

North Area Transportation Alliance Board Meeting

January 25, 2024





Agenda



- 1. Welcome and introductions Chair Nancy McNally
- 2. Approval of December Meeting Minutes
- 3. 2024 NATA Appointments & Officers
- 4. 2023 NATA Year in Review Carson Priest
- 5. CDOT Commissioner Update Commissioner Karen Stuart
- 6. RTD Directors Reports Directors Buzek, Harwick, Davidson, Whitmore
- 7. E-470 Informational Update Neil Thompson, Director of Engineering and Roadway Maintenance and Jessica Carson,

 Director of Public Affairs
- 8. Other



2024 Executive Officers



- Chair Westminster Mayor Nancy McNally
- Vice Chair Erie Councilmember Emily Baer
- Treasurer Thornton Councilmember Justin Martinez

• Immediate Past Chair – Brighton Mayor Greg Mills



Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)



The SPC acts as the Executive Committee for NATA Board and includes the

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, immediate past Chair and two other at-large

members preferably from areas that are not geographically

represented by the Officers and the immediate past Chair.



2024 SPC Appointments



- Chair Westminster Mayor Nancy McNally
- Vice Chair Erie Councilmember Emily Baer
- Treasurer Thornton Councilmember Justin Martinez
- Immediate Past Chair Brighton Mayor Greg Mills
- At Large Member –
- At Large Member -

2024 Smart Commute Board of Directors

- Chair: Jessica Sandgren, Mayor Pro Tem, Thornton
- Vice Chair: Wady Burgos, Parking & TDM Coordinator, Westminster Parking
- Treasurer: Nathan Batchelder, Senior Associate, CRL and Associates
- Kyle Harris, VP Community Development, McWhinney
- Troy Whitmore, Director, Public Affairs, United Power
- Pedro Costa, CEO, Northwest Parkway
- Andrea Donegan, General Manager, Amazon DEN3
- Lisa Hough, President & CEO, AC-REP
- Craig Hebrink, Sustainable Broomfield



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2023 Position Letters



- 1.31.2023 Letter to Pete Buttigieg re: Support of US 85/120th Avenue Interchange RAISE Grant Application
- 2.9.2023 Letter to Pete Buttigieg re: Support 104th Avenue between Colorado Boulevard and South Platte River RAISE Grant Application
- 2.23.2023 Letter to Pete Buttigieg re: Support of The City of Commerce City's 88th Avenue Improvements from I-76 to Highway 2 RAISE Grant Application
- 3.29.2023 Letter to Joe Neguse re: CDS Community Project Support Colorado 7 Multimodal & Safety Preconstruction
- 9.28.2023 Letter to Pete Buttigieg re: RCN grant application for Reconnecting Disadvantaged Communities and Fostering Equitable Revitalization Near the 72nd Ave RTD Station by Removing Barriers to Connectivity
- 9.28.2023 Letter to Pete Buttigieg re: 2023 RCN/NAE Grant Application; City of Thornton Washington Street Multimodal Path Underpass
- 9.29.2023 Letter to Meg Froelich re: Transit Zero-Fare for Youth





January:

- Review of NATA 2022 Year in Review Carson Priest
- Smart Commute Board of Directors Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- CDOT I-25/88th Transit Impact & Safety Analysis Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) Presentation Mike Silverstein, RAQC

February:

- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report & Safety Brief Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- <u>CO 7 Corridor (Brighton to Boulder) Update CO 7 TAC Members, CDOT Regions 1 & 4 Leadership</u>





March:

- Smart Commute HB22-1026, Outreach, BTWD Update Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- RTD Regional Ridership Report Michael Davies

April:

- Q1 Treasurer's Report Trustee Emily Baer
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- CDOT Mobility Hub Plan Update Jennifer Phillips

May:

- Smart Commute BTWD and Summer Events Update Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Director Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- CDOT I-25 TIFIA Loan Update Nicholas Farber, CTIO





June:

• Annual NATA Retreat – Mayor Greg Mills (Chair), Carson Priest & Tammy Herreid with Smart Commute

July:

- Smart Commute BTWD Recap and Grant Applications Update Carson Priest
- Update on I-25 Advocacy Efforts Chair Mayor Greg Mills
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- CDOT Division of Aeronautics Presentation David Ulane, Aeronautics Director

August:

