

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

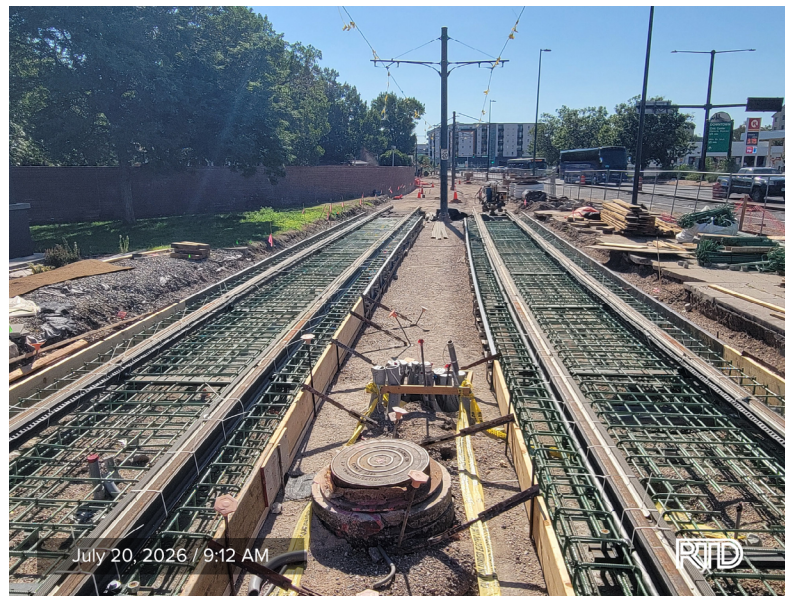
Week In Review



Monday, July 27, 2026

Overview:

This week, crews continued rail reconstruction