

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## US 34 EAST PERMANENT FLOOD REPAIRS

**Q: How long will this project take?**

A: The contractor, Flatiron Constructors, Inc. will work through the winter. Project completion is anticipated in December 2015.

**Q: Will you need to shut down the road?**

A: US 34 will remain open through construction. With the temporary road in place, work on the bridge can occur without closing US 34.

**Q: Will the speed limit be reduced in the work zone?**

A: A temporary speed limit of 45mph has been posted since US 34 reopened on October 1, 2013. This reduced speed will be maintained throughout construction.

**Q: Is night work planned?**

A: No night work is anticipated. However, CDOT and Flatiron may adjust the schedule, which includes work hours and weekend work, as needed.

**Q: There are other construction projects and road closures in the area. Are these projects being coordinated?**

A: The Weld County 49 Parkway (Parkway) project is currently under construction to the east and north of the US 34 project. The Parkway project requires full road closures. During construction, Weld 47.5 is closed to through traffic at US 34. There will not be access to Weld 58 via Weld 47.5. Weld 58 is closed to through traffic at Weld 49.5. There will not be access to Weld 47.5 via 49.5. 18th Street is also closed to through traffic at Hemlock Street. All closures associated with the Parkway project could last up to a year. CDOT and Flatiron are in close communication with Weld County and the Parkway team. Every effort will be made to minimize traffic impacts throughout the area.

**Q: Why is CDOT building a bridge?**

A: The September 2013 flood event washed out an entire section of US 34. CDOT is committed to building back better with resilient design. Post-flood hydraulic analysis indicates that a bridge is necessary to ensure that US 34 can withstand a future flood event.

**Q: Besides the bridge, what else does this project include?**

A: In addition to the new bridge, permanent repairs include installing a box culvert under the roadway and upgrading design elements to current CDOT design standards. The horizontal alignment (i.e., curvature) of US 34 will be flattened to meet the requirements of a higher design speed. The intersection of US 34 and US 34 Business will be realigned slightly to the west.

**Q: What will happen to the water in the scour holes?**

A: Portions of the scour holes (i.e., large ponds left after the September 2013 flood event) closest to the new bridge and roadway embankments will be filled. As the result of a raised water table, some of the water will remain in place. Where possible, both the resulting earthen channel constructed under the bridge and the scour holes will be seeded to encourage revegetation.

**Q: Why hasn't construction of permanent repairs happened sooner?**

A: CDOT expedited analysis and design for US 34 East. Normally, a project this size would take years of planning and design; however, CDOT was able to develop a workable design for construction in 9 months. US 34 East is only the second of approximately 40 permanent repair projects to begin construction. The first project was US 36 Lyons to Estes Park. More information on state-wide CDOT flood recovery effort is available at <http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/floodrelatedprojects>.

**Q: How is this project being paid for?**

A: CDOT received \$450 million from the federal government for the state-wide 2013 flood recovery effort. US 34 East has been allocated \$22 million for permanent flood repairs.

**Q: How can I stay informed about the project?**

A: Visit the project website at [www.codot.gov/projects/floodrelatedprojects/us-34-east](http://www.codot.gov/projects/floodrelatedprojects/us-34-east) for more information. Sign up for email and wireless (text) alerts. Go to CDOT's website at [www.codot.gov](http://www.codot.gov) and click on the envelope icon in the bottom right hand corner of the page. Enter your information and choose "US34 Flood Repairs" under the "Colorado Flooding" list.

**Q: How can I contact the project team?**

A: If you have questions or concerns, please call the project information line (970-815-0901) or send an email to the project email address ([US34East@gmail.com](mailto:US34East@gmail.com)).