- Smart Commute Grant Applications Status, 144th FlexRide and eBike Wrap-up Update Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- Front Range Passenger Rail Special District Update Andy Karsian, Chrissy Breit
- Doodle Pool re: Priority Project Working Group Meeting Carson Priest





September:

- RTD and SMART/RCN Grant Letters of Support Discuss and Approval Carson Priest
- NATA Priority Projects List Process Update Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- <u>CTIO Update regarding Safety Enforcement Program Piper Darlington</u>

October - No Meeting (CDOT TDM Conference)

November – No Meeting

December:

- Election of 2024 NATA Officers Carson Priest
- CDOT Transportation Commissioner Report Commissioner Karen Stuart
- RTD Directors Reports Directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore
- Preview of NATA Guiding Principals & Project List Filters Carson Priest
- <u>Smart Commute Annual Review & Regional Survey Report Carson Priest</u>



2023 Accomplishments and Ongoing Focus



- Continued In-person Meetings with Some Increased Attendance
- June Retreat Focused on Priority Project List Update Process
- Monthly CDOT Commissioner Updates
- Monthly RTD Directors Report Updates
- Priority Project List Update Process Kick-Off Senior Staff Meeting
- Priority Project List Policy and Filters Document Draft
- Renewed Focus on Position Letters
- Focus on Positioning the Region for Federal Funding Opportunities
- Update Lobbying Leave-Behind Document
- Create Project One-Sheeters for Lobbying Efforts
- Wrote and signed seven project Letters of Support for Grant Applications



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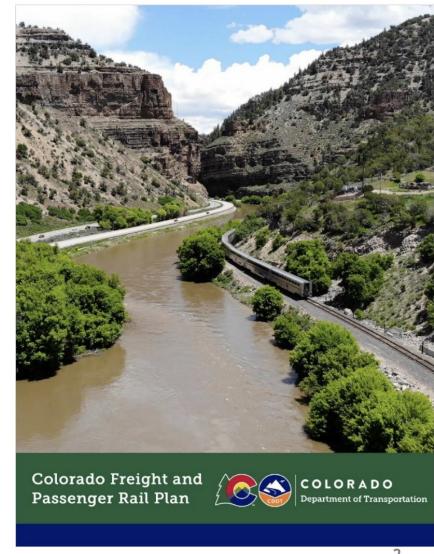
Department of Transportation

Colorado Freight and Passenger Rail Plan Update



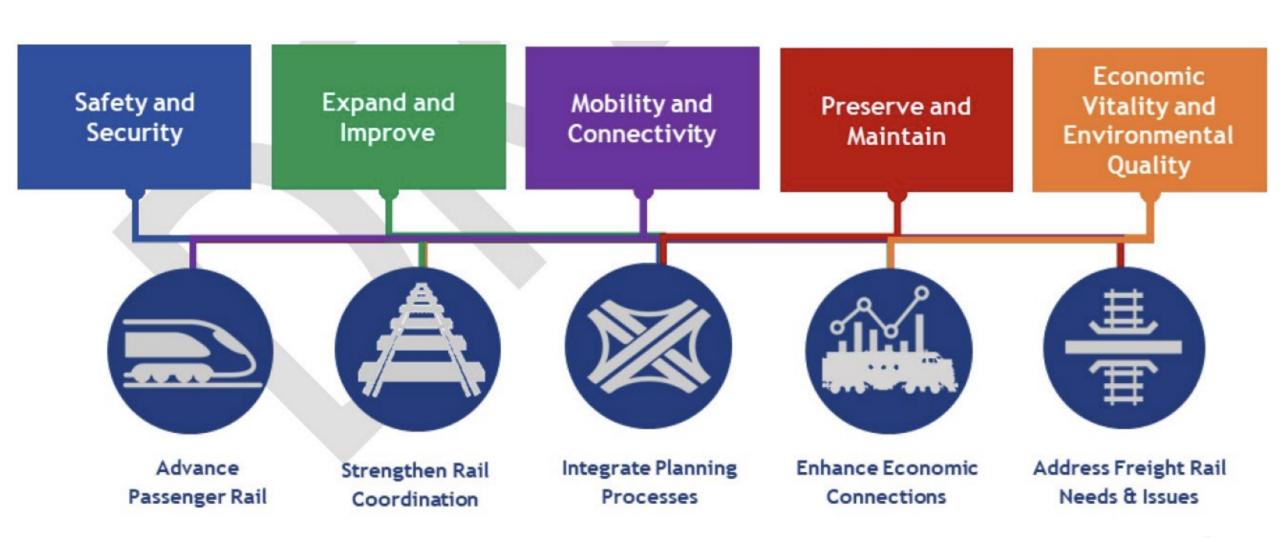
What is the State Rail Plan?

