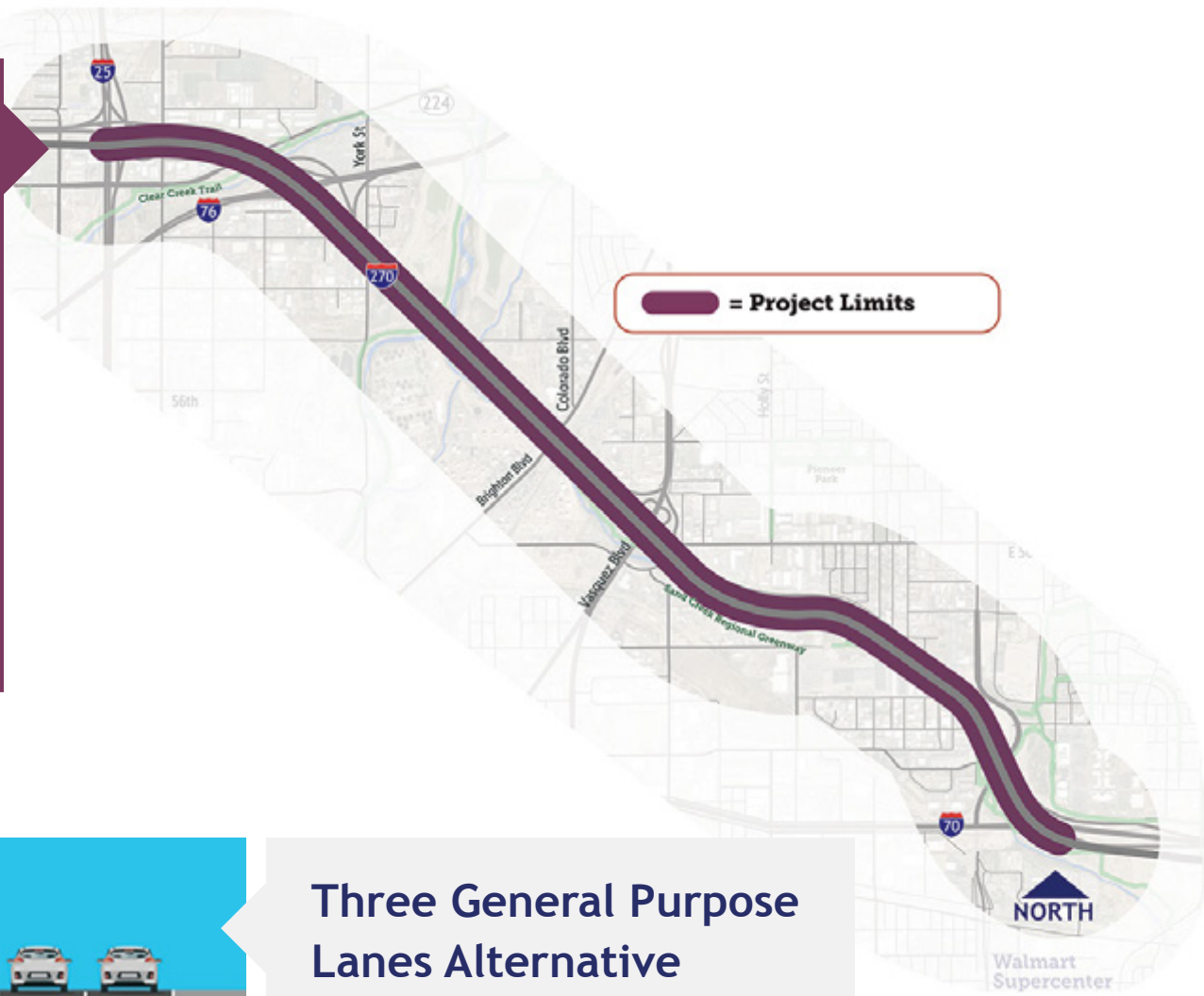
Proposed Alternatives



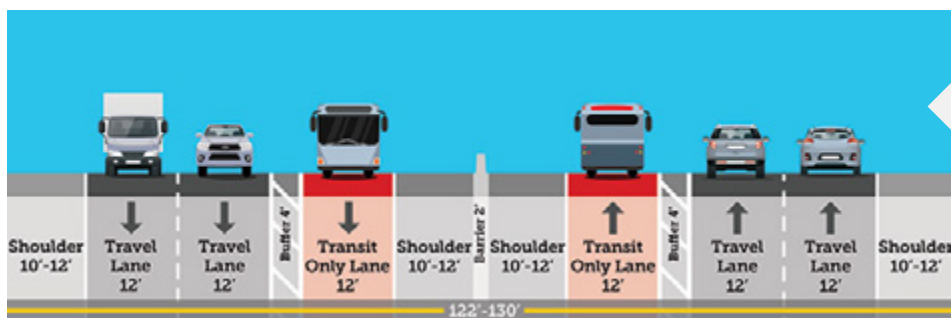
I-270 Corridor Improvements

Alternatives

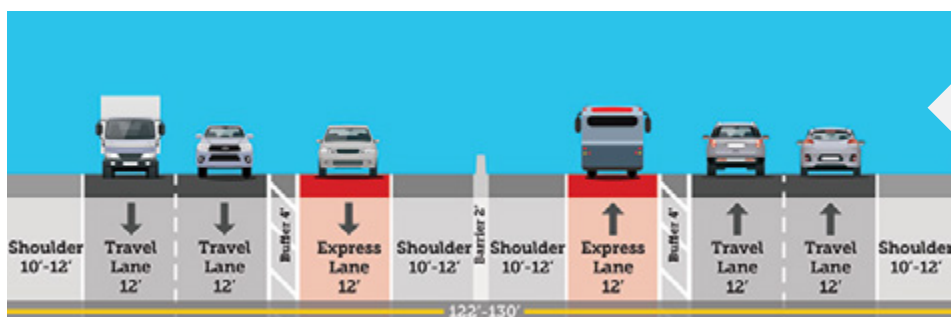
Each alternative below includes a new interchange configuration at Vasquez Boulevard, replaces deficient bridges corridor wide, and improves the substandard acceleration and deceleration ramp lengths, and enhanced bicycle and pedestrian connectivity across I-270.



