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FOR IMMEDIATE RELASE

October 19, 2022

Slow Down, Stay Alert in Work Zone on E-470 from I-70 to North of 64th Ave. E-470 and CO State Patrol to Partner on Safety Efforts During Road Widening

AURORA, **CO** – The E-470 Public Highway Authority and the Colorado State Patrol are joining forces to promote safe driving along a stretch of E-470 where construction crews are <u>currently</u> <u>widening the roadway and expanding the trail</u> adjacent to it. High speeds in construction zones are the leading cause of crashes as well as injuries and fatalities to construction workers. To enhance safety, the speed limit has been reduced from 75 mph to 65 mph in the first phase of the work zone on E-470 from I-70 to north of 64th Avenue (south of Pena Boulevard). The Colorado State Patrol will also have an increased presence on this stretch to ensure people get to their destinations safely.

"Drivers need to have extra care driving through and near these zones because we know there are vulnerable pedestrians around," said Col. Matthew Packard, Chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "Every worker in a construction zone is a real person, and they deserve to be as safe as possible in their jobs."

It's important for drivers to pay attention to the speed limit signs as well as E-470 message boards with advanced notification about safety in the work zone. In addition, concrete barriers are also in place to separate high-speed traffic on E-470 from construction crews.

More Work Zone Safety Tips

- Drive with caution. With concrete barriers in place, travel lanes and shoulders will be narrower.
- Stay alert and expect the unexpected. Anticipate changing road conditions including traffic shifts and periodic lane closures during non-peak travel times (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 5 a.m.).
- Watch for workers
- Don't change lanes unnecessarily
- Leave plenty of space between your vehicle and the one ahead, as you're more likely to get into a crash if you follow too closely.
- Always slow down for first responders and <u>E-470 Roadside Assistance</u> vehicles that display amber lights.
- Don't drive distracted.

Crews are working in phases to improve an 11-mile stretch of E-470 from I-70 to 104th Avenue with construction anticipated to be complete in 2025. The public's patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated. All work is weather dependent and subject to change.

About E-470 Road Widening and Trail Expansion

People choose to take E-470 because it provides a quick, safe, and reliable commute. To continue maintaining this level

of service, E-470 has begun its next phase of road widening, which will add a third travel lane in each direction along an 11-mile stretch from I-70 to 104th Avenue. The project also includes a four-mile expansion of the High Plains Trail from 26th to 64th 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. The E-470 Public Highway Authority has been building more capacity on the 47-mile roadway and the trail adjacent to it since 2016. For more information, please visit e-470.com to view the project webpage.

About the Colorado State Patrol

Since its origin in 1935, the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) has focused on preserving human life and protecting property within our communities. Its 1,100 members embody the core values of Honor, Duty, and Respect in their daily jobs. In addition to expertise in motor vehicle safety on the state's roadways, the CSP is responsible for the Governor and other dignitaries' protection, commercial motor vehicle enforcement, hazardous materials, homeland security, communications, investigative services, criminal interdiction, community education, aviation operations, and more. For additional information, visit Colorado State Patrol online or follow them on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, or Facebook.

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