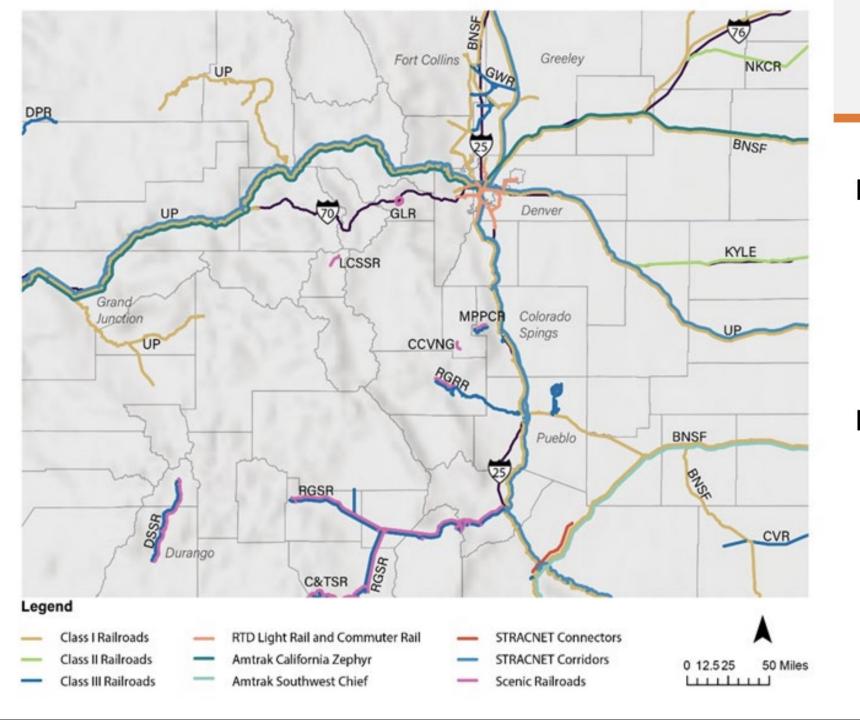
- Positions Colorado for future grant, financing and policy opportunities
 - Factor in discretionary grants
- Required by Federal Railroad Administration
- Strategic and high-level document
- Identifies key issues, needs, and initiatives
- Inventories potential future investment concepts
- Developed in coordination with key partners





State Rail Plan Goals





Colorado's Active Rail Network

Freight

- 13 freight railroads; 2,545 miles of track
- 2,523 jobs in freight railroads
- 382,000 jobs in freight-dependent industries
- 20 percent of all freight moved
- 154 million tons of products moved
- \$10.3 billion of products moved

Passenger

- 3 Amtrak routes; 197,000 travelers annually
- 1 tourist services
- 4 commuter and 6 light rail lines (21.5 million RTD rail passengers annually)
- 7 scenic railroads; 990,000 passengers annually



Partner and Public Involvement











































Changes since last update

Passenger Rail Modernization and Expansion

- Front Range Passenger Rail
 - Service Development Plan/Corridor ID
 - Creation of Front Range Passenger Rail District (SB 21-238)
- Mountain Rail
- Burnham Yard Development
- Southwest Chief Track Rehabilitation and Thru-car Study
- FRA's Long Distance Passenger Rail Study (Zephyr & Southwest Chief)