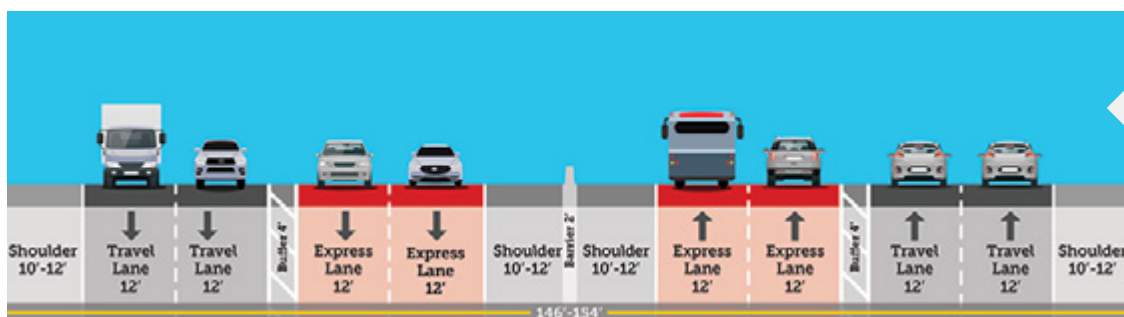
Three General Purpose Lanes Alternative



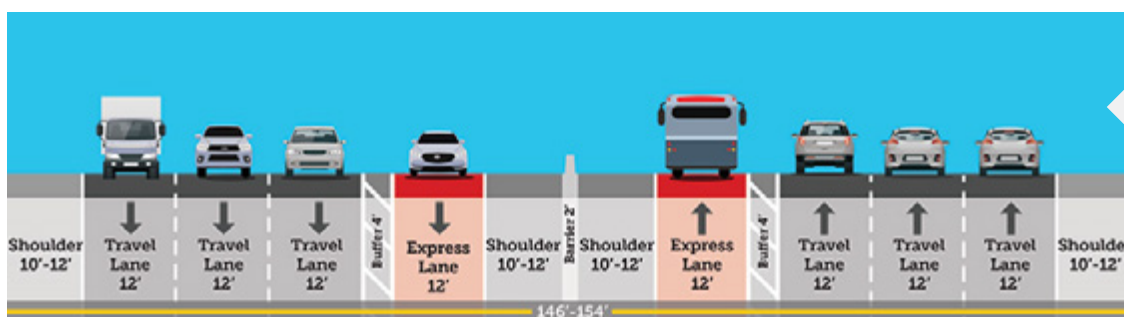
Two General Purpose Lanes and a Transit-Only Lane Alternative



Two General Purpose Lanes and an Express Lane Accommodating Transit Alternative



Two General Purpose Lanes and Two Express Lanes Accommodating Transit Alternative



Three General Purpose Lanes and an Express Lane Accommodating Transit Alternative

Environmental & Community Resources to be Analyzed



I-270 Corridor Improvements

CDOT and FHWA will consider how the project may affect a variety of community and environmental resources.

Community Resources

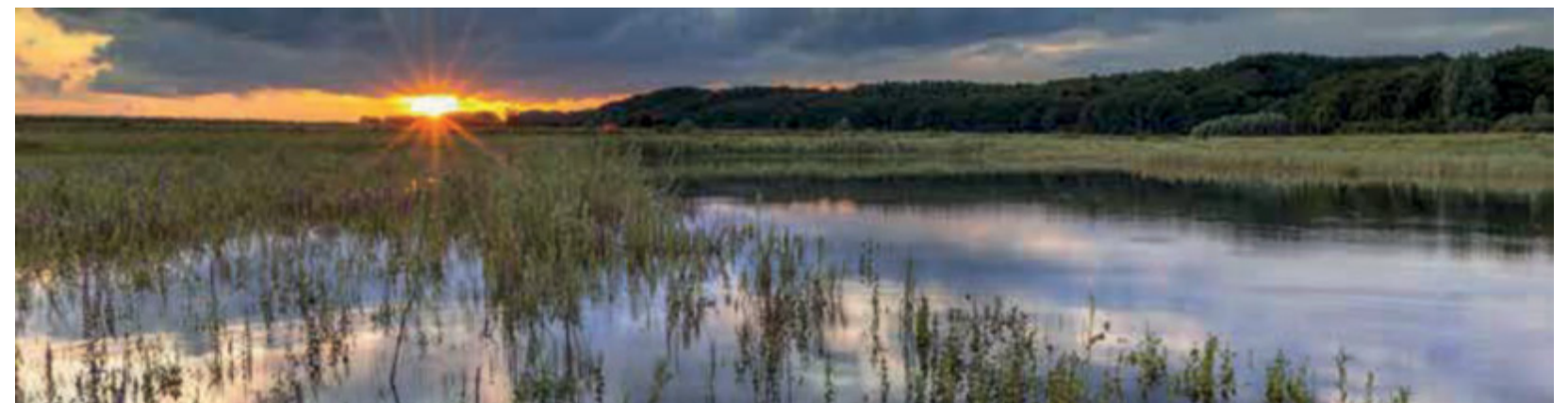
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
- Cultural resources including Archaeology, Historic Resources, and Native American Consultation
- Energy
- Environmental Justice/Equity
- Farmlands
- Freight
- Land Use
- Noise
- Recreation
- Right of Way
- Section 4(f)/6(f) (Historic and Recreation Properties)
- Socioeconomics
- Transportation (Including Traffic Forecasting and Transit)
- Utilities and Railroads
- Visual/Aesthetics

Environmental Resources

- Floodplains
- Geologic Resources and Soil
- Hazardous/Solid Wastes
- Paleontology
- Stormwater/Water Quality
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Vegetation/Noxious Weeds
- Wetlands and other Waters of the US
- Wildlife/Fisheries

The environmental study will also consider cumulative environmental and community impacts.

