

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

Week in Review



86-Day Schedule
35 Days to Go



Friday, October 24, 2025

Overview:

This week, crews **demolished** and began **reconstruction** of the light rail crossing on **Kalamath Street**. Reconstruction so far has included pouring a **concrete leveling slab**, placing **32 crossing panels**, and installing **rail**. Crews are working on pouring **track paving** and approach slabs in Kalamath Street. Work remains **on schedule**.



[Watch Video](#)



Safety Moment: Back-related injuries account for one in every five workplace injuries. Improper lifting is one of the most prevalent causes of these injuries. Keep your feet shoulder-width apart, lift objects close to your body, and bend at the knees and hips while keeping your back straight. Always get help lifting items that are too heavy to lift alone.



Project Lookahead

Crews plan to **reopen** the two right lanes of southbound Kalamath Street on **Sunday, Oct. 26**. Next week work will continue on both sides of Kalamath. Crews will **flood ballast**, **tamp** and **surface** the tracks, and **destress rail**.



Week in Review



1 | Placing Crossing Panels

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 21, 12:47 PM



2 | Installing Rail on Panels

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 22, 3:22 PM

On Monday, crews formed and poured a **concrete leveling slab** spanning the entire vehicle crossing on Kalamath. Once cured, this concrete served as the foundation for the **32 crossing panels** that hold the rail. After placing the panels, crews began installing **rail, clips, and rubber flangeway filler** for both tracks. On Thursday morning, crews began forming and pouring concrete approach slabs and track paving in the intersection.

Amplifying Results

RTD Maintenance of Way performed thermite welding at switch 21A near **24th and Welton Street** last week. After 30 years of use, the **insulated joint** at this location was in need of attention. Crews removed the surrounding track paving, preheated the rail, and welded the connection using the same **thermite welding** process as seen at the Kalamath Street crossing. They then ground the weld smooth to match the rail profile.





Safety Observations



Uniformed Traffic Controller

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 23, 8:28 AM



Quality Observations



Surveying Panel Placement

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 21, 1:43 PM

Uniformed traffic controllers (UTCs) have been present on site at the intersections of Kalamath Street and Colfax Avenue and at Kalamath Street and Speer Boulevard during morning and evening **rush hours**. UTCs have provided additional **support** to manage **traffic flow** around the construction area.

Surveyors verified the exact placement of the concrete crossing panels as they were installed. They checked the top **elevation** as well as the **alignment** of each panel against the **engineer's design drawings**. The rails are clipped directly to embedded metal "shoulders" in each panel, so placement has to be precise to ensure that the rails are aligned correctly.

Did You Know...

Curing is the process through which concrete develops its properties of **strength** and **durability**. Once water is mixed with Portland cement, a chemical reaction called **hydration** begins. The concrete increases in density, strength, and durability as the cement hydrates. Products like **concrete blankets** or **curing compounds** can be used to manage the **temperature** and **moisture** of the concrete as it cures and to help ensure the concrete cures properly.





Kalamath Street Crossing 86-Day Schedule

Full-Depth Rail Reconstruction



~~Week 1~~

~~Week 2~~

~~Week 3~~

~~Week 4~~

~~Week 5~~

~~Week 6~~

~~Week 7~~

Week 8

Week 9

Week 10

Week 11

Week 12

Week 13

**Project Completion
Nov. 27**



54%

Total Progress

50%



Track Replacement*
0/1300 Track Feet

50%



Special Trackwork
0/1100 Track Feet

64%



Vehicle Crossing
0/1 Upgraded

0%



Pedestrian Crossing
0/2 Upgraded



Amplifying Results

- ☒ Concrete Repairs
- ☐ Tactile Warning Strips
- ☐ Pavement Markings
- ☐ Curb and Gutter Repair
- ☐ Station Improvements

**Percentage of track replacement includes special trackwork and crossings*