Freight Rail Industry Shifts

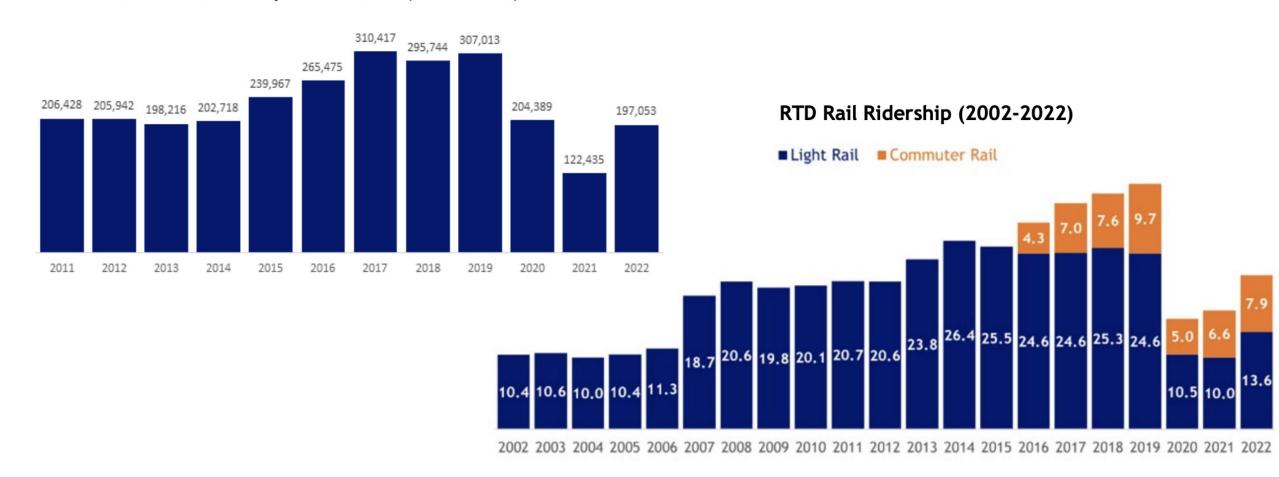
- Changes in freight rail trends and commodity movements
- Need to consider Just Transition for energy communities
- Increased emphasis on freight safety and equity

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding Opportunities



Trends in Passenger Rail

Amtrak Ridership in Colorado (2011-2022)





Key Rail Policy Issues

Funding

- Major funding needs for enhancing capacity, safety and equity
- Historic short-term opportunity for federal funding
- Limited long-term federal funding for passenger or freight rail improvements
- Significant capital and operating costs for passenger rail corridor development

Land use and development

- Integrate transit- and rail-oriented development
- Preserve existing rail infrastructure and right-of-way for future uses

Coordination and joint planning

- Formalize coordination and communication with railroad operators
- Leverage funding for Federal grant opportunities

Safety

- Recent concerns regarding derailments in Colorado and elsewhere
- But consistently safer than surface alternatives



Future Passenger Rail Investments by Corridor

Front Range Passenger Rail

- Station Development
- Support Facilities
- Track Improvements
- Signal Improvements
- Rolling Stock/Fleet
- PTC and safety improvements

Mountain Corridor

Network and Service Development Planning

- Stations & Transit connections
- Governance
- Operations
- Rolling Stock/Fleet
- Ridership
- Financial Planning
- PTC & safety improvements

RTD Commuter Rail

- N Line Extension
- Northwest Rail Line -Extension
- SW Line Extension
- A Line Crossing Improvements at Chambers Blvd
- Burnham Yard Track Improvements

Southwest Chief

- Implement 2024 FRA Long-Range Passenger Rail Recommendations
- SWC Thru Car Implementation
- Reroute of Amtrak's Service

California Zephyr

- Brush Sub Safety and Operational Improvement
- Other infrastructure and operational improvements

Freight Rail

- Realignment (Colorado Springs)
- Grade Separations (Longmont)
- Bridge Replacements (Denver)
- Signal (Loveland)
- Interchange (Hudson)
- Underpass and Overpass (Fort Collins)
- Safety technology

Statewide and Regionally Significant Freight Rail

- Positive Train Control (PTC): Denver to Cheyenne
- Track, Siding, and Spur
 Improvements to support
 Southern Colorado Rail Park



Next steps

- February: TC Resolution/Plan Approval
- Winter: FRA Plan review and adoption
- Ongoing: Applications for FRA and DOT grant programs





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E-470: MORE THAN A ROAD

Neil Thomson, E-470 Interim Executive Director Jessica Carson, E-470 Public Affairs Director January 25, 2024

AGENDA

- 1. E-470's Mission and Vision
- 2. About Us and Background on E-470
- 3. Traffic Trends and toll rate reductions
- 4. Regional Partner
- 5. Capital Projects
- 6. Commitment to Safety
- 7. Environmental Stewards
- 8. In the Community
- 9. Tolling Services for Colorado
- 10. Operational and Customer Service Statistics
- 11. Questions and Answers
- 12. Contact Information

E-470'S PURPOSE & VISION

We improve your journey...

