



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.

WELCOME

As summer comes to an end, construction on the West Corridor is progressing rapidly. Construction of the Kipling Bridge is near completion and work in the Dry Gulch area is moving along as scheduled. We encourage you to keep informed during the construction phase of the West Corridor by becoming a subscriber to our e-newsletter, visiting the West Corridor Web site often and utilizing the tools that have been established to keep you updated on progress and impacts. To get the latest information on construction, road closures and final design please [click here](#) to connect to the West Corridor Web site.

September 2008

In this issue you will find:

1. FasTracks Financing and the West Corridor – Get up-to date information on the FasTracks Annual Program Evaluation
2. Construction Update – Get up-to date information about the current construction activities
3. Utility Relocation Update – Find out what utility relocations are happening in your neighborhood
4. Noise Wall Opt Out Status – Get detailed information on which walls have been removed and the deadline for decisions
5. Storm Water Management Overview – Find out why storm water management is such a large part of the construction process
6. Denver Transit Construction Group – Meet DTCG's General Superintendent – Cory Abourezk
7. How Can I Get (or Stay) Involved? - Find out where to get more information on meetings and events, and the best ways to have your questions answered

FASTTRACKS FINANCING AND THE WEST CORRIDOR

The FasTracks program has been in the news a lot lately due to budget constraints caused by sagging economic conditions that are hitting everyone in the country, but especially the construction industry. RTD has been evaluating a number of options for continuing the FasTracks program and the RTD Board will give direction on the future of the program by the end of the year. However, prior to any decisions being made, RTD will host a series of public meetings in September and October to gather public input regarding the viable options for keeping FasTracks moving forward. For additional information on potential options, the public meetings and the overall FasTracks Annual Program Evaluation go to www.RTD-FasTracks.com.

The West Corridor is not affected by the potential options the RTD board is examining. The West Corridor has already been through the cost containment exercises that the other corridors are just beginning. RTD has a Guaranteed Maximum Price agreement with the contractor and construction is moving forward. The West Corridor is still scheduled to open to the public in 2013.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Kipling Bridge

As projected, the Kipling Street Bridge construction will be completed by mid-October. The bridge now stands erect over Kipling Street and will some day carry light rail trains, pedestrians and bicyclists across the street above vehicle traffic. Edward Kraemer and Sons is currently installing the finishing touches including bridge fencing and railing. They will be stripping off the overhangs later this month with demobilization scheduled during the first two weeks of October.

Gulch Bridges

Construction in the Dry Gulch area is progressing rapidly as both old train bridges have been demolished. The Dry Gulch east bridge caissons have been poured and the girders should be placed soon. The demolition of the Dry Gulch west bridge is completed as well and placement of the girders is expected later this month.

Construction on the pedestrian bridge at Wolff Street is moving along as the bridge piers have been drilled and abutments are complete. The piers have been drilled for the bridge at Tennyson Street and crews are currently constructing the bridge abutments. The actual bridges at both locations will be placed by the end of September. Mobilization at the Hazel Court pedestrian bridge begins today and activities in the next month will prepare for the placement of that bridge in October. As we mentioned last month, all pedestrian bridges in the Dry Gulch will be pre-fabricated off site and laid over the gulch.

Activities in the Gulch area have little impact on local residents, other than increased construction vehicle traffic; however, the bike path through the gulch is closed and has been detoured through the surrounding neighborhood. This detour now includes the area surrounding Hazel Court.

For current construction information, [click here](#) and follow the prompts to the Dry Gulch or Kipling Bridge.

UTILITY RELOCATION UPDATE

The corridor is abuzz with activity as Consolidated Mutual Water and Lakewood Sanitary Sewer relocate their services. Lakewood Sanitary Sewer has completed work at 13th and Lamar and has moved into the vicinity of 13th and Pierce Street. Consolidated Mutual water is working at 13th and Lamar and 13th and Reed.

Xcel Energy, Comcast and Qwest continue their efforts to relocate services and are currently working near 13th and Independence Street.

For weekly up-to-date schedule information, [click here](#).

