

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

Week In Review



Monday, July 6, 2026

Overview:

This week, crews continued **drainage** and **subgrade** preparation in the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area. In the **Downtown Loop** area, crews continued **drainage inlet** work and additional **rail system utility** preparation. Check out this **video** showcasing what the team accomplished during June! Highlights include **demolition**, the **full reconstruction** of the Seventh Street crossing and **rail welding** activities.



RTD laid groundwork and hit major milestones in June



Safety Moment: *When we think of construction hazards, we usually picture heavy machinery or large holes. However, some of the most serious dangers are completely invisible. Demolishing rail, ties, concrete, and ballast creates dust that can contain dangerous chemicals like silica, which scars the lungs when inhaled. To prevent this damage, crews suppress the dust by spraying the site with water and wear specialized, well-fitted respirators during demolition.*



11%



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

7%



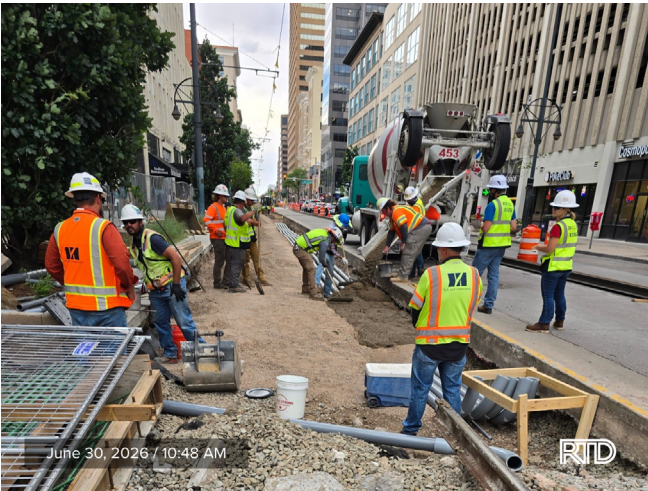
Drainage Upgrades
0/70 Drainage Inlets

43%



Rail Welds
63/148 Welds

Week in Review



1 | Rail System Utility Trench Pour Downtown Loop Area | June 30, 10:48 AM

2 | Rebar Installation Colfax Avenue Alignment | June 29, 7:27 AM

This week, crews continued the ongoing drainage work and excavation in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area. This work included inspections to determine the current **electrical configuration** and the future placement of wires near the 16th•Stout light rail station. Additional activities included placing an **aggregate base material** from 15th to 16th and digging a trench for **rail system utility conduits** — a collection of enclosed tubes that protect cables from damage. Crews also continued preparing the **drainage inlets** that collect stormwater and along Stout Street.

In the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area, crews continued active rail reconstruction by **installing rebar** east of the recently completed Seventh Street crossing. Crews are also completing drainage inlet work from Ninth to Kalamath streets to upgrade the current system. Between Seventh and Ninth streets, crews continued preparing the **subgrade materials** around the pre-welded tracks.



Safety Observations



Hydro-excavation

Colfax Avenue Alignment | June 24, 1:13 PM



Quality Observations



Rail System Utility Conduits

Downtown Loop Area | June 30, 10:34 AM

Crews use many different tools to excavate a site, depending on the specific task in each area. In the Colfax Avenue Alignment area, crews used a specialized **vacuum excavator** for **hydro-excavation** that breaks up the soil for precise work around existing utilities. This excavation method ensures that crews remain safe without the added risk of heavy machinery like a backhoe

Crews place **rail system utilities** (electrical cables and wires) inside protective casings called **conduits** to protect them from potential damage as other work continues along the Stout Street corridor.



Project Lookahead



Colfax Avenue Alignment

In the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area, crews will continue drainage inlet and **concrete preparation** between Seventh and Ninth streets along with rail **utility work** between Seventh and Kalamath Streets.

As soon as **Monday, July 6**, lasting through late September, the **north sidewalk** along **Colfax Avenue**, between Seventh and 10th streets, will be closed. This restriction is necessary to ensure the safety of workers and pedestrians. **Pedestrian access** onto AHEC's campus will be maintained via crosswalks at Seventh, Ninth, and 10th streets.



Downtown Loop Midblocks

Construction activities in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area will continue with **site preparation** and utility work along Stout Street between 14th and 17th streets. This week, crews will mobilize further down Stout Street from 17th to 18th streets to begin setting **pedestrian safety fencing** and demolition in the area. Additionally, crews will begin **setting rail** on Stout Street between 14th and 16th streets.

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

All work is schedule- and weather-dependent and subject to change.

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 or 720.902.8817. For additional project information and previous reports, visit RTD-Denver.com/RailProject.

Angel Peña and the Infrastructure Delivery Team

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