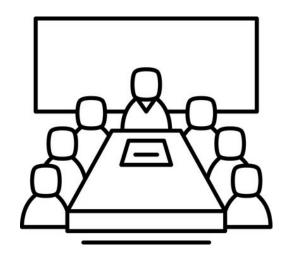
...and provide exceptional mobility solutions by connecting people and embracing transformative opportunities

ABOUT US

- Colorado political subdivision
- Local government owned and operated
- Governed under PHA law by a Board of Directors:

8 Voting Members

- Parker, John Diak, Board Chair
- Aurora, Françoise Bergan, Vice Chair
- Commerce City, Craig Hurst, Secretary
- Brighton, Jan Pawlowski, Treasurer
- Adams County, Chaz Tedesco, Commissioner
- Arapahoe County, Bill Holen, Commissioner
- Douglas County, George Teal, Commissioner
- Thornton, Tony Unrein, Council Member



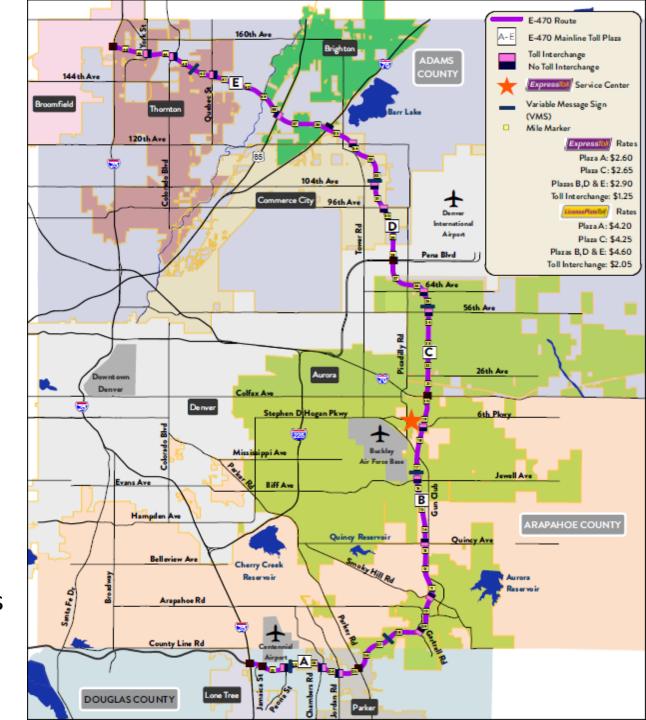
8 Non-Voting Members

- Arvada
- Broomfield
- CDOT
- DRCOG
- Greeley
- Lone Tree
- RTD
- Weld County



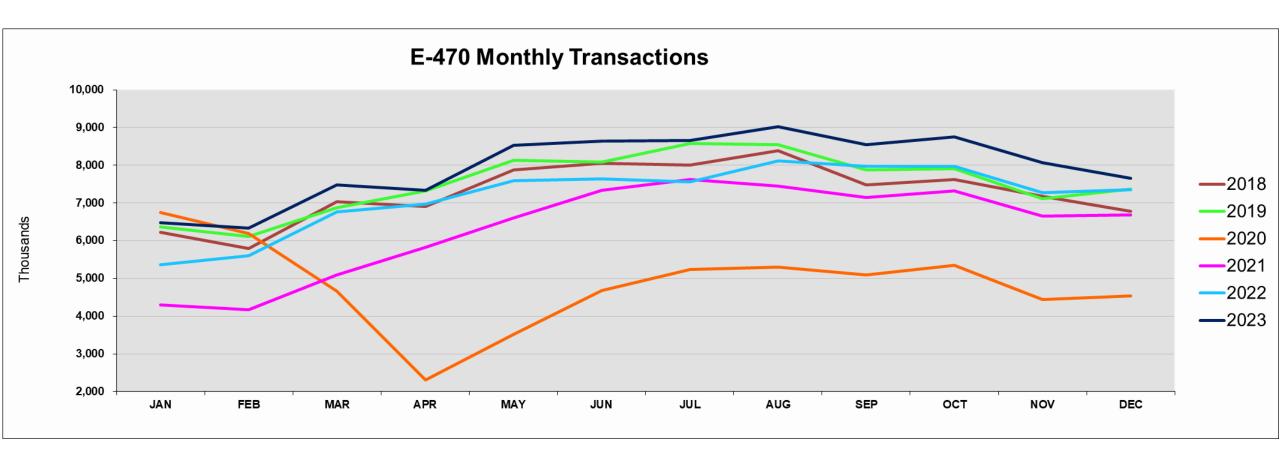
BACKGROUND

- 47-mile all-electronic public toll road
- 1991 Opened first segment (south)
- 2001 Launched the Safety Foundation
- 2003 Opened last segment (north)
- 2009 Conversion to cashless tolling
- User-financed: NOT TAX FUNDED
- \$1.3 billion in outstanding bond debt
- \$100-\$115 million in annual debt payments
- Scheduled to be paid off in 2041



MONTHLY TRANSACTION TRENDS

Through December 2023



REDUCING TOLLS AND ELIMINATING FEES

Toll Rate Reductions and Adjustments

- 2023: Froze ExpressToll and LPT rates
- 2022: Reduced ExpressToll and License Plate Toll® (LPT) rates
- 2020-Present: Reduced 3+ Axle ExpressToll® rates
- 2020-2021: <u>Froze</u> LPT rates