NOISE WALL OPT OUT STATUS

Noise walls along the light rail trackway will be built in a number of locations between Knox Court and Oak Street as part of the West Corridor project. Residents affected by noise, according to the noise analysis, have the option of keeping the noise walls or eliminating them in lieu of alternative mitigation. Some walls have already been eliminated through this process including the wall just east of Perry Street, the wall just west of Sheridan Blvd., the wall between Saulsbury and Teller Streets, the wall between Wadsworth and just east of Vance Street on the south side and the wall between Ammons and Allison on the south side. A number of other noise wall eliminations are being considered by the affected residents. A deadline of November 30, 2008 has been set for all decisions on noise walls to be final. The exception to this is the noise walls east of Kipling, where the decision needs to be made by September 20, since the contractor is getting ready to construct in that area. If you are a resident affected by the noise walls and want to 'opt-out' of your wall, please call Brenda Tierney at 303-299-2401.

STORM WATER MANGEMENT

Before construction activities can begin in an area that disturbs more than one acre of land, contractors must develop and implement construction site erosion control and storm water management plans. This came into effect in November 1999, when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized regulations that require communities in urbanized areas to develop programs to manage storm water runoff.

Colorado's storm water requirements are mirrored after the federal NPDES program, requiring that storm water be treated to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). In Colorado, the Colorado Department of Public Health, Water Quality Control Division regulates Storm water permits. All companies engaged in construction activities in the state must obtain permit coverage, requiring them to make and implement a Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) within the jurisdiction they are working. This permit details how the contractor will use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to eliminate pollutants from leaving the construction site by controlling erosion, regulating the quality of storm water runoff, containing pollutants and eliminating sediment discharge into municipal and state waterways.

To improve water quality and minimize erosion during construction, Denver Transit Construction Group has established erosion and sediment controls wherever land is disturbed. These controls are necessary to protect areas such as ditches, curb gutters, storm sewers and inlets, ponds, and ultimately the state waterways from silt and sediment accumulation as well as pollutant discharges. Some examples of the controls that will be used during construction of the West Corridor are: silt fence, inlet protection, gravel construction entrances, settling basis and temporary seeding. These controls must be maintained regularly until the site is permanently stabilized and protected.

DENVER TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION GROUP (DTCG)



This month's spotlight features Cory Abourezk, Project General Superintendent for the West Corridor. Cory has been in Denver for a year and a half preparing budget pricing for Denver Transit Construction Group and RTD as the West Corridor design has solidified. His experience in the CM/GC environment and vast knowledge of cost estimation has greatly impacted the final GMP pricing submitted to

RTD.

Prior to his arrival in Denver, Cory was in Phoenix, Arizona, where he served as the General Superintendent for the Line Section 4 Light Rail Project. His previous experience includes the Interstate Max Light Project in Portland, Oregon and the Portland Streetcar phase's one and two and the Harrison Connection. He also worked as the Deputy Project Manager for the Lovejoy Viaduct Civil Redevelopment Project (HAZWOPER).

In all, Cory has worked on 15 light rail projects and his extensive field management experience on these projects in urban heavily populated areas, makes him a natural choice to lead the field operations on the West Corridor. His strong leadership skill and capable decision making abilities will be an asset as we move forward.

Cory is married and the proud father of three daughters. He enjoys golf, the outdoors and spending time with his family. He is a dedicated and loyal employee who has moved his family eight times for his job, but he hopes to make Denver his home for the years to come. Denver Transit Construction Group is proud to have Cory leading the troops.

HOW CAN I GET (OR STAY) INVOLVED?

One of the best ways to get information to help you stay involved in the West Corridor construction phase is to ensure we have your e-mail address. Our periodic e-mails will provide you with information essential to keep you up to date on construction impacts. As the project evolves, it will be very important to keep all members of the community updated on 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 address changes, please notify us.

Don't forget to visit our Web site where you'll find all the latest information about the West Corridor.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Web site: www.RTD-FasTracks.com

E Mail: WestCorridor@RTD-FasTracks.com

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