



# ADAMS COUNTY

**COLORADO**  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Eva J. Henry - District #1  
Charles "Chaz" Tedesco - District #2  
Emma Pinter - District #3  
Steve O'Dorisio - District #4  
Lynn Baca - District #5

---

---

STUDY SESSION AGENDA  
TUESDAY  
March 30, 2021

*ALL TIMES LISTED ON THIS AGENDA ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

---

---

- |            |                     |  |
|------------|---------------------|--|
| 11:00 A.M. | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Adam Burg</b>   |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Legislative Update</b>  |
| 11:40 A.M. | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Brian Staley / Chris Chovan</b>   |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Public Works Review of State Highway Devolution Considerations</b>  |
| 12:40 P.M. | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Dr. John Douglas, Executive Director, Tri-County Health Department</b>  |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Tri-County Health Department Update</b>   |
| 1:10 P.M.  | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Raymond Gonzales</b>  |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Administrative Item Review / Commissioners Communication</b>  |
| 1:40 P.M.  | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Heidi Miller</b>  |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Executive Session Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) and (e) for the Purpose of Receiving Legal Advice and Instructing Negotiators Regarding Perez, HRDC, and Daves Matters</b>                                  |
| 2:10 P.M.  | <b>ATTENDEE(S):</b> | <b>Heidi Miller</b>  |
|            | <b>ITEM:</b>        | <b>Executive Session Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) and (e) for the Purpose of Receiving Legal Advice and Instructing Negotiators Regarding the Aerotropolis Regional Transportation Authority Negotiations</b> |

**TO WATCH THE MEETING:**

- Watch the virtual Zoom Study Session through our [You Tube Channel](#)

(AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS OF PUBLIC BUSINESS WHICH MAY ARISE)

\*\*\*AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*



## STUDY SESSION ITEM SUMMARY

<b>DATE OF STUDY SESSION:</b> March 30, 2021
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Public Works Review of State Highway Devolution Considerations
<b>OFFICE/DEPARTMENT:</b> Public Works Department
<b>CONTACT:</b> Brian Staley, Public Works Director
<b>FINANCIAL IMPACT:</b> N/A
<b>SUPPORT/RESOURCES REQUEST:</b>
<b>DIRECTION NEEDED:</b> Whether to formally pursue devolution or continue to monitor opportunities
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b> Staff recommends a monitor position while pursuing state and federal funding for improvements on these corridors

### **DISCUSSION POINTS:**

At the Board's request, staff has completed an exercise to analyze the possibility of devolution of control of three segments of CDOT controlled state highways in Unincorporated Adams County:

- SH-287/Federal Blvd.
- SH-44/E. 104th Ave.
- SH-224/E. 74th Ave.

This session will present a comprehensive analysis of considerations associated with the devolution of these corridors. The session will include a cost/benefits analysis, a review of the budget impact of actions, and opportunities for future actions on these corridors.

# State Highway Devolution Considerations

---

SH-287 / Federal Blvd.

SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave.

SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave.



# Benefits of Devolution

## Local Control of Maintenance



Local control will allow the Adams County team to respond to public concerns in a timely fashion

## Surface Treatment Scheduling



The Adams County team would be able to prioritize these essential routes for resurfacing and repair of concrete facilities

## Multimodal & ADA-Compliant Infrastructure



These corridors generally lack adequate sidewalks, bike lanes, medians, crosswalks, etc. Local control will allow the Adams County team to prioritize investment and reconstruction of these essential roadway features



# Drawbacks of Devolution

## Upfront Infrastructure Investments



Estimate of upfront infrastructure investments for each corridor:

SH-287: \$26.8M

SH-44: \$8.0M

SH-224: \$37.5M

## Maintenance & Staffing Consideration



The Adams County team would need to assess current team capacity and request an increase in FTE staffing to perform regular maintenance on these corridors

