

S BIRCH ST FROM E COLORADO CENTER DR TO E ILIFF AVE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

FIGURE 65: S BIRCH ST CONTEXT MAP

Denver Moves: Bicycles recommended a bicycle facility along S Birch St from E Colorado Center Dr to E Iliff Ave. After extensive analysis, DOTI designed a neighborhood bikeway between E Evans Ave and E Iliff Ave, and recommended that the connection between E Evans Ave and Colorado Center Dr have a bike lane on the east side of the road and an existing shared use sidewalk on the west side.

Design changes along the corridor include curb extensions and horizontal deflection improvements to help reduce speeds along the corridor, increase intersection visibility, and comfort for vulnerable users along the corridor.

PROJECT BENEFITS

CONNECTS DESTINATIONS

Colorado Center, RTD Colorado Station

LINKS BIKEWAYS/TRAILS

I-25 Pedestrian Bridge, Buchtel Blvd., E Iliff Ave

FILLS GAP IN NETWORK

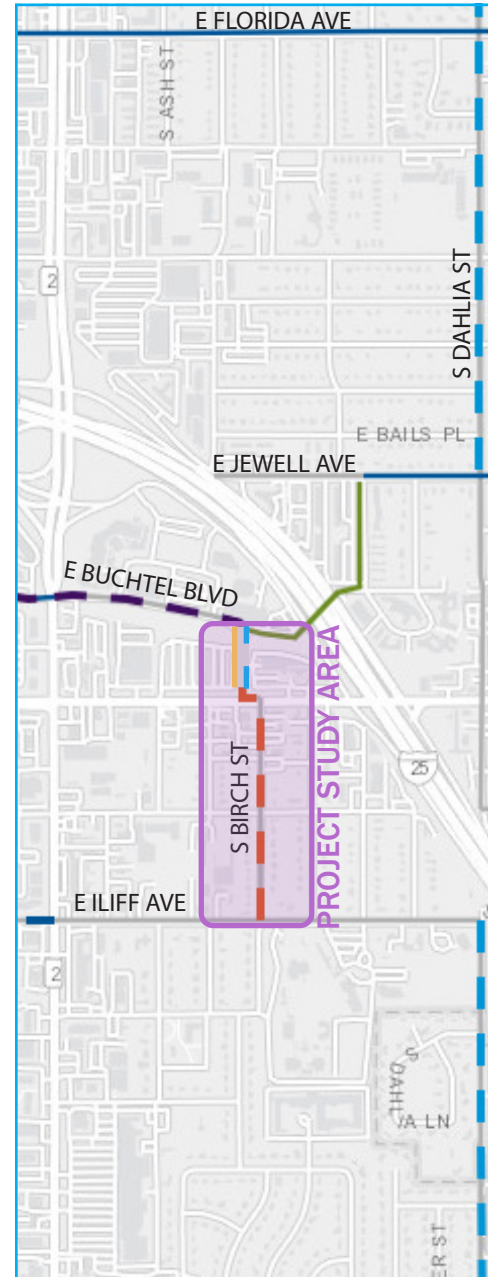
Creates a N/S route through the University Hills Neighborhood, Provides connectivity to future E Iliff Ave and S Dahlia St bike facilities

LOWER STRESS CROSSINGS

Wayfinding and safety Improvements at S Birch St & E Evans Ave

QUALITY CONNECTION

Connection through neighborhood to bike routes and across regional barriers



Recommended Facility	Existing Facility
Buffered Bike Lane	Bike Lane
Bike Lane	Protected Bike Lane
Neighborhood Bikeway	Buffered Bike Lane
Needs Further Study	Trail
Protected Bike Lane	Shared Use Sidewalk
Shared Use Path	Neighborhood Bikeway
Trail	Shared Roadway

