

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



Community

Information Line:

303-299-2401

www.rtd-fastracks.com



The FasTracks West Corridor project consists of constructing a new 12.1 mile light rail line heading west from the existing Auraria West station in downtown Denver, through Lakewood along 13th Avenue to the Denver Federal Center and then west along 6th Avenue and Golden to the Jefferson County Government Center.

E - NEWS



WELCOME

Change is an integral part of the fall season as autumn steals away the colors of summer. The unusually warm weather through September kept the momentum moving on the West Corridor. A mere three months left before another year ends and the West Corridor team is optimistic that 2010 will be the most productive construction year yet!

We encourage you to stay up-to-date with the most current construction information by becoming a subscriber to our e-newsletter. You can sign up by visiting the [West Corridor website](#), and while there, utilize the tools that have been established to keep you updated on progress and impacts.

In This Issue:

[BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT- Bitchn Stichn](#)

[HALFWAY TO OPENING DAY](#)

[CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – AREA 1 \(Jeffco Government Center to Federal Center\)](#)

[CONSTRUCTION UPDATE –AREA 2 \(East of the Federal Center to Sheridan\)](#)

[CONSTRUCTION UPDATE –AREA 3 \(East of Sheridan to the Auraria Campus\)](#)

[HOW CAN I GET \(OR STAY\) INVOLVED?](#)

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT- Bitchn Stichn

Bitchn Stichn, Inc. is the “West Corridor Business of the Month.” Located on the corner of 13th Avenue and Quail Street, at 11354 W. 13th Avenue in Lakewood, owner Dan Ballard’s business is what he calls a “unique destination”. Dan began his career in the custom and antique auto and furniture upholstery business in 1988. In 1990, his passion for motorcycles led him to the creation of Bitchn Stichn, Inc. and he has been serving the motorcycle needs of the Front Range area of Colorado since then. What was once a one-car garage in Loveland has evolved into a studio-like shop.



Dan and his team craft custom fitted and designed motorcycle seats. Through innovation, they pioneered the gel application of motorcycle seats and perfected hand fabricated steel pans to fit any custom motorcycle. Their repertoire also includes extensive work with exotic animal skins and hand-stitched designs, and

they have been featured in local bike shows and several magazines. Due to high demand, Bitchn Stitchn has expanded their business to include seats for ATV's, snowmobiles, jet skis, backrests, and heated seats.

Dan emphasizes that despite construction impacts, loyal customers seek out Bitchn Stitchn, Inc. and his entire staff is thoroughly intrigued by West Corridor construction. They've followed activities since the Rail Pulling Event in 2006 and are anticipating only good things to come as the West Corridor light rail line opens. We want to thank Bitchn Stitchn, Inc. for their on-going cooperation and patience with West Corridor construction. To obtain more information on Bitchn Stichn, please visit their website at www.bitchnstitchninc.com, call Dan Ballard at 303-238-5404 or email dan@bsseats.com.

Even though construction along the West Corridor affects more residents than businesses, many businesses still feel the direct impacts of construction. RTD and the entire West Corridor team would like to thank all of the businesses along the West Corridor for their outstanding cooperation and support during difficult construction times. To show our appreciation, the West Corridor will highlight a different business in the "Business Spotlight" section of the West Corridor E-Newsletter. If your business is directly affected by construction, and you would like to be highlighted in the monthly newsletter please contact Jena Cafiero at 303-626-6772 or email jcafiero@dtcgjv.com.

HALFWAY TO OPENING DAY

The West Corridor reached the 50 percent completion of construction mark in late September. It's been 2 ½ years since construction began on the West Corridor with the Kipling Bridge in April 2008. 2 ½ years from now, construction will be complete and testing will have started in preparation for the opening of the West Corridor in spring 2013. This major milestone was celebrated on Wednesday, September 29, with the ceremonial opening of the Hazel Court Pedestrian Bridge across Lakewood Gulch in Denver. The ceremony commemorated the halfway point of construction on the West Corridor and celebrated enhanced livability within Denver communities.