- 2018-2021 (4 Years): Froze ExpressToll rates
- 2018: Reduced Rate at Toll Plaza C

Elimination of Fees

- 2018: Vehicle Registration
- 2017: Highway Expansion Fees





REGIONAL PARTNER

- Riverdale Bluffs Trail Adams County
- Sable Interchange Brighton and Adams County
- Quebec Interchange City of Thornton
- Tower Road/Peña Ramp Commerce City
- 120th Avenue Interchange Signals **Commerce City**
- Quincy Avenue/Gun Club Road Interchange Arapahoe County and Cit
- Future Parker Road Overpass for High Plains Trail Arapahoe County
- Stephen D. Hogan Parkway City of Aurora
- 38th and 48th Avenue Interchange City of Aurora
- Chambers Interchange Douglas County
- Electrical Charging RAQC
- Future Intersection Signals Master Plan









STRATEGIC CAPITAL PROJECT PLANNING

- Self-funded Capital Plan 2022-2026 (5 Years) estimated at \$500M
- Reinvests back into the roadway through several improvements:
 - Ongoing Road Widening Project
 - New interchanges to stay ahead of development & growth
 - Trail extensions
 - Technological advances in lane toll system & back office
- E-470's 2020 Master Plan identifies more than \$1.5B in capital, infrastructure, and improvements between 2020-2040
 - The Master Plan is scheduled to be updated in 2024
- New Traffic & Revenue Study in 2024 to forecast infrastructure needs based on economic growth along the corridor



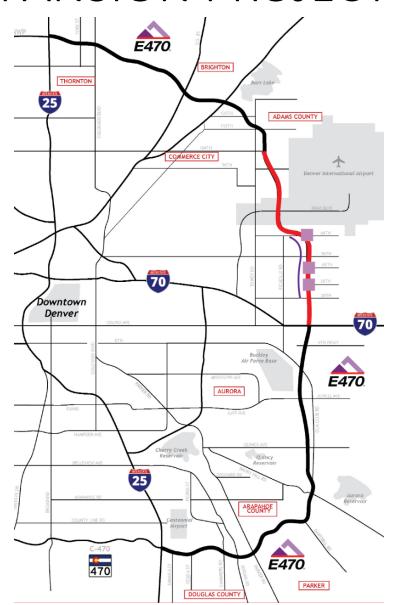




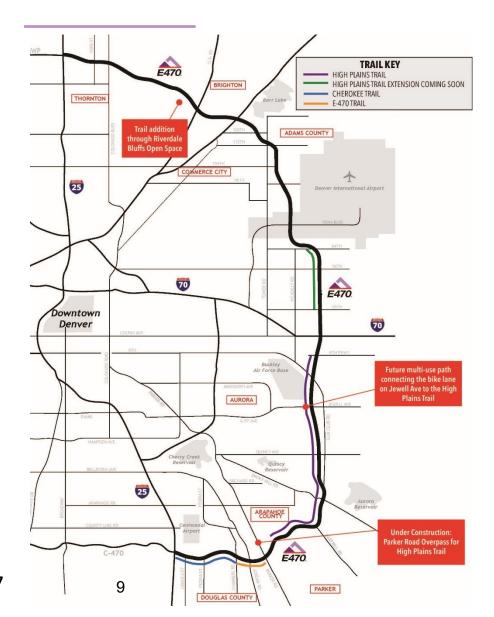
ROADWAY WIDENING & TRAIL EXPANSION PROJECT