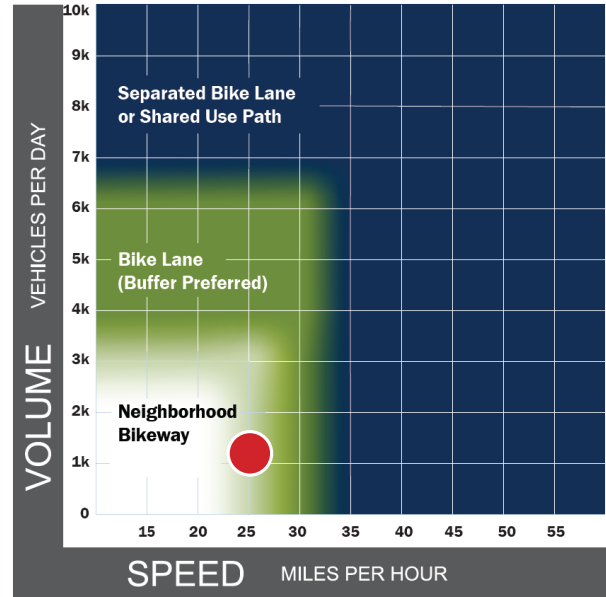
S BIRCH ST FROM E COLORADO CENTER DR TO E ILIFF AVE

ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Denver Moves: Bicycles recommended a bicycle facility along S Birch St from E Colorado Center Dr to E Iliff Ave. DOTI designed a neighborhood bikeway on S Birch St from E Evans Ave to E Iliff Ave, and verified through analysis that the segment between E Evans Ave and E Colorado Center Dr should have a bike lane on the east side of the road and an existing shared use sidewalk on the west side.

An extensive two-year analysis on the corridor revealed low vehicular volumes but speeds higher than recommended for installation of a neighborhood bikeway, indicating the need for speed reduction treatments. There was a history of vehicle crashes along the corridor, with half of the crashes occurring at the E Evans Ave/S Birch St intersection. Unfortunately, this intersection is not a candidate for near term reconstruction due to lack of funding and potential redevelopment in the area. These conditions were addressed in design to make the corridor safer for all modes of travel.

FIGURE 66: S BIRCH ST BIKEWAY FACILITY SELECTION CHART



OUTREACH SUMMARY

DOTI collected community feedback for this corridor through a series of online surveys, interactive input maps, and public comments.

KEY CONCEPT FEEDBACK

This project was added later to the Community Transportation Networks public outreach process because it originated from the Elevate Denver Bond Program. Therefore, this project did not go through the concept survey phase.

KEY DRAFT DESIGN FEEDBACK

Proposed designs for Community Transportation Network projects were shared for community input during May 2022, including designs for the S Birch St bikeway. Community members were asked to react to proposed designs and provide feedback. The Birch St design received 24 comments from 7 respondents. Major themes from public feedback on the proposed designs included:

- 1 Concerns about safety and connectivity at the intersection of S Birch St & E Evans Ave
- 2 Concern about the safety and efficacy of neighborhood bikeways without permanent infrastructure
- 3 Concerns about safety and connectivity at the intersection of S Birch St & Colorado Center Dr

ANALYSIS COMPLETED:

- ✓ Crash Analysis
- ✗ Parking Analysis
- ✓ Traffic Counts
- ✗ Cross-Section Options
- ✗ Lane Reduction Analysis
- ✗ Parking Removal Analysis
- ✓ Intersection Analysis
- ✓ Speed Reduction Analysis
- ✓ Diversion Analysis

DELIVERABLES COMPLETED:

- ✓ Existing Conditions Analysis
- ✓ Alternatives Analysis
- ✓ Concept Design
- ✓ Final Design

OUTREACH COMPLETED:

- ✓ Network Verification Survey
- ✗ Concept Survey
- ✓ Draft Design Survey
- ✓ Office Hours
- ✓ 6 Network-Wide Public Meetings (2020 to 2022)
- ✓ 7 Network-Wide Stakeholder Meetings (2020 to 2022)
- ✗ One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement
- ✗ Project-Specific Community Meetings