Federal and local officials spoke at the ceremony, including Noel Busck, RTD Director for District K, Angie Malpiede, RTD Director for District C; Bill Vidal, Deputy Mayor, City and County of Denver; Terry Rosapep, Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Regional Administrator, Region 8; Rick Garcia, U.S. Department of Housing of Urban Development (HUD) Regional Administrator, Region 8; and James Martin, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Administrator, Region 8. In addition to the officials, Nettie Moore, a long-time community member of the Denver

gulch area, shared her stories about the area prior to major roadways and the improvement the light rail line will have on the community.

FTA Administrator Terry Rosapep spoke about the Partnership for Sustainable Communities initiative. The initiative was formed by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), HUD and the EPA. These three agencies have pledged to ensure housing and transportation goals are met while simultaneously protecting the environment, promoting equitable development and helping to address the challenges of climate change.

The ceremonial ribbon-cutting ceremony was led by Phil Washington, who was joined by Paula Sandoval, Denver City Council; Paul Lopez, Denver City Council; Bob Murphy, Mayor of Lakewood; Karen Oxman, Golden Mayor Pro Tem; and Faye Griffin, Jefferson County Commissioner.

Following the ceremony, attendees were led across the Hazel Court Pedestrian Bridge by the John F. Kennedy IB World School Marching Band.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – AREA 1 (Jeffco Government Center to Federal Center)

Current and Ongoing Activities

The retaining wall at the Jefferson County Government Center, finish and all, is now complete. The effect is stunning and compliments the natural landscape of the hillside. The round-about has been reopened and the south parking lot has



been demolished. Construction of three new retaining walls will start within the next month. Excavation for the parking garage will begin within the next week with actual construction of the garage set to start in November. As you can see, construction activities continue to expand in this area and we ask that community members visiting the site maintain high awareness and safe speeds in and near the Jeffco Government Center.

Ulysses will soon look like a street again, as wall construction is complete and the roadway work moves forward. Ulysses Street will be the first at-grade track crossing constructed on the project and when it reopens in November, residents will find a safer and more efficient intersection at 6th Avenue.

To finalize construction on Colfax at 6th Avenue, crews will be closing the right lane turn from westbound Colfax to westbound 6th Avenue for two weeks. Work will begin on Monday, October 18, 2010 and continue through the month of October. This activity will finalize the street reconstruction in that area.

Crews are preparing the entire area between I-70 and Union Boulevard for track installation. This includes mass excavation, ballast wall and duct bank installation, and final fencing and painting of retaining walls. Passing motorists can see visible stockpiles of welded rail. Rail distribution along the guideway will begin in early November.

This past week brought a lot of night time activity on the Indiana Bridge as crews stripped and finished the overhang. Work on the bridge will continue through the end of the year, but traffic impacts will be minimal. Scheduling indicates there will only be one more closure of westbound 6th Avenue next week to finish painting and fencing.

Crews at the future Red Rocks Community College Station are working on the foundations slabs and the installation of duct bank and fencing. Rail distribution, east of the Red Rocks Community College Station, will begin in early November.

Upcoming Activities

Work on the Jefferson County Government Center parking structure will begin in November. Guideway construction and sub-ballast installation will continue for the next few months.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE –AREA 2 (East of the Federal Center to Sheridan)

Current and Ongoing Activities

Civil construction of the 6th Avenue Bridge is nearly complete, as crews finish up the final approach slabs and pave the slopes. Rail crews will then begin rail installation.



The sidewalk on the west side of Union Boulevard was poured this week and work along Union Boulevard will take a hiatus for a short time.

Crews have begun preliminary underground work on the passenger station on the Federal Center property. Construction activities on the station include placing electrical/communication crossings under the guideway and pouring the platforms. Ballast placement is in the early stages, but should be completed by the end of this month.

Improvements to the Highline water line were completed this week on Collins Avenue between Simms and Quail. This activity had all westbound lanes of traffic on Collins Avenue closed. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, Collins Avenue east and westbound should be open today or tomorrow.

Sound walls and retaining walls are almost complete along 13th Avenue west of Wadsworth and the re-paving effort has begun. The area between Estes and Carr now has the initial layer of asphalt and crews are moving east along 13th Avenue to the area bounded by Brentwood and Zephyr Streets. Some areas between Garrison and Zephyr will get a final layer of asphalt this season; while others will have to wait until the spring sunshine of 2011. Final asphalt on the north/south cross streets will be done next season as well. Residents along 13th Avenue will be cheering when they can see blacktop again and we'll be cheering right along with them! This has been a very intense construction zone this past year and certainly is a milestone for the project.