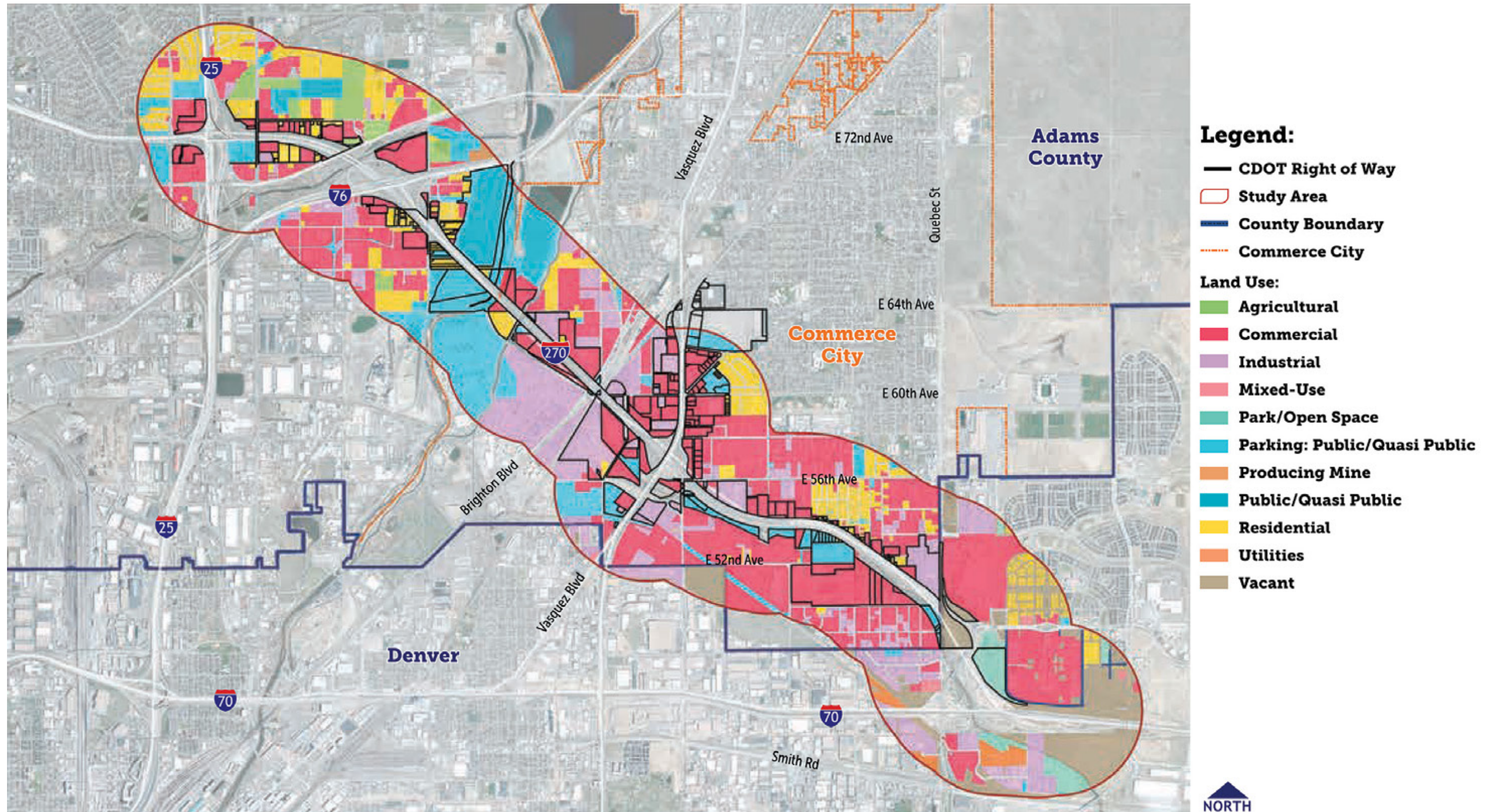
Cumulative impacts include potential impacts from the project in combination with other past, present and future projects in the surrounding area.