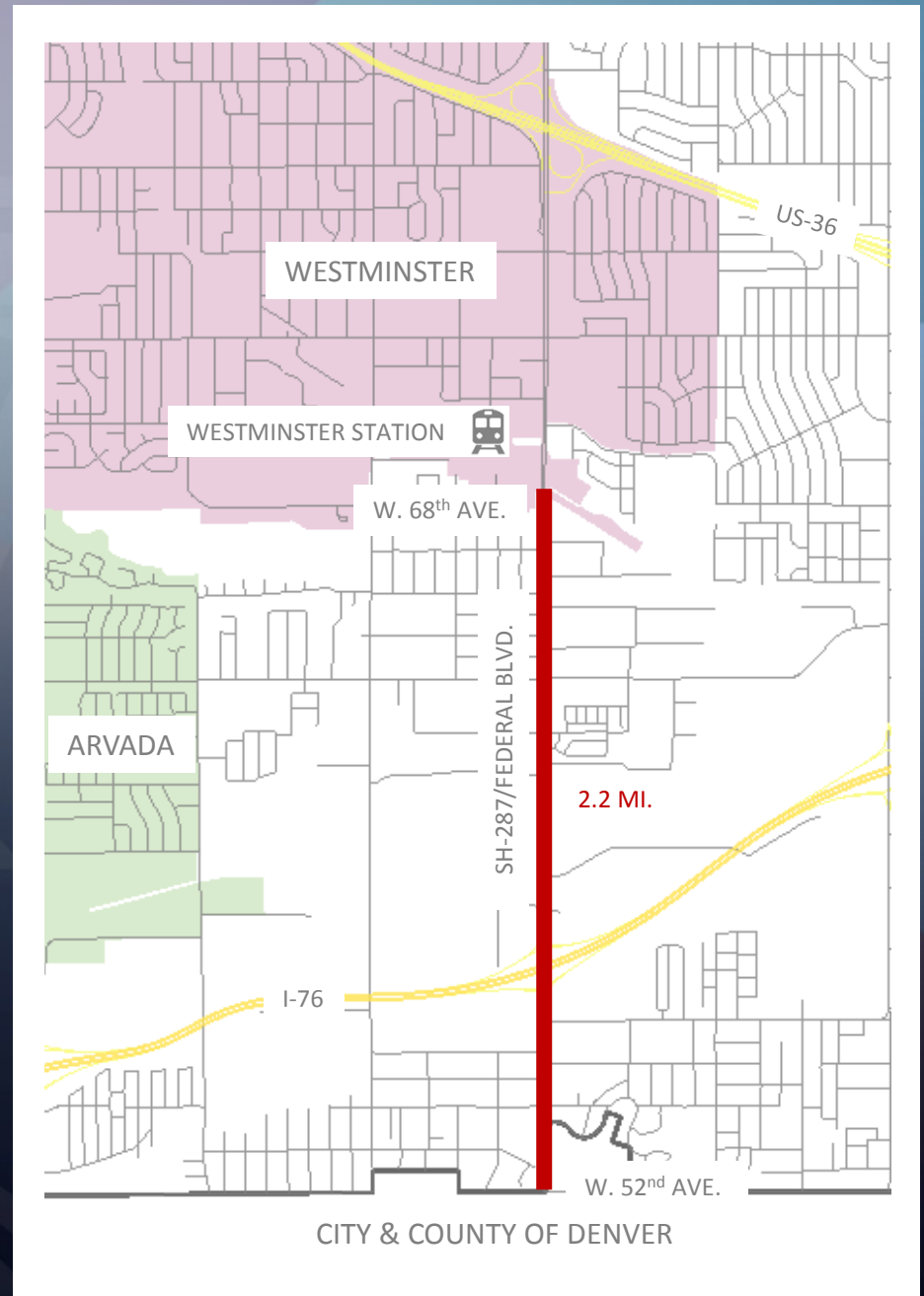
## Limited Funding Opportunities



If devolved, these corridors would become ineligible for federal funds that are now directly allocated to the subregional entity (ADCOG Subregional Forum)



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor Summary



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor Projects

## City of Westminster

Little Dry Creek Trail  
connection at W. 67<sup>th</sup> Pl.

*Completion: June 2021*



## Federal Blvd. Corridor Study

Adams County, City of Westminster, and City of Federal Heights

This project will produce a comprehensive analysis of traffic conditions and potential multimodal transportation improvements for the Federal Blvd. Corridor.

*Completion: December 2021*

## Advancing Adams

Adams County

This project will produce an update to the Transportation Master Plan and has identified Federal Blvd. as one of five key corridors for review as part of the final plan

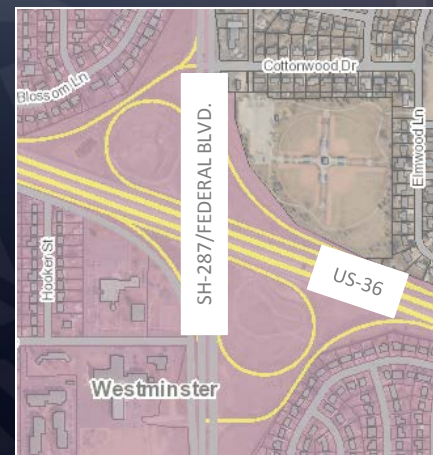
*Completion: 2022*

## CDOT

### US-36 Interchange Improvements

This project will replace traffic signal poles at entrance ramps to US36, equipment upgrades at 74th Ave., pedestrian safety improvements, ADA curb ramp upgrades

*Completion: Fall 2021*



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor

## Flood Plain Concerns



Clear Creek overtops Federal Blvd. in the 100 yr. flood event model

## Major & Minor Structures



Major bridge structure over Clear Creek is functionally obsolete (requires replacement)

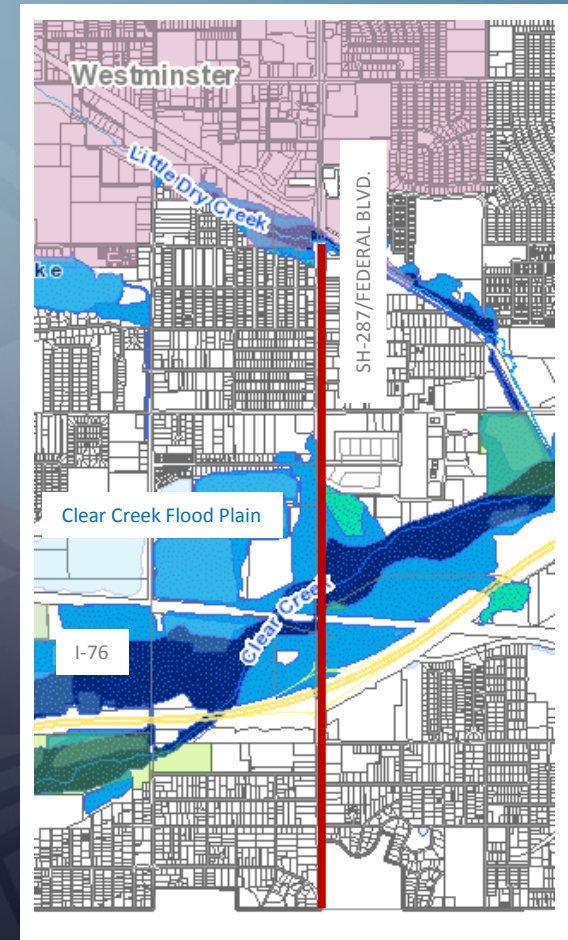
10,000 ft. of storm sewer infrastructure in unknown condition

Limit Proliferation of Driveways & Access Points

## Mill & Overlay Maintenance Costs



Estimated \$6M every 10 years





# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor

## Major & Minor Structures



Major bridge structure over Clear Creek functionally obsolete (requires replacement for approximately \$6.8M)