CURRENT PHASE: I-70 to 104th Ave (11 miles)

- Construction kicked-off September 2022
- Anticipated to be complete in 2025
- Widening to 3 travel lanes each direction; bridges for ultimate build out of 4 travel lanes
- Other Travel Enhancements:
 - 38th Ave New Interchange
 - 48th Ave New Interchange
 - 64th Ave Expansion
 - Pena Blvd Expansion
 - High Plains Trail Expansion
 - 26th to 64th Avenues
 - 88th to 104th Avenues



FROM THE TOLLWAY TO THE TRAILWAY



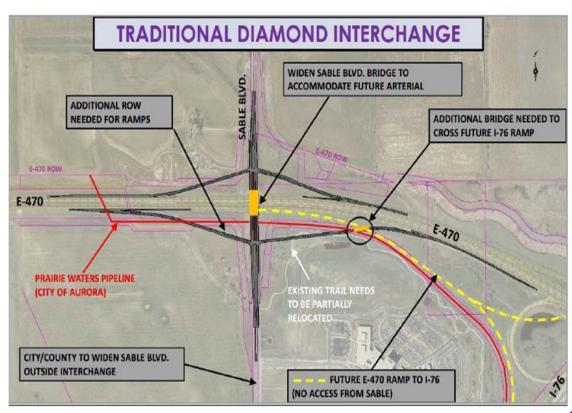
- E-470 has built more than 12.5 miles of the High Plains Trail
- Trail will be extended another 6 miles with latest road widening project
- Goal is to provide better connections for people on foot and on bikes to existing trails in the region including the Cherry Creek, Piney Creek, Happy Canyon, and C-470 Trails
- E-470 plans to continue partnering with its member jurisdictions on other trail projects in the region.





SABLE INTERCHANGE UPDATE

- Anticipated Project Timeline:
 - Design Complete Q4 2024
 - Construction Begins Q1 2025
 - Project Complete Q2 2026
- Working closely with Brighton staff to obtain additional
 Right of Way needed for project
- Work with Aurora Water to relocate Prairie Waters 60" waterline
- Collaborative IGA with Brighton and Adams County to jointly fund the project has been executed
- The Authority covering 66.6% of cost of new interchange
- Relocated this interchange from Potomac to Sable at Brighton's request to accommodate future growth





COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SUPPORT

- E-470 named HAZMAT route
 - Effective Spring 2022
 - Created safer routes for neighboring jurisdictions
- Extended 3+ Axle Pilot Program
 - Offering discounts to commercial vehicles on E-470





COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

- Wrong-way driver prevention
- Cable barrier to prevent crossover
- Deer fence installation
- Variable Message Signs
- 50 cameras along 47-mile corridor
- 24/7 Proactive Traffic Management
- Snow Removal
 - 4 maintenance facilities
 - 12 weather stations
 - 280,000 gallons liquid treatment
 - 9,600 tons solid deicer
 - 22 snowplows
 - Snow fencing to prevent drifting











SAFETY MEETS SERVICE *470

- Free 24/7 Roadside Assistance for all motorists
- Services offered free of charge:
 - Flat tire assistance
 - Fuel & fluid refills
 - Jumpstarts
 - Cell phone service
- Other services provided:
 - Debris & hazard material removal
 - Traffic control during incidents
- Roadside Assistance | By the numbers (2022):
 - 9 minute average response time
 - 1 hour average incident clearance
 - **6,000** customer assists
 - 12,000 roadside assistance calls









ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS

- Improving Water Quality
- The Cherry Creek and Barr Milton Watersheds adjacent to E-470
- E-470 plays a role in keeping those watersheds clean
 - Done through a Non-Standard MS4 Permit extended through 2026
 - E-470 also educates customers about reducing pollutants
 - E-470 utilizes best management practices such as spraying to remove unwanted vegetation to minimize use of herbicides





Supporting Electric Vehicles (EV)

- Upgraded EV charging stations outside ExpressToll Service Center walk-up entrance (2022)
 - Allows four EVs to charge simultaneously vs two
 - Delivers an **80% charge** in approximately **30 minutes**