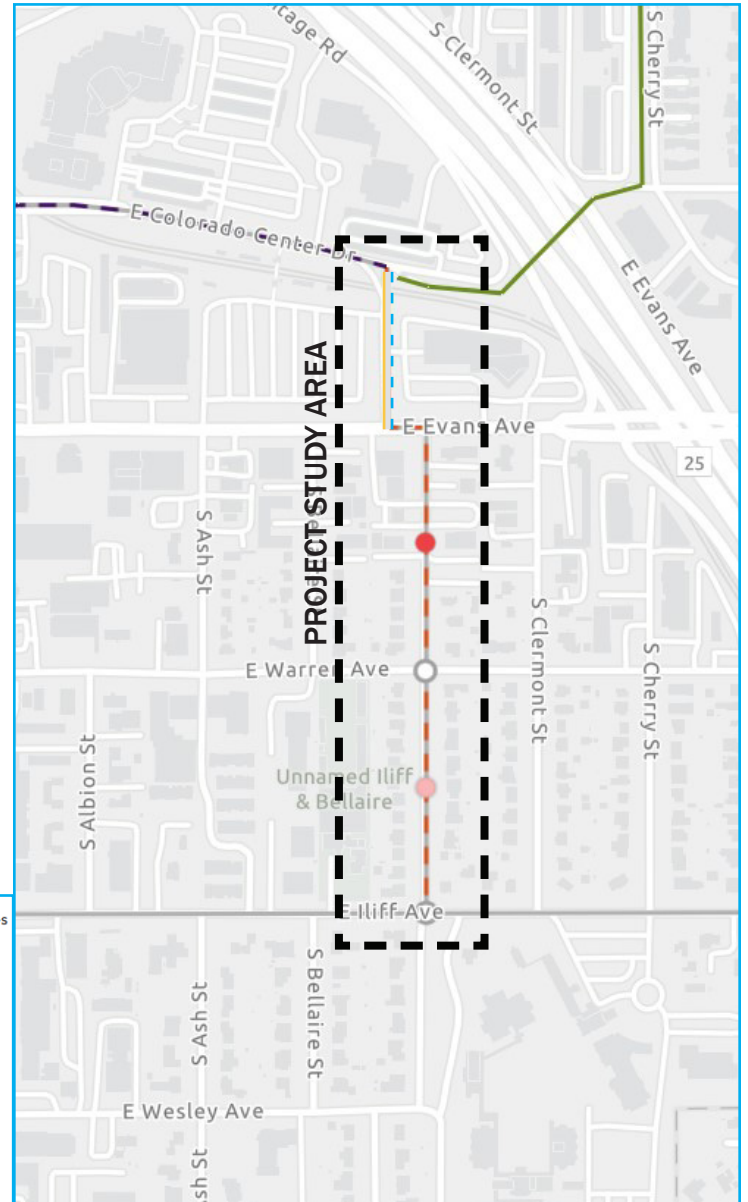
S BIRCH ST FROM E COLORADO CENTER DR TO E ILIFF AVE

SUMMARY OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The final design includes a mixture of elements to slow driver speeds, reduce traffic volumes, and improve safety and comfort for pedestrians and people on bikes traveling along the corridor. Specific elements include:

- Curb extensions along the corridor to shorten crossing distances for people walking and biking and slow vehicle turning movements.
- Pinch points along the corridor to slow vehicle speeds.

FIGURE 67: S BIRCH ST TRAFFIC CALMING MAP



Traffic Calming Elements	Existing Denver Bicycle Facilities	Recommended Denver Bicycle Facilities
● Traffic Circle	— Protected Bike Lane	--- Protected Bike Lane
● Diverter	— Neighborhood Bikeway	--- Neighborhood Bikeway
● Pedestrian Refuge	— Bike Lane	--- Bike Lane
● Speed Cushion	— Buffered Bike Lane	--- Buffered Bike Lane
● Chicane	— Shared Roadway	--- Trail
● Pinchpoint	— Trail	--- Shared Use Path
○ Curb Extension Only	— Shared Use Path	--- Needs Further Study
● RRFB		
● Bike Box		