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Community

Information Line:

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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

Happy New Year to all of our neighbors on the West Corridor! 2011 promises to be a construction filled year with the installation of track and electrical systems becoming the most predominant activity. Heavy construction activity near the Auraria campus will increase, as properties in this area have recently become available for construction.

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.

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A LOOK AHEAD TO 2011

Last month we took a walk down memory lane to revisit the construction milestones West Corridor crews met in 2010. As you look out over the corridor, it appears that a large percentage of the above ground work is complete, and you'd be right! Civil construction consisting of bridges, walls, underground improvements and roadway work has reached significant completion and you'll find the next phase of construction is mostly contained in the light rail guideway.

The next few months will be spent finishing up the sound, barrier and ballast walls along 13th Avenue in Lakewood. Fencing will be installed right after the walls and painting will continue. Once the walls are complete, crews will be in the guideway preparing the area for electrical systems and installing track. In the Denver area, access to the Auraria campus will allow crews to continue the demolition of parking lots and prepare the area for its final configuration after the Auraria West station is relocated to the northwest.

Once winter subsides and the sun begins to warm us up, crews will be back on 13th Avenue east of Wadsworth to remove and replace the existing roadway between Wadsworth Boulevard and

Harlan Street. They will also begin efforts to reconstruct the north/south crossings at 13th Avenue on both sides of Wadsworth. Construction of stations and parking facilities will also continue this coming spring.

As you witnessed last summer, warmer weather brings an onslaught of workers to the project. This summer's activities will ramp up significantly with station, guideway and roadway construction. Balfour Beatty will be hard at work as well, with electrical systems installation. DTCG is expected to complete their work on the project by June of 2012, which means 2011 will be the last full summer of work for most of their crews and work they will! Balfour Beatty however, will be out in force until the final project is turned over to RTD for testing.

West Corridor crews expect a busy 2011 and, while most of the work will be less impactful, there will be some traffic and neighborhood impacts. The West Corridor PI team will do their best to keep you informed and up-to-date on construction activities as they affect your community.

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

Current and Ongoing Activities

Crews working on the parking garage at the Jefferson County Government Center have finished drilling the underground caissons and are now working on backfilling and grade beams that span from caisson to caisson and act as the foundation for the vertical walls. The vehicle entry gates and the stairs to the existing parking structure are being demolished to make way for the new structure. The additional retaining walls required on the west end of the campus should be under construction by the end of this month.



The initial ballast between Ulysses and I-70 is currently being placed and initial ballast between Johnson Road and Ulysses will be placed upon completion of a waterline encasement in this same area. Ballast wall construction near Ulysses will follow the waterline encasement. Crews will be distributing rail between the Indiana Bridge and I-70 later this month. Construction of the plinths (a method of directly attaching the track to the concrete deck) on the Indiana Bridge is expected to continue through February. Installation of the electrical grounding mats at the Red Rocks station started this week and will also continue through February. Construction of [Traction Powered Substations \(TPSS \)](#) (see photo to the right) foundations near the intersection of Colfax and 6th Avenue and near Juniper Street are in progress and will continue through the month.

Construction near the Federal Center park-n-Ride is underway and crews are currently working on the storm and sanitary sewer improvements and excavating for the detention pond. Construction of Routt Street continues.

Upcoming Activities

Guideway construction, sub-ballast and rail installation will continue through the winter months, as will construction at the Federal Center.

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

Current and Ongoing Activities

Systems work continues between 8th Avenue and Collins as crews install the fabric and crushed rock at the site of the Traction Power Sub Station (TPSS). Installation of the track crossing at Oak Street is underway. This activity required



the complete closure of Oak Street at the guideway and current scheduling indicates Oak will reopen early next week. The south platform at the Oak Street station should be paved in early February and crews will then move out of the area until the above ground station work begins later this year.

The underground work at Independence has been completed and crews will soon begin excavation of the sub-grade between Kipling and Independence. The area bounded by Independence and Kipling will be busy with activity in the next several weeks as crews install sound walls, complete the ballast walls, and install the rubber tire vibration mat and track drains. Once these activities are completed the systems crew will move back in to finish up before the guideway is graded for track.

The first underground stem wall at the Garrison Street Station has been poured and work on the second has just begun. Electrical crews will soon begin installing the underground communication and grounding components for the station and work should continue through February. Guideway and sound wall work between Independence and Wadsworth will continue through January.

The final station platform has been poured on top of the Wadsworth Bridge and crews will soon begin removing the wood forms that overhang the bridge to complete operations on the bridge. Work on the station atop the bridge will resume later this year. Several walls are being constructed on the east side of Wadsworth between Saulsbury and Harlan. Grading crews are also in this area preparing for track installation.

Upgrades on the drainage system in Harlan Street will continue through February. Harlan Street will be closed between 13th and 14th Avenues for portions of this work. As always, the West Corridor PI team will provide prior notification to residents and businesses if work necessitates a closure. Channel improvements east of Harlan continue. One of two drainage drop structures has been completed and construction of the second structure and the widening of the channel will continue through the winter.

Upcoming Activities

Preliminary work on the Union Tunnel will begin late this month or in early February. Construction of the track crossing at Estes Street will begin on January 21st requiring the closure of Estes at

the guideway, just north of 13th Avenue. Beginning next week, the City of Lakewood will be doing minor repairs on their sanitary sewer line between Estes and Carr. This work will require small saw-cuts in 13th Avenue at Brentwood, Ammons and Allison. Work on a TPSS foundation under the Wadsworth Bridge will commence in the next few weeks and underground work for the Lamar Street station will begin when crews are finished at Garrison.

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

Current and Ongoing Activities

The concrete and asphalt crushing equipment at 10th and Sheridan was relocated to the Quail yard last week. Crushed materials will remain stockpiled in the yard at Sheridan to be distributed to various sites on an “as needed” basis. While crushing operations will resume at 10th and Sheridan in the future, for now the site will not be used to crush materials. DTCG will monitor the stockpiles and water them as needed until Recycled Materials moves back into the yard at a later date.



Sheridan Boulevard was closed last weekend to tie in a water line and work on the bridge and utilities will continue through the winter.

Construction on and under Federal Boulevard continues and new drop structures to widen the channel are progressing quickly. West Corridor improvements under and west of Decatur Street will tie in with the City and County of Denver’s ongoing project to the east.

Construction of the Decatur Street Bridge has gone extremely well and crews are preparing to pour sidewalks and put up the railing. The South Platte River Bridge is also moving along as scheduled and bridge deck pours are scheduled through January.

The area in and around the CML Flyover changes daily as crews work on underground improvements, the CML Bridge and coordinate with the railroad to get their tracks moved as needed to facilitate the light rail tracks.

Parking lots B and F on the Auraria campus have been demolished and a temporary parking lot at Cottonwood is in place. Now that crews have access to the acquired properties in this area, construction operations will be in full swing. Crews will work diligently to accommodate student traffic when school begins again.

Upcoming Activities

Construction of the elevator pits at Sheridan will begin in late January or early February. Crews will soon begin improvements to

the drainage system at Perry Street, requiring a complete closure of Perry around the guideway. West Corridor PI will notify residents, businesses and emergency service providers of exact dates and detours prior to this activity.

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 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?

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