Land Use and Right of Way



I-270 Corridor Improvements



Minimizing Air Quality Impacts



I-270 Corridor Improvements

What are we doing?

- Performing updated traffic analysis that represents the projected year 2050 conditions
- Collecting and analyzing data specific to Colorado Senate Bill 21-260 --Sustainability of the Transportation System-- requirements for air quality and equity analyses including:
 - Determining potential air pollution emission impacts for I-270 using EPA approved models and up-to-date 2050 traffic projections
 - Developing/implementing a particulate matter (PM) construction plan to provide continuous monitoring, reporting (including exceedance alerts), and action plans
 - Developing/implementing a plan to mitigate air quality impacts (as necessary) on communities including but not limited to disproportionately impacted adjacent communities
- Reaching out to affected communities to improve participation in the project development and better understand community concerns.



I-270 Project Goal
Minimize environmental impacts (including air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, community impacts) from the project.

This map depicts Air Quality Sensor locations along the I-270 Corridor.

Accommodating Bicycles, Pedestrians, and Transit



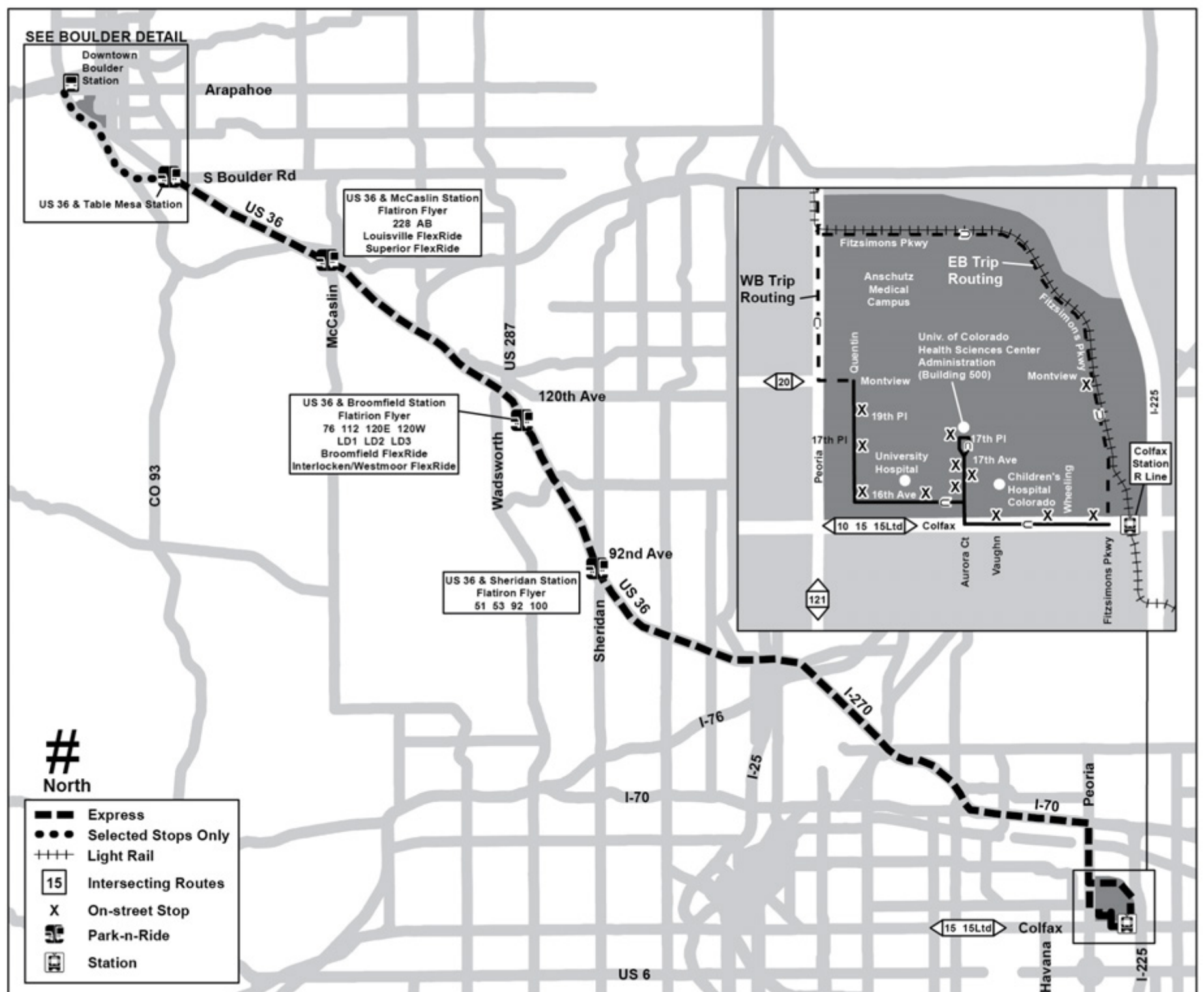
I-270 Corridor Improvements

What are we doing?

- Engaging the Federal Transit Administration and Regional Transportation District to ensure alternatives accommodate transit options on the corridor.
- Incorporating Bicycle and Pedestrian connectivity across I-270. For example, pedestrian underpasses at Vasquez ramps as shown in the image to the right.
- Reaching out to affected communities to improve participation in the bicycle, pedestrian and transit improvements on the project.



Route FF5 Boulder/Anschutz Medical Campus



Top community priorities for I-270 Corridor Improvements Project heard so far



I-270 Corridor Improvements

- Be able to reliably plan my trip and arrive at my destination on time.
- Travel faster through the corridor most of the time, even if travel times are unpredictable.