SOLAR POWERED ROAD

15

solar arrays 11

years energy production 12

million total kWh solar energy produced 2

buildings with solar arrays 13

ramps with solar arrays







IN THE COMMUNITY









TRANSPORTATION SAFETY FOUNDATION

THE E-470 GOOD GUYS TEAM

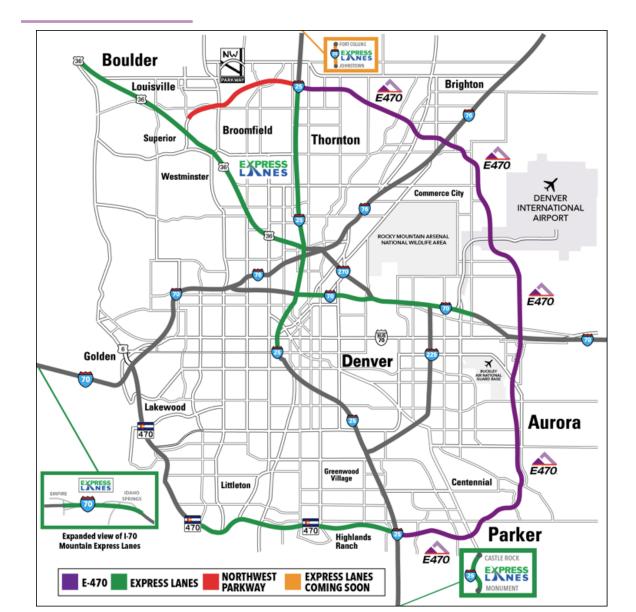
JURISDICTIONAL SPONSORSHIPS

CONNECTING WITH OUR PARTNERS



COLORADO INTEROPERABILITY





COLORADO TOLL FACILITIES

- Toll Roads:
 - E-470
 - Northwest Parkway
- Express Lanes:
 - C-470
 - US 36
 - I-25 Central Denver
 - I-25 South
 - I-70 Central Denver
 - I-70 Mountain Express Lanes
- Express Lanes (In progress):
 - I-25 North

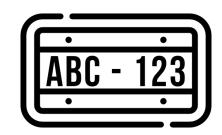


2023 OPERATING STATISTICS



- Total transactions processed through E-470's back office
 - 153 million transactions
 - 15% increase from 2022
- E-470 Total Transactions
 - 95.5 million transactions
 - 62.5% of total transactions in CO
 - 11% increase from 2022
- Total Customer Service Calls
 - 982,445 calls serviced
 - 12.8% increase from 2022

- Total License Plate Images Reviewed
 - 79.4 Million images reviewed
 - 6.8% increase from 2022



- ExpressToll Accounts & Transponders
 - 1.3 million ExpressToll accounts
 - 2.3 million transponders issued
 - 175,000 new accounts opened
 - 16% increase from 2022



CUSTOMER SERVICE IS A TOP PRIORITY

- ExpressToll Customer Satisfaction
 - 4.66 Stars out of 5
- E-470 Road Conditions Satisfaction
 - 4.61 Stars out of 5
- Most Important Item to Customers
 - E-470 kept free of snow
- #1 Reason Customers Choose E-470
 - E-470 Saves Time!













CONTACT US

- Neil Thomson
 - E-470 Interim Executive Director
 - **(303) 419-3088**
 - nthomson@e-470.com
- Jessica Carson
 - E-470 Public Affairs Director
 - **(303) 877-7334**
 - jcarson@e-470.com





Upcoming Presentations and Discussions



- CML Legislative Update (February and March)
- I-25 Seg. 2 Updated Scope Presentation (Q1 '24)
- RTD N Line Frequency Update (Q1 '24)
- DRCOG RTP Update and NATA Region (Q1/2 '24)
- Front Range Passenger Rail Update
- RTD Partnership Program Update
- RTD Zero Fare for Better Air Report
- NATA Region Projects funded via TIP Calls
- NATA Letter of Support Status Update
- Others? Contact me!



2024 Schedule



- January 25
- February 22
- March 28
- April 25 (Potential Retreat)
- May 23 (Potential Retreat)
 - June 27
 - July 25
 - August 22
 - September 26
 - October 24
- November- no NATA meeting
- **December 12** (2nd Thursday)