



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

# Replacement of Holly Street Bridge at Cherry Creek

Public Input

Thank you for your interest in the replacement of the Holly Street bridge at Cherry Creek! We thank all of you who attended the public meeting on April 13, 2006, as well as those of you who have contacted us by other means. Below is a compilation of all the comments we have received and our responses to them. All of the graphics and handouts from the meeting are available for download on the city's website at: [http://www.denvergov.org/Capital\\_Projects\\_Center/](http://www.denvergov.org/Capital_Projects_Center/) (click on Holly Street Bridge in the left hand column).

It should also be noted that Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will no longer be involved in the project. Because of this change, there will be a delay in the project schedule. The new project manager is Donna Douville. She can be contacted at:

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City and County of Denver, Capital Project Management  
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## General Comments

Comment	Response
Concern and dismay about the short (one-week) notice given to residents	We apologize for the short notice given to residents. We were glad to see more than 60 members of the community attend, and have encouraged those who attended to pass information onto their neighbors.
Concern and dismay about the location of the meeting. It was suggested that the meeting instead be held at McMeen Elementary, adjacent to the bridge.	We tried our best to secure a convenient location for the meeting. We certainly would have preferred to hold the meeting at McMeen Elementary, given its close proximity to the site, but the school's facilities were not able to accommodate us. We also tried to Ellis Elementary and the Virginia Village and Glendale Libraries, to no avail.
Dismay about the scheduling of the public meeting on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day of Passover.	We are sincerely apologetic for this oversight. We have encouraged those who were able to attend to pass information onto those who were not.
Suggestion to make graphics available on-line	The graphics are available for download at the city's website at <a href="http://www.denvergov.org/Capital_Projects_Center/">http://www.denvergov.org/Capital_Projects_Center/</a> (click on Holly Street Bridge in the left column)
Concern about public official's lack of knowledge about local streets in the area	The purpose of this meeting was to both present the project to the neighborhood, and to learn from the local knowledge of residents. Public officials were active in gleaning as much knowledge from residents as possible.
Suggestion to use newspaper notices in order update residents about progress (Your Hub, Cherry Creek Times, occasionally Denver Post/Rocky Mountain News)	We will look into this possibility of using local papers to announce the commencement of the project.
Why was were plans finalized without any discussions with the Virginia Vale and Virginia Village neighborhoods?	This public meeting was held to inform resident of the project, and to help prepare residents for traffic issues during construction. Because the project is essentially replacing an exiting bridge, it was not necessary to involve the public in planning.
Will notices be mailed to notify residents of night construction?	There will be public notification of night construction, most likely by roadside sign.

## Comments about Traffic

Comment	Response
Concern about increased traffic volume and speed on Minnesota Dr. due to traffic taking Minnesota Rd (shortest route to Monaco Pkwy) instead of designated detour.	Minnesota Dr. will be signed for "No Detour Traffic." In addition, all traffic will be monitored throughout construction and signal timing will be adjusted to minimize delays. Police will be urged to enforce this restriction.
Suggestion to barricade Ivy St and Ivanhoe St at Minnesota Drive	Because local streets must be able to provide access for neighbors and emergency service, it is not possible to place barricades on any local street for this project.
Suggestion to barricade both Minnesota Dr and Nebraska Way at Honey or Ivanhoe due to expected increase in use of Minnesota Dr during detour	See above response
Suggestion for "No Left-Turn" onto Minnesota Dr. and Nebraska Way in order to minimize	A temporary "No-Left Turn" sign will be placed at Minnesota Dr. in order to minimize traffic on that street.

additional traffic.	
What about using speed bumps as a traffic calming device on Minnesota Dr.?	Speed bumps are currently not allowed by the City and County of Denver (CCD) due to flooding and maintenance issues.

***Comments about Design of the Bridge***

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
How much wider will Holly Street be?	Holly Street bridge will be 33 ft. wider. There will be four 12 ft travel lanes and a 13 ft median.
Will the reconstruction of the bridge change the weight limits on the bridge (concerned about large truck traffic)?	The new bridge will be rated to carry large trucks, but it is not anticipated that truck traffic will increase substantially.
What happened to the idea of constructing a diagonal bridge upstream of the current bridge (as outlined in the Cherry Creek Master Plan)?	Due to budget constraints, this concept is not possible. This project is in-kind replacement, not an upgrade.

***Comments about Pedestrian and Bicycle Issues***

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
Concern that the large eastern sidewalk (22') will create disorderly pedestrian traffic.	It is not anticipated that a larger sidewalk will create more disorder.
Concern about how bikes will cross the new intersection. Traffic now more or less ignores the pedestrian signal. Suggestion to make Cherry Creek S Dr continuous.	Because the continuation of Cherry Creek Drive South is not included in this project, bikes will continue to cross at-grade using crossing signals.
Suggestion that this would be an excellent time to route the Cherry Creek bike path under the bridge and on the south side of Cherry Creek. Holly and Monaco are the only streets where at-grade street crossings exist.	The bridge design does accommodate future implementation of a bike path underneath the bridge. There is currently no available funding to construct a new bike path.
Will crossing guards be provided for McMeen Elementary?	The Public Works Department is currently in negotiation with Denver Public Schools about the placement of a crossing guard at the northeast corner of Cherry Creek North Dr and Holly St. Ultimately, the decision will be made by Denver Public Schools.
Why is the sidewalk so much wider on the north side? It would be better for bikes and pedestrians to have equal widths on both sides.	In order to phase construction, it was necessary to overbuild the bridge by creating a larger sidewalk on one side.
The proposed 8 ft sidewalks might not be large enough. Is it possible to make them 10 ft instead to better accommodate bikers, pedestrians, and roller-bladers?	The sidewalks had to be kept to 8 ft in order to keep lanes straight. Otherwise, traffic would have to shift lanes 2 ft and would cause problems with the existing lane alignments.
Will there be a better pedestrian crossing at southwest corner? The signal currently does not give pedestrians enough time to cross.	All signals will be timed such that pedestrians will have adequate time to cross.

***Comments about Construction Process***

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
Suggestion to limit construction to summer vacation due to the close proximity of an elementary school	Because construction is estimated to take about 9 months, there is no way to limit the construction to school summer vacation. All possible measures will be taken to ensure the safety of school children in the area.
Suggestion to construct the bridge without phasing construction and instead tearing the existing structure down and rebuilding. This would eliminate the wasted sidewalk, reduce the amount of time people would have to deal with traffic issues, and reduce the cost of the project.	It is actually much less expensive to construct a bridge in phases, as we plan to do with the Holly Street bridge. We know this is a busy intersection and plan to keep inconveniences to a minimum by keeping three lanes of traffic open for the vast majority of construction time.
Will there be construction at night, and if so, for how long?	There will be construction at night in order to set the girders. It is expected to take only two nights to complete this work.
What will happen with Cherry Creek during construction?	Cherry Creek will be diverted into a culvert during some part of construction.
Where will construction workers park?	Workers will only park within the construction staging area, never on local streets.
How will construction traffic get to staging area?	Workers will access the staging area from Holly Street.
What precautions will CCD take to warn of construction?	There will be "Alternate Routes Advised" signs at major intersections that serve traffic heading to Holly St bridge.
How will neighbors contact the contractor about issues throughout the project?	The contractor's name and contact information will be posted at the construction site.