- Merge easier and safer at interchanges.
- Better ability for freight trucks to safely operate in the corridor.
- Better ability for emergency response agencies to get to and clear incidents.
- More engagement with the most-impacted communities.
- Improve transit, walking and biking infrastructure, and wayfinding in adjacent neighborhoods.
- Better understand and address air, soil, and water quality impacts.



Tell us what you think.



Are there other important issues we should consider?



What investments would be most meaningful to your community?



Do you belong to or know of an organization that may have information or ideas to share?

How to Stay Engaged



I-270 Corridor Improvements



There are many ways to stay involved and engaged in the project including:

Attending



Future public events and meetings

Requesting



Project presentations, updates, or tours

Sending us an email



Email: cdot_i270@state.co.us

Visiting the project website



www.codot.gov/projects/i270

Subscribing to



Email distribution list

Calling us



Project Hotline:
303-512-4270

Other Projects in the Area



I-270 Corridor Improvements



SH 224 Multimodal Improvements

- The project will resurface SH 224 from US 36 to US 6 and provide sidewalk, drainage, lighting, and other improvements to allow multimodal connectivity along the SH 224 corridor
- Construction anticipated Spring 2025
- Contact:
Gary Huber, CDOT Project Manager,
303-398-6768

I-270 Bridge Preventative Maintenance

- Project will improve significant I-270 bridge deck deficiencies developed in recent years by adding a temporary reinforced concrete cap spanning the deteriorating areas
- Construction anticipated Fall 2023
- Contact:
Matthew Brahler, CDOT Project Manager, 720-347-5648



Vasquez Boulevard Improvements

- The project will improve vehicular and multimodal safety, optimize operations, and improve multimodal connectivity along the Vasquez Boulevard from I-270 to 64th Avenue
- Construction anticipated in mid-2024
- Contact:
Matt Fink, CDOT Project Manager,
303-398-6767