

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

# September 13, 2022

## Construction to Begin on Next Phase of E-470 Road Widening & Trail Expansion Work Expected to Begin Next Week from I-70 to 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**AURORA, CO –** People choose to take E-470 because it provides a quick, safe, and reliable commute. To continue maintaining this level of service, next week, the E-470 Public Highway Authority will kick off construction on its next phase of road widening, which will add a third travel lane in each direction of E-470 along an 11-mile stretch from I-70 to 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The project also includes a four-mile expansion of the High Plains Trail from 26<sup>th</sup> to 64<sup>th</sup> Avenues to continue growing the trail network in the east metro area for people on foot and on bikes. The road widening and trail expansion are anticipated to be complete in 2025.

### Highlights of High Plains Trail Expansion, 26th to 64th Avenues (Adams County)

- New 10-foot-wide concrete multi-use path with two-foot-wide shoulders to provide more space for people who walk and bike
- New traffic signals with pedestrian countdowns to help facilitate safer crossings for people on bikes and on foot at the following interchanges:
  - $\circ$  38<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - o 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - o 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Goal is eventually to further extend the trail north to Thornton

### Additional Travel and Safety Enhancements

- New interchanges at 38th Avenue and at 48th Avenue
- Expanding the existing interchange at 64th Avenue and widening the bridge over E-470 as new development moves toward the airport, just east of the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center
- Building a collector road at the E-470 northbound interchange with Pena Boulevard, which will separate traffic on the interchange from higher speed mainline through-traffic to enhance safety (like the southbound Pena interchange)
- New deer fencing to reduce vehicle-wildlife collisions on the roadway
- Freshly paved asphalt surface to provide a smoother ride

Funding for this multi-million-dollar project comes from E-470 toll revenue with no local, state, or federal funds being utilized.

### **Project Map**



#### **Travel Impacts While Construction is Underway**

Starting the week of September 19, concrete barriers will be placed in the work zone. Crews will work in phases, beginning at E-470 from I-70 to north of Pena Boulevard. People should expect intermittent single travel lane closures on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. as well as overnight between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. For the safety of crews, the speed limit will also be reduced to 65-mph in the construction area. Message boards on E-470 will alert people in advance about construction and advise them of slower speeds. The public's patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated. All work is weather dependent and subject to change.

#### Previous E-470 Road Widening and Trail Expansion Projects

Since 2016, E-470 has been building more capacity to keep people moving on its 47-mile roadway and the trail adjacent to it. This phase of road widening picks-up at I-70 where the last effort left off, which added a third travel lane in each direction of E-470 from Quincy Avenue to I-70 and extended the High Plains Trail from Quincy Avenue to Stephen D. Hogan Parkway (six miles). In conjunction with road widening projects, E-470 has built more than 12.5 miles of the High Plains Trail to provide better regional trail connections to the Cherry Creek, Piney Creek, Happy Canyon, and C-470 Trails. For more information, visit the projects page on e-470.com.

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