East Colfax Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Community Workshop 1: Broadway to Colorado Blvd.
June 7, 2023
Welcome! Please take a few minutes to complete this brief survey before we begin.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/colfaxbrtworkshop1survey

The workshop will begin at approximately 5:45 p.m.
Project Leadership & Partners

DOTI Project Leadership
David Krutsinger, Transit Director | Jon Stewart, Project Director | Brian McLaren, Project Manager

Project Partners

Denver City Council Representatives
Equity & Accessibility Partners
Workshop Purpose and Agenda

• Welcome, Introductions & Purpose

• **Where We Left Off:** Spring ‘23 Engagement Recap

• East Colfax BRT Vision, Benefits & How BRT Will Work

• **Panel Discussion:** Moving Through the Corridor with the BRT

• **Open Discussion** & Next Steps

• Open House
Housekeeping & Ground Rules

• Opportunity for Q&A during the open discussion
  
  • **In-Person:** Raise your hands during Q&A; each person will have one minute
  
  • **Virtual:** Submit questions via Zoom Q&A function

• Please *be constructive and respectful*

• Open house will follow the panel discussion for in-person attendees
Where We Left Off: Spring ‘23 Engagement Recap
Spring ‘23 Engagement Recap

10 Engagements with the BIDs, Task Force, community and other stakeholders

180+ In-person and virtual attendees at the April 12 Task Force meeting and April 18 Open House

402 Community survey responses collected between April 12 and May 5

708 Individual comments on the survey
Public Comments: Key Themes

- Prioritize **safety, comfort and accessibility** at BRT stations
- Enhance the **pedestrian and cyclist experience**
- Ensure **public art reflects the character and history** of the local community
- Supplement preferred **digital communications channels** (i.e., website and email) with **earned media** and targeted **community events or neighborhood meetings**
- Center forthcoming community outreach on substantive issues such as the **project’s benefits, traffic and safety impacts, and small business support**
- Consider opportunities to **expedite the project timeline**
Public Art Selection Panel Next Steps

- Applications closed May 12
- Arts & Venues received more than 30 applications
- Applicants represent a diverse mix of backgrounds and abilities

**Timeline:**
- Summer 2023: Art selection panel approval
- Fall 2023: Orientation meeting

*Public Art Selection: 6 – 9 months*
East Colfax Ave BRT: Vision, Benefits & How BRT Will Work
Advancing Denver’s Transportation Vision

- Equity
- Mobility
- Safety
- Sustainability
- Community
- Quality

DENVER THEN & NOW

Mobility Today
East Colfax Ave: A Perfect Candidate for BRT Investment

- **24,450** Average riders per day on the 15/15L
- **60%** Pre-pandemic rider levels on the 15/15L (versus 20% national average)
- **94,000** Number of households within a 0.5-mile radius of Colfax Ave. that will have access to the BRT by 2040, a 21% increase compared to 2020.

*Image credit: Streets Blog Denver*
East Colfax Ave BRT Purpose & Benefits

**Social**
- Provide reliable, sustainable travel options
- Improve safety, comfort and convenience
- Support vibrant, walkable & connected neighborhoods

**Economic**
- Deliver bus travel time savings
- Lower household transportation burden
- Enhance access to jobs & services

**Environmental**
- Reduce GHG emissions from vehicles
- Improve air and noise quality
- Promote greener streets
Top Project Benefits – Fall 2021 Public Survey

- Better service: 26%
- Improved safety: 21%
- Enhanced public spaces: 13%
- Support of neighborhood plans: 10%
- Greater access: 9%
- More affordable options: 8%

Based on 216 survey responses from 28 different zip codes
East Colfax Ave BRT Project Timeline

2020 - 2022
Preliminary Design, Engineering & Environmental Review
City of Aurora & CCD IGA

2022
Aug. ‘22 FTA Small Starts Project Rating Application

2023
2023 – 2024 Final Design
- March ‘23: Receive FTA Small Starts Rating
- July ‘23: Submit Categorical Exclusion as part of NEPA review
- July ‘23: Onboard Construction Manager General Contractor
- August ‘23: Apply for FTA Small Starts Construction Grant after 60% design

2024
2024 – 2026 Bidding & Construction

2027
January 2027 Revenue Operations

Public Engagement continuous through design phases
Moving Through the Corridor with BRT

- Pedestrians
- Parking
- Transit
- Cyclists
- Vehicles
Panel Discussion:
Moving Through the Corridor with BRT

Jon Stewart
Denver Department of Transportation & Infrastructure

Stephen Rijo
Denver Department of Transportation & Infrastructure

Curt Upton
Denver Community Planning & Development

Doug Monroe
RTD

Charlie Alexander
Fehr & Peers

Nick Vanderkwaak
Fehr & Peers
Q&A

**In-Person:** Raise your hand; each person will have one minute

**Virtual:** Submit questions via Zoom Q&A function
Next Steps
Where We’re Going: Final Design to Construction (2023+)

- Refine the Lynx logo and color palette
- Refine BRT station and streetscape designs
- Build out 1% for Public Art project structure and selection committee
- Align with Denver Water on pipe replacement schedule beginning 2023
- Conduct Curbside Access Plan and additional safety analyses
- Identify and provide support mechanisms for small businesses

Public Engagement continuous through design phases
Stay Engaged
Stay Engaged!

- **DenverGov.org/ColfaxBRT**
  Project Website

- **aecomviz.com/Colfax360/**
  Virtual Engagement Hub

- **Public Inquiry Form**
  Available at DenverGov.org/ColfaxBRT

- **Community Updates**
  Sign up at DenverGov.org/ColfaxBRT

- **In-Community Events**
  Suggest an event by completing the form at DenverGov.org/ColfaxBRT

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The Fax Partnership Health & Resource Fair
Summer 2022