

# Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

## Week in Review



**Monday, June 22, 2026**

### Overview:

This week, crews continued work in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** and **Colfax Avenue Alignment** areas as part of the ongoing [Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project](#) to reconstruct RTD's oldest light rail infrastructure. At the **Seventh Street crossing**, crews completed reconstruction activities and **reopened** the street to traffic while **demolition** continued east toward Ninth Street. In the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area, demolition and **rail welding** continued to support upcoming reconstruction work.



**Reconstructed Rail Crossing**  
Seventh Street Crossing | June 16, 8:20 PM



**Safety Moment:** Always keep your eyes on the road while driving, and especially in work zones. Avoid all distractions, slow down, and give extra space to other vehicles and to workers. Researching your route ahead of time is a great way to stay prepared and keep yourself and others safe. Pedestrians in work zones should avoid distractions like wearing headphones, which can make it difficult to hear sirens, horns, or other warnings.



9%



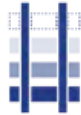
**Total Progress**

4%



**Track Replacement**  
260/5,907 Track Feet

0%



**Track Transitions**  
0/25 Transitions

4%



**Concrete Poured**  
185/4,367 Cubic Yards

8%



**Intersection Upgrades**  
1/12 Intersections

0%



**Drainage Upgrades**  
0/70 Drainage Inlets

38%



**Rail Welds**  
56/148 Welds

# Week in Review



**1 | Installing Crosswalk Striping**  
Seventh Street Crossing | June 16, 8:41 PM



**2 | Rail Grinding**  
Downtown Loop | June 18, 8:27 AM

At the **Seventh Street Crossing**, crews completed rail reconstruction including **concrete placement, asphalt paving, striping**, and final cleanup before reopening the street to vehicle traffic. The crossing reopened on schedule and marks the completion of one of two planned street closures in the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area. Future intersection work in the Downtown Loop is expected to be less impactful to through traffic. Demolition continued east of the **Seventh Street crossing**, with crews removing existing rail, **concrete ties**, and installing **underground conduit** infrastructure. Future intersection work in the Downtown Loop is expected to be less impactful to through traffic.

In the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area, crews completed **flash-bu t rail welding** on **Stout** and **California** streets and conducted **utility potholing** throughout the corridor. Demolition continued on Stout Street between 14th and 15th streets and 16th and 17th streets.

## Safety Observations



**Pedestrian Safety Fences**  
Downtown Loop | June 17, 7:47 AM

## Quality Observations



**Soil Compaction Test**  
Seventh Street Crossing | June 18, 9:53 AM

Throughout the week, **traffic control** measures remained in place to help protect motorists, pedestrians, and construction personnel as work areas shifted. **Compaction testing** of the **track subgrade** was completed to verify the soil and other base materials are dense enough to support future construction activities.

## Did you Know...

The project team is delivering this part of the Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project with a **progressive design-build delivery method**. This means the work is being designed as it is being built. Before construction began, the team collaborated to reach the required **threshold of design completion** to start work. During construction, the team is progressing the remaining design, continuing to work ahead of the construction.



**Project Team Huddle**  
Downtown Loop | June 16, 6:36 AM

**Design-build projects** are typically more **cost-effective** and can be completed faster due to the **simultaneous** work. They also encourage a high-level of **team collaboration** and reduce the number of large modifications needed throughout a project because the crews in the field may discover something that **informs current design** work. This also means that the team needs to remain nimble and be **ready for pivots** in the field as the remaining design is further defined.



## Project Lookahead



### Downtown Loop Midblocks

Construction activities in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area will continue with utility work and **subgrade preparation** on Stout Street between 14th and 15th streets. Crews will also continue **demolition** between 15th and 17th streets and prepare for **drainage** work on Stout Street between 16th and 17th streets.

Work between 15th and 17th streets is starting **sooner than anticipated** due to updates from the design team. The **drainage** work required in this area is more complex than anticipated, and it needs to be completed before track work can start. To stay on schedule, the team pivoted to begin the drainage work sooner. Starting demolition in these blocks will also help the team get ahead of any **unknown conflicts underground** that weren't already identified by **potholing**.

**Stout Street** will remain reduced to **one travel lane** between 14th and 19th streets through mid-October to support staging, equipment storage, rail deliveries, welding, and reconstruction activities.

### Colfax Avenue Alignment

In the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area, crews will continue **rail** and **concrete removal** activities between Seventh and Ninth streets. **Drainage** and **utility** work will also continue between Seventh and Kalamath streets as crews advance preparations for future reconstruction work.

The **westbound** Colfax Avenue **single-lane closure** between Kalamath Street and Seventh Street will remain in place through late September for ongoing rail reconstruction activities.

If you have any questions about the content of this update, or upcoming activities, reach out to the project team at [RailProject@RTD-Denver.com](mailto:RailProject@RTD-Denver.com) or [720.902.8817](tel:720.902.8817). For additional project information and previous reports, visit [RTD-Denver.com/RailProject](https://RTD-Denver.com/RailProject).

#### Angel Peña and the Infrastructure Delivery Team

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