Background

- Elevate Denver Bond Program approved by voters in 2017 to enhance roads, sidewalks, parks, recreation centers, libraries, cultural centers, public-owned buildings, health and safety facilities.

- Included: Funds to construct pedestrian crossing enhancements on West Colfax, and funds to improve speed and reliability of transit along the corridor.
Purpose of Project

Increase Pedestrian Safety
- Less conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles
- Provide more opportunities to cross
- Reduce crossing distance
- Traffic calming

Enhance Transit Operations
- Safe and clean stops
- Larger waiting area
- Reduce transit delay
Past Plans

West Colfax has been identified as needing pedestrian safety and transit improvements in various studies and initiatives . . .
Safety & Vision Zero

DENVER TRAFFIC FATALITIES OVER TIME

59 PEOPLE DIED IN 2018

DENVER VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN

VISION ZERO
NO MORE TRAFFIC DEATHS
Denver’s High Injury Network

- High Injury Network includes Colfax
  - Corridors with the highest number of fatal and injury crashes.
  - **14%** of all crashes between a motorist and pedestrian occurred on **Colfax** between 2011-2015.
Project Area
Process

Community Task Force

Public Engagement

2019

March
Task Force

April
Task Force

August
Task Force

June
Public Open House

September
Public Open House

2020

Goals Setting
Concept Development
Preliminary Design
Design & Engineering
Construction

construction date to be determined
Public Involvement

Community Task-Force
• Three Meetings
  o West Colfax Business Improvement District
  o Walk Denver
  o Confluence Ministries
  o RTD
  o CDOT
  o Denver Public Schools
  o Urban Land Conversancy
  o Girls Inc
  o Boys & Girls Club
  o West Colfax Association of Neighbors

Public Engagement
• Two open houses
June Public Meeting

- Public Meeting June 2019
  - 50 participants
  - 35 comments
- Reviewed three design alternatives for Colfax between Sheridan & Irving
- Online Survey Meeting
  - 37 responses
Feedback Summary

Highlights

- Prioritizing safety for children crossing at the library and at the schools
- Desire to slow traffic on Colfax as much as possible
- Desire for wider and more comfortable sidewalks and more comfortable bike facilities
- Winter shade and narrow sidewalks on south side of street make snow maintenance a challenge
- Overall support for improvements
PREFERRED DESIGN

What will the proposed improvements look like?
Existing Conditions

Pedestrian Crash Data 2011-2019

35 MPH
30 MPH
25 MPH

85th Percentile Speed

- 32 MPH b/t/ Winona & Vrain
- 33 MPH b/t/ Stuart & Raleigh
- 31 MPH b/t/ Meade & Lowell
Design Summary

- 11 pedestrian median refuges in key locations
- New Crossing at Yates Street
- 34 pedestrian bulbouts
  - North side from Yates to Raleigh
  - South side from Quitman to Julian Street
- Additional Parking
Improving Pedestrian Safety

Bulb-outs

- Shortens distance to cross the street
- Slows vehicle turns
- Provides additional sidewalk space for amenities
Improving Pedestrian Safety

**Medians**

- Allows people to cross the street in two stages
  - Only have to cross one direction of traffic at a time
- Shortens distance to cross the street
- Slows vehicle traffic
- Provides space for landscaping and gateway features

26th Avenue and Tennyson Street
Improving Speed & Reliability of Transit: Bus Bypass Lane

- Westbound third lane from Yates Street to Sheridan Blvd
- Buses only
  - General traffic right turns onto Sheridan Blvd allowed for last half-block
- Allows buses to bypass general traffic during busy traffic periods
Improving Speed & Reliability of Transit: Bus Bulbouts

- Provides larger waiting area for passengers
- Eliminates need for buses to merge into traffic after stopping, which makes route faster
- Provides additional space for amenities
- Also reduces crossing distance

Market Street and 16th Street – Downtown Denver
In Summary

1. New traffic signal
   At Yates Street

34. New bulbouts, slowing traffic
     and shortening pedestrian crossings

11. New medians, providing safe
     refuge for crossing pedestrians

6. Bus bulbs

4. Intersections with transit signal priority upgrades

1. Bus bypass lane at
   Sheridan Blvd intersection

Average of 26% time savings per trip on transit
Parking on West Colfax

Sheridan to Irving St

# of on-street parking spaces today

89

# of on-street parking spaces future
(with proposed improvements)

120
THANK YOU!

• Ask questions of any people wearing a badge around the room
• Provide input at the map and board activity stations
• Learn more about the project by reading the boards
• Stay updated on this project by visiting denvergov.org/pwprojects