The last property at 14th and Wadsworth has been demolished and crews will be back soon to begin construction of the

Wadsworth passenger station atop the Wadsworth light rail bridge. Design continues on the parking structure planned for this location and a follow up public meeting is planned for later this fall.

Work on storm drainage improvements between Saulsbury Street and Teller Street was abandoned this summer because of unexpected utility conflicts. Xcel Energy has relocated their services but current design requires the relocation of Consolidated Mutual Water's (CMW) facilities. If CMW is unable to relocate their water line by the end of October, West Corridor crews will close up the excavation and temporarily pave the roadway for the winter months. The sidewalk that was removed on the south side of 13th Avenue will also be temporarily paved until the underground drainage work can be completed next spring.

Work on retaining, sound and ballast walls is on-going in the area between Wadsworth and Lamar. Early this week, crews began work on vehicle barrier walls at Otis Street. While this work does not require the complete closure of 13th Avenue at Otis Street, lanes are restricted between Pierce Street and Newland Street. Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area.

Upcoming Activities

Grading for the park-n-Ride south of the Federal Center station will begin in late October and construction of two drainage structures between Harlan and Sheridan could begin in November or December.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE –AREA 3 (East of Sheridan to the Auraria Campus)

Current and Ongoing Activities

Work on the second phase of the Sheridan Bridge is moving quickly and crews will be setting girders on the east portion of the bridge this coming week. Sheridan Boulevard will be closed between 10th Avenue and 14th Avenue beginning at 9 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2010, reopening at 5:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 19. Once the girders are set, work will continue to form the deck and demolish the southeast side of the old Sheridan Boulevard.



Rail crews will begin laying track between Sheridan Boulevard and Perry Street in late October. To retain construction access through the gulch area, crews will only install single track at this time and circle back later in the project to complete the second track.

Preliminary underground construction of the Perry Street passenger station is ongoing as crews are working on the north platform, light pole foundations and paving. Ballast wall construction continues in this area as well.

The old Federal Blvd. Bridge over the gulch has been completely demolished and crews are drilling caissons for the new structure.

Reconstruction of the channel underneath Federal Boulevard will coincide with construction of the bridge.

The City and County of Denver Maintenance facility (east of Decatur and north of Howard Place) was vacated in late September, allowing crews to divert the channel that flows under Decatur Street and demolish the old concrete box culvert. Work will now begin on the new Decatur Street Bridge in coordination with the channel improvements being completed by the City and County of Denver.

Erection of the steel truss on the light rail bridge over the South Platte River should be complete later this month. Once the truss is set, crews will begin work on the bridge deck. Construction of the bridge over the Consolidated Main Line rail tracks is ongoing as well.

Upcoming Activities

Burlington Northern Railroad will complete their track switch near Siegel Oil to accommodate the light rail sometime in November.

For more information on construction please visit the [Construction Information](#) page on the West Corridor website.

HOW CAN I GET (OR STAY) INVOLVED?

One of the best ways to get the latest information on the West Corridor is to ensure we have your e-mail address. Our periodic e-mails will provide you with information essential to being an active participant. As full construction continues for the next two and a half years, it is the best way to stay informed of construction activities. Tell your friends and neighbors to sign up on our e-mail list to receive up-to-date information, and if your e-mail changes, please notify us.

Don't forget to visit our [website](#), where you'll find all the latest information about the West Corridor.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Web site:

<http://www.RTD-FasTracks.com>

E Mail:

WestCorridor@RTD-FasTracks.com

Phone:

Kathy Berumen, 303-626-6762

Brenda Tierney, 303-299-2401

RTD West Corridor
1560 Broadway Suite 700 FAS-WC
Denver, CO 80202

Our telephone:
303-299-2000

Copyright (C) 2009 FasTracks Regional Transportation District of Denver (RTD)
All rights reserved.

[Unsubscribe](#) from this list.
[Forward](#) this email to a friend
[Update your profile](#)