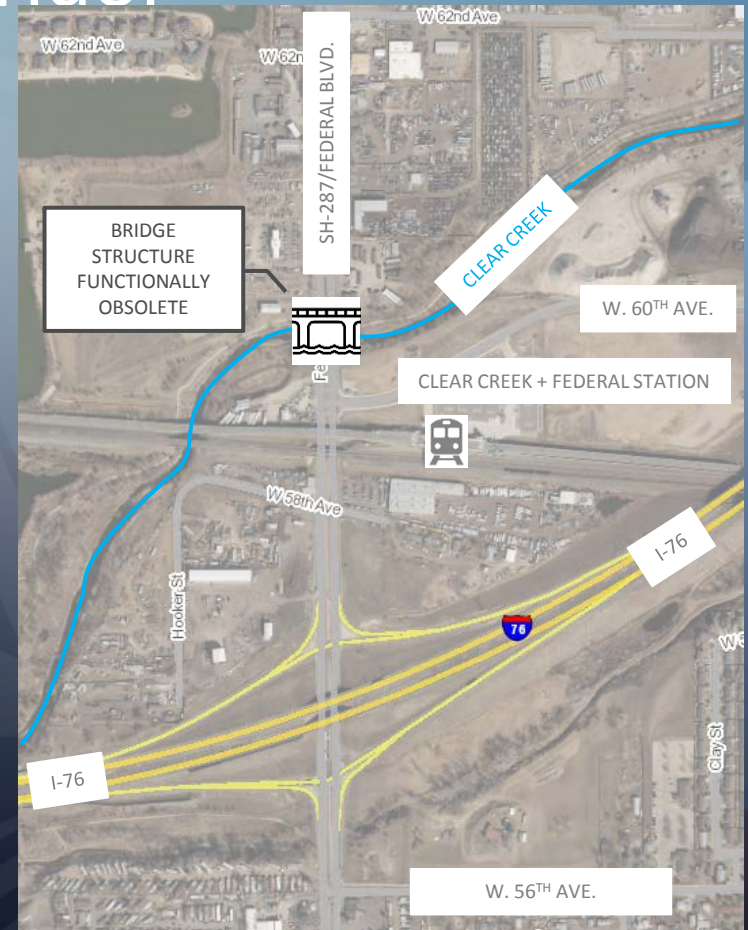
10,000 ft. of storm sewer infrastructure in unknown condition

Limit proliferation of driveways & access points

## Aesthetics



If controlled by Adams County, we can better set streetscaping requirements for this corridor in coordination with our adjacent municipalities of Denver and Westminster to provide a better aesthetic for this corridor



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor

## Corridor Visioning



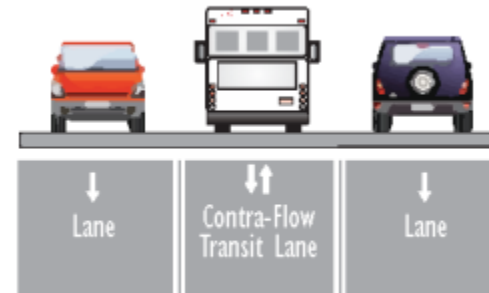
The Federal Blvd. Corridor Study will present a unified set of recommendations for improvements to the corridor. These will include potential cross sections and multimodal transportation initiatives as were developed in the SH-7 Corridor Study.

**Figure 3.1** Managed Lane Cross-Section



Source: Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, 2016

**Figure 3.2** Reversible Transit Lane Cross-Section



Source: Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, 2016

Sample cross section alternatives presented in the SH-7 Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL) Report (Felsburg, Holt, Ullevig, 2018)



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Corridor

## ADA-Compliant Sidewalk Infrastructure



Corridor lacks adequate sidewalks, medians, crosswalks, etc. Major investment and reconstruction will be required to make it a safe multi-modal corridor

## Snow Removal Maintenance



22 Lane-Miles of additional priority 1 roadway  
Assessment of staffing resources will be required

## Operations & Maintenance Costs



Approximately \$50K/yr. in additional maintenance budget  
22 Lane-Miles of Roadway  
5-7 New Traffic Signals



# SH-287 / Federal Blvd. Financial Summary

## Expenses

### Construction Investment

Clear Creek Bridge	\$ (6,800,000.00)
Sidewalk Gaps & ADA Compliant Curb Ramps	\$ (20,000,000.00)
	<hr/>
	\$ (26,800,000.00) investment

### Maintenance

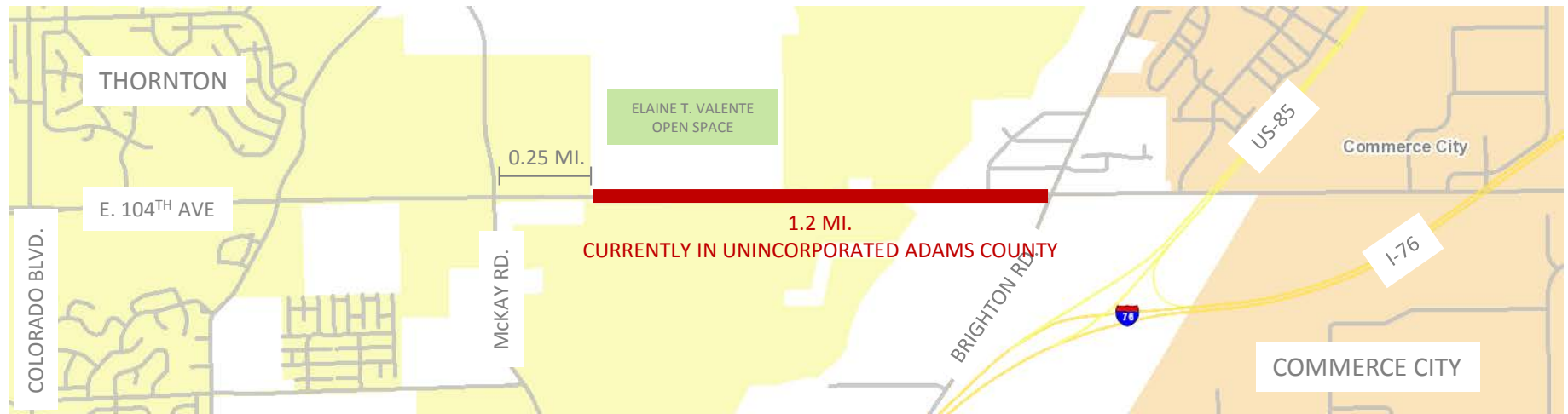
Resurfacing	\$ (600,000.00)/year
Storm Sewers	\$ (175,000.00)/year
Highway Operations	\$ (50,000.00)/year
	<hr/>
	\$ (825,000.00)/year

## Income

Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF)	\$ 124,544.00/year
-------------------------------	--------------------



# SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor Summary

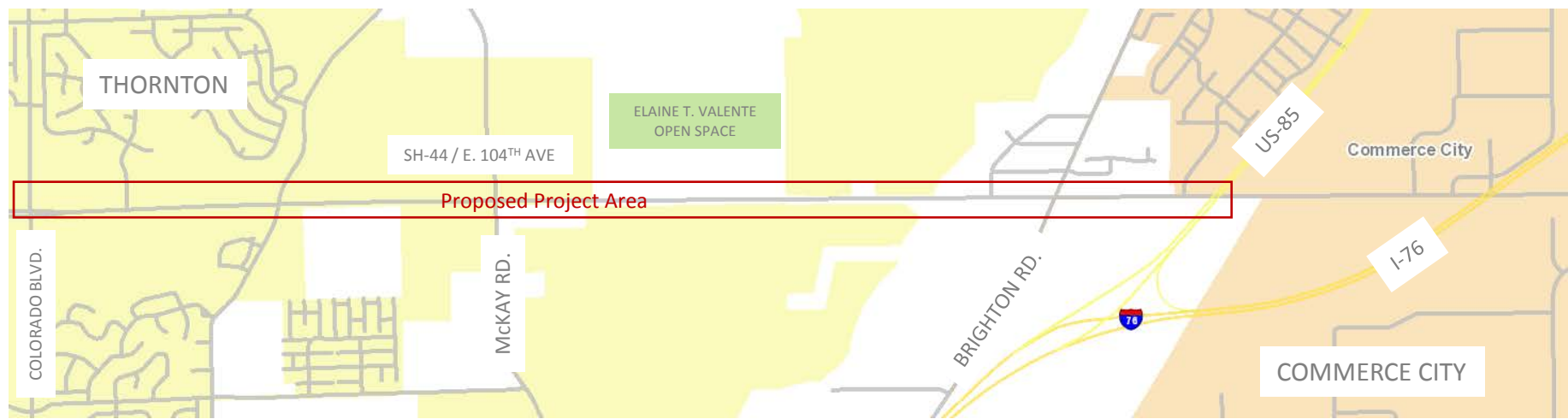


# SH-44 / E. 104th Ave. Projects

E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. CIP – 30% Plans for 104<sup>th</sup> Widening (Between Colorado Blvd. & US-85)

City of Thornton, City of Commerce City, Adams County

The City of Thornton is leading a grant-funded project through DRCOG to support this effort in the amount of \$1.6M, with a local match from Adams County (\$100K), Commerce City (\$100K), and Thornton (\$200K)



## Project Scope (Design Only):

- Widen to two lanes in each direction plus a center turn lane/median
- Detached recreation trails
- On-street bicycle lanes
- Reconstruct bridge over the Fulton Ditch
- Installation of fiber optic infrastructure for intelligent transportation system and connected vehicle applications

## Advancing Adams

### Adams County

This project will produce an update to the Transportation Master Plan and has identified SH-44/E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. as one of five key corridors for review as part of the final plan  
*Completion: 2022*



# SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor

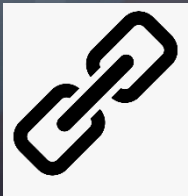
## Jurisdiction Coordination



This corridor currently runs through three jurisdictions in vicinity to Adams County

- Unincorporated Adams County
- City of Thornton
- City of Commerce City

## Contiguity of Operations

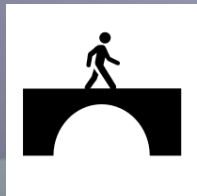


The segment of this corridor in Unincorporated Adams County is not contiguous to any other roads maintained by the County. Coordination of devolution will require negotiation with the cities to consider annexation of the unincorporated segment.



# SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor

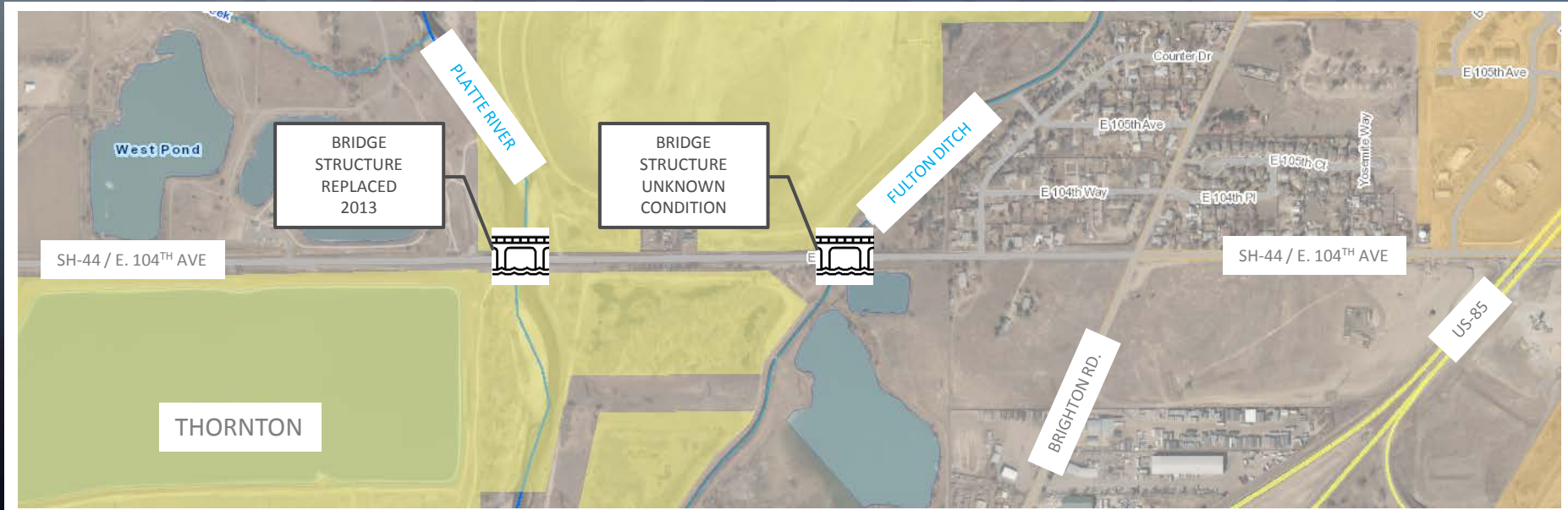
## Major & Minor Structures



Major bridge structure over Platte River replaced in 2013

Major bridge structure over Fulton Ditch in unknown condition

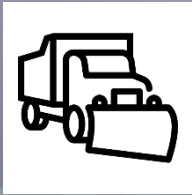
600 ft. of storm sewer infrastructure in unknown condition





# SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor

## Snow Removal Maintenance (Cities)



1.2 lane-miles of additional  
priority 1 roadway

## Operations & Maintenance Costs (Cities)



Approximately \$11K/yr. in additional  
maintenance budget  
4.8 lane-miles of roadway

## Mill & Overlay Maintenance Costs (Cities)



Estimated \$2M every 10 years



# SH-44 / E. 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Financial Summary

## Expenses

### **Construction Investment**

Fulton Ditch Bridge	\$ (3,740,000.00)
Capital Improvement Project	\$ (4,260,000.00)
	<u>\$ (8,000,000.00) investment</u>

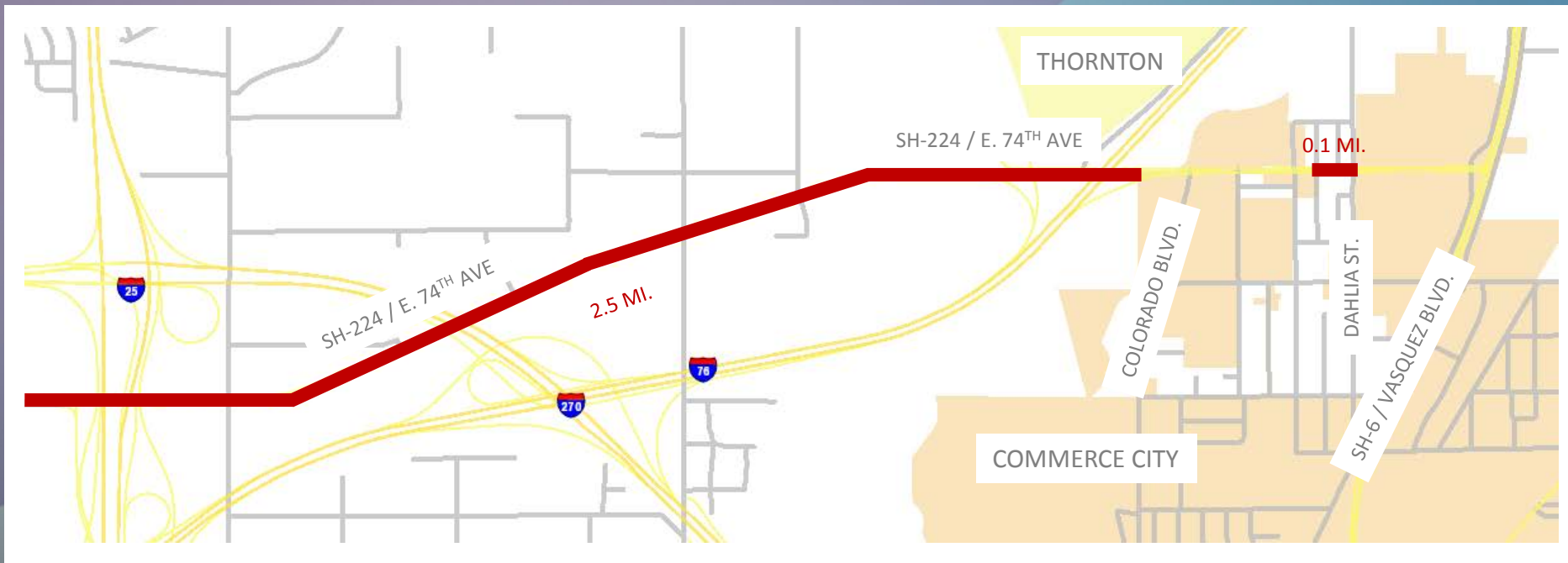
### **Maintenance**

Resurfacing	\$ (200,000.00)/year
Storm Sewers	\$ (10,500.00)/year
Highway Operations	\$ (11,000.00)/year
	<u>\$ (1,174,250)/year</u>

## Income

Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF)	\$ 27,804.00/year
-------------------------------	-------------------





# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor Summary

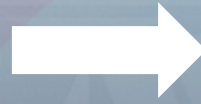


# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. CDOT Projects

## SH-224 Improvements (Shelf Project) CDOT

This project included design work for roadway improvements, center median rehabilitation, street lighting, and traffic signals for the SH-224 Corridor and Broadway from 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. to the US-36 interchange.

*Completion: N/A*



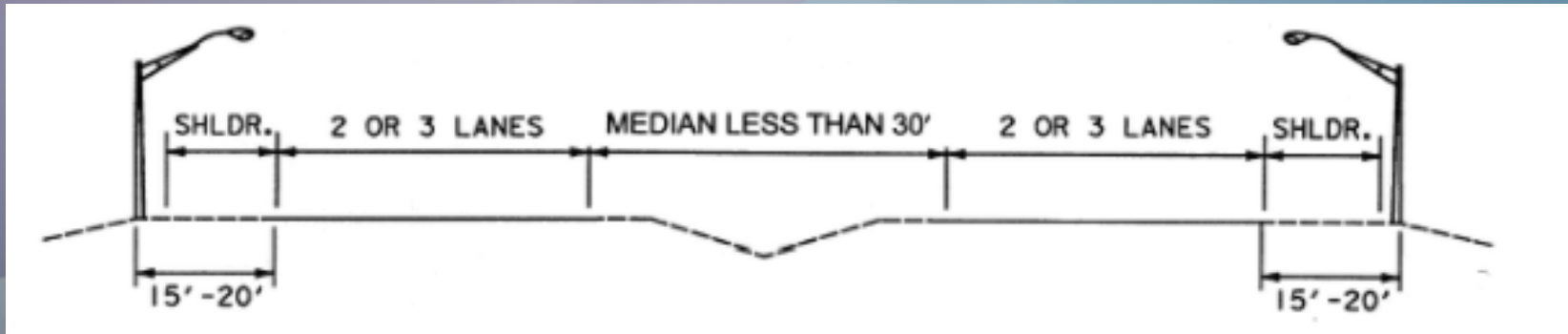
## SH-224 Resurfacing Improvements CDOT

This project will include resurfacing SH-224 as well as street lighting improvements pulled from the Shelf Project and Traffic Signal Improvements at York St. and Vasquez Blvd.

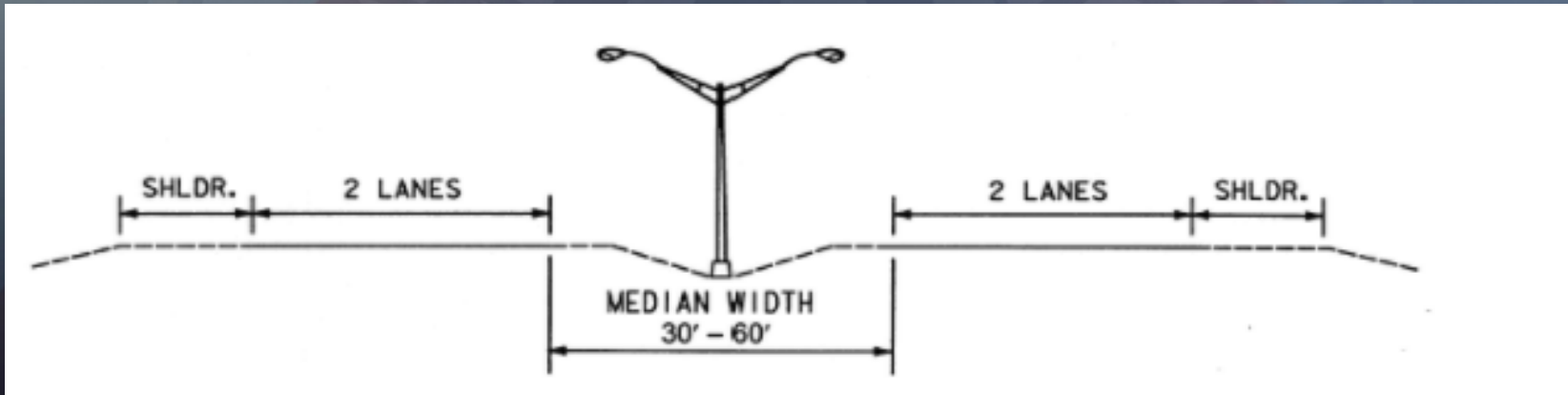
*Completion: Est. 2022*



# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Street Lighting



CDOT Standard: Road Edge (Recommended for installation in residential areas)  
(Typical Sample Image from Federal Highway Administration)



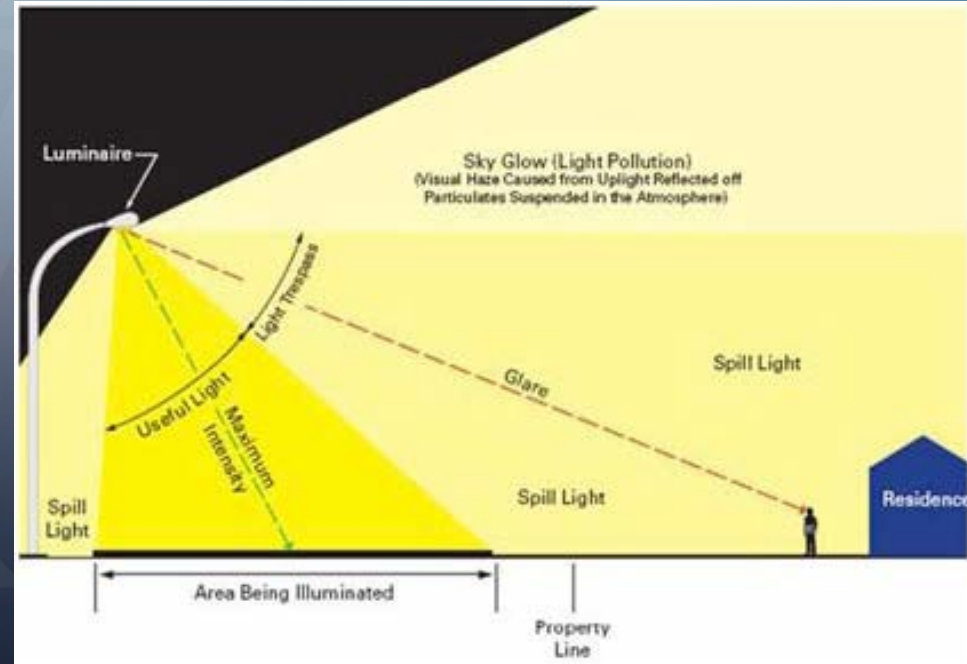
Commerce City Request: Median Lighting  
(Typical Sample Image from Federal Highway Administration)



# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Street Lighting

## Median vs. Road Edge Considerations

- No Difference in Light Quality on Roadway
- Median Placement Reduces number of Pole Foundations, Increases Foundation Size
- Median Placement Increases Issues with Spill Light Reaching Residential Properties (Known as Light Trespass)



Sample Image of Potential Spill Light Effect on Residential Properties (TDOT)



# SH-224 / E. 74th Ave. Adams County Project

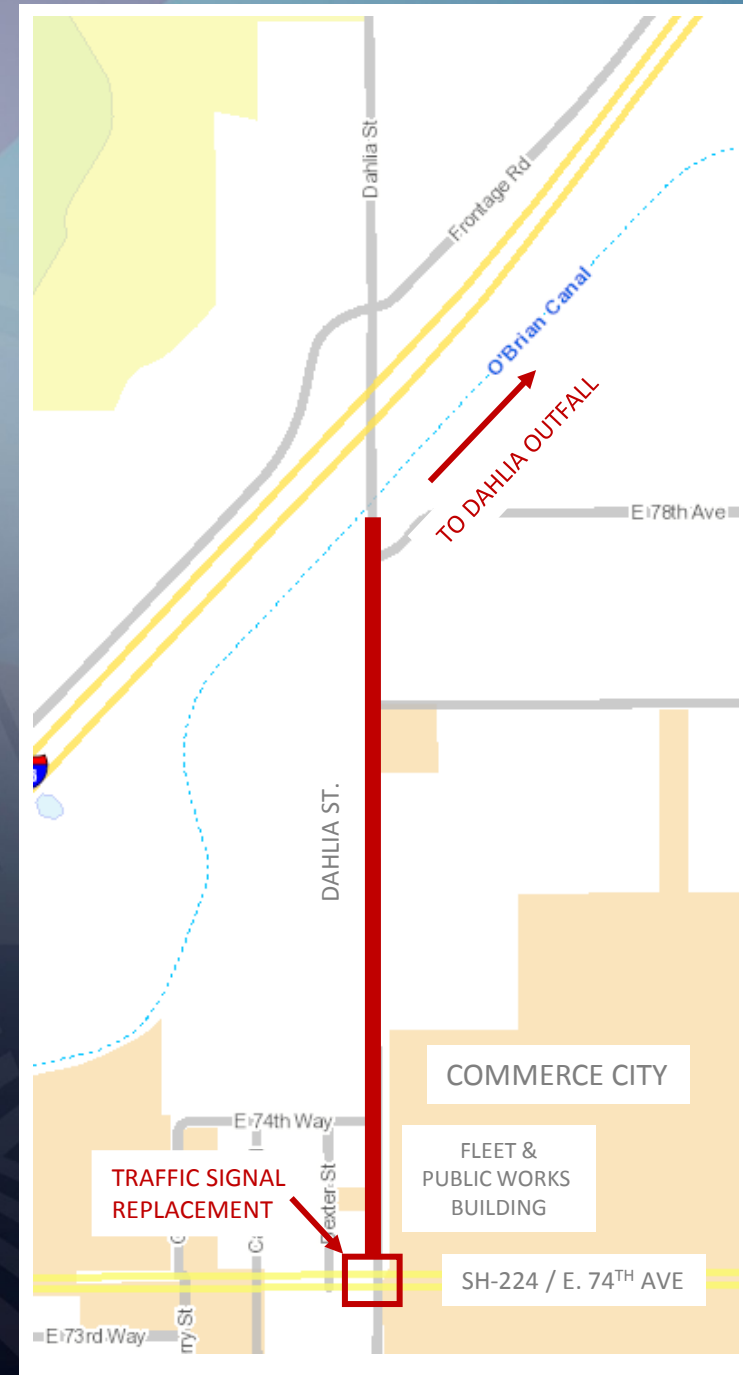
## Dahlia St. Capital Improvement Project

Adams County & CDOT

Completion: December 2021

### Project Scope:

- Widening/reconstructing to three lanes
- Add bicycle lanes on-street
- Install curb and gutter, sidewalks, and ADA ramps
- Collaborate with CDOT to improve the intersection at SH 224 and Dahlia Street with an upgraded traffic signal for enhanced pedestrian, bicycle, & motorist safety
- Improve drainage systems with a storm sewer trunk line from SH 224 to the Dahlia Outfall
- Safety improvements
- Install street lighting



# SH-224 / E. 74th Ave. Corridor

## Condition of Corridor



The shoulders, median structures, and traffic signals on this corridor are in a state of extreme disrepair. Significant investment beyond that which CDOT is currently planning would be necessary to address these issues

## Jurisdiction Coordination



This Corridor Runs Through Two Jurisdictions in vicinity to Adams County

- Unincorporated Adams County
- City of Commerce City





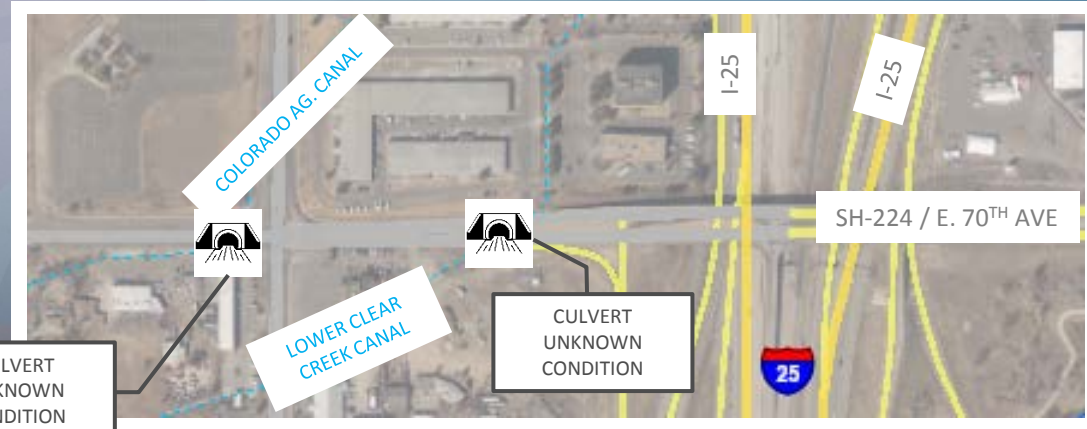
# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor

## Major & Minor Structures



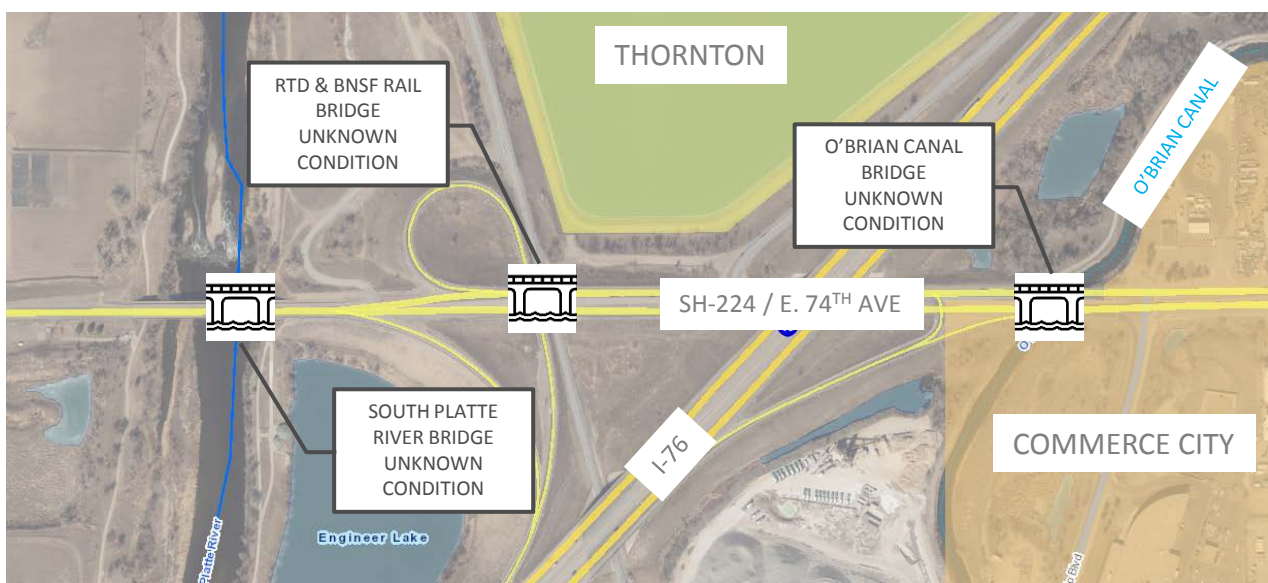
### Culverts:

- Colorado Agricultural Canal
- Lower Clear Creek Canal



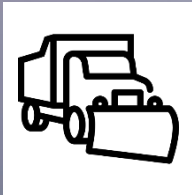
### Bridges:

- South Platte River
- O'BRIAN Canal
- RTD & BNSF Rail
- 1,500 ft. of Storm Sewer Infrastructure in Unknown Condition



# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Corridor

## Snow Removal Maintenance



21.25 Lane-Miles of Additional  
Priority 1 Roadway

## Operations & Maintenance Costs



Approximately \$48K/yr. in  
additional maintenance budget  
21.25 Lane-Miles of Roadway

## Mill & Overlay Maintenance Costs



Estimated \$11M every 10 years



# SH-224 / E. 74<sup>th</sup> Ave. Financial Summary

## Expenses

### **Construction Investment**

Colorado Agricultural Ditch	\$ (500,000.00)
South Platte River	\$ (8,330,000.00)
RTD/BNSF Rail Bridge	\$ (5,950,000.00)
O'Brian Canal	\$ (2,720,000.00)
Capital Improvement Project	<u>\$ (20,000,000.00)</u>
	<b>\$ (37,500,000.00) investment</b>

### **Maintenance**

Resurfacing	\$ (1,100,000.00)/year
Storm Sewers	\$ (26,250.00)/year
Highway Operations	<u>\$ (48,000.00)/year</u>
	<b>\$ (1,174,250)/year</b>

## Income

Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF)	<b>\$ 77,898.00/year</b>
-------------------------------	--------------------------

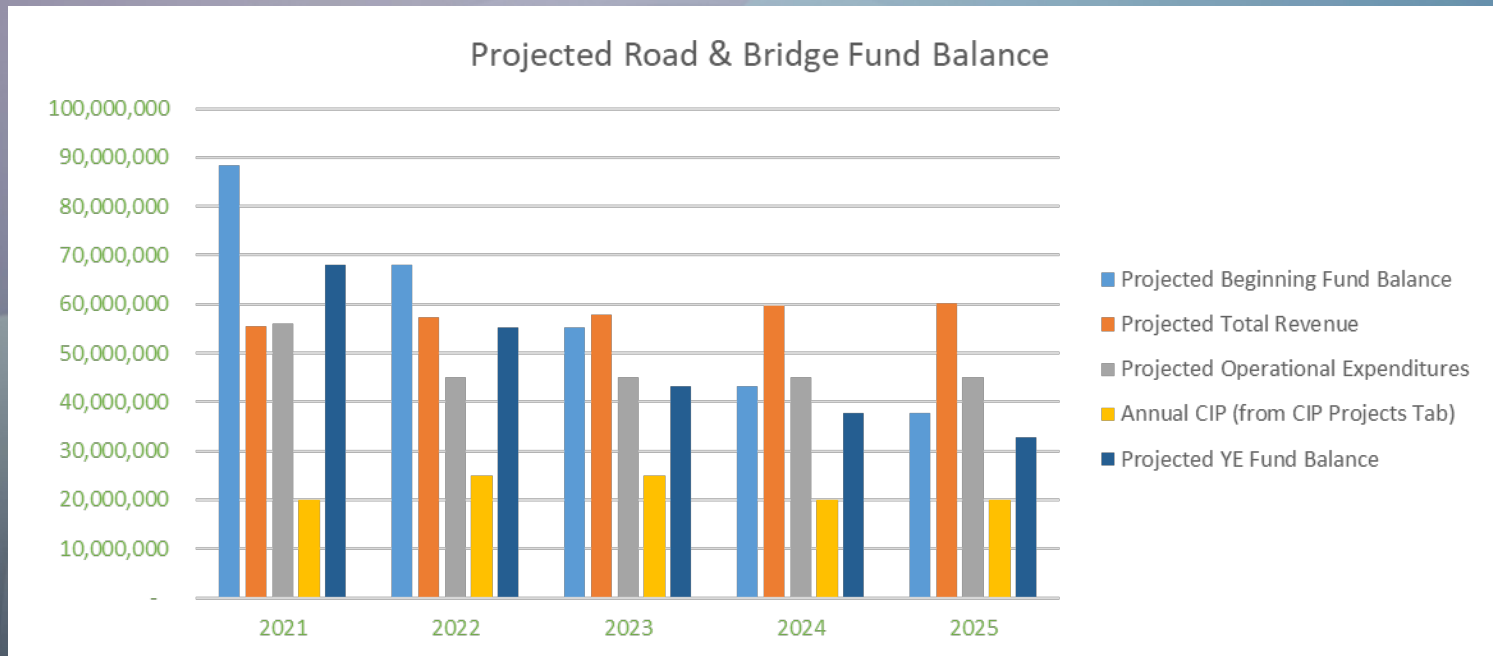


# Funding Sources Available for State Highways

- DRCOG TIP Call for Projects
  - Could also include “off-cycle” allocations/reprogramming
- Stimulus Funding
  - Most recently, Federal CARES Act
- INFRA
- BUILD
- Safer Main Streets
  - Potential reallocation or new funding (CDOT/DRCOG)
- FASTER Transit Funds (CDOT)
- RTD Funding Contribution
- Other Local Governments



# Road & Bridge Fund Balance Projections



	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Projected</b>	\$68,049,597	\$55,290,500	\$43,103,812	\$37,651,523	\$32,794,711
<b>Committed</b>	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
<b>Available</b>	\$53,049,597	\$40,290,500	\$28,103,812	\$22,651,523	\$17,794,711



# CDOT Findings

## Transportation Commission Findings (2011)

Colorado Revised Statute § 43-2- 101.5

Based on the results concluded from the study regarding “Commuter Highways” within MPO boundaries, the Transportation Commission does not recommend any of the eligible segments to be devolved.

## Statewide Transportation Plan (2020)

Colorado Main Street Program Introduced

This program demonstrates a CDOT priority for supporting community-led downtown revitalization by integrating multimodal transportation options with the main streets of towns in Colorado where people live, work, shop, and visit.



# Recommendations

1. Adams County Staff advises continuing to monitor the condition of these corridors and,
2. The team will present regional and sub-regional funding opportunities to the board to address safety and structural deficiencies on the subject corridors.
3. The Public Works Department will continue to look for opportunities to partner with CDOT and other Jurisdictions on developing jointly beneficial projects on these corridors as in the example of the Dahlia St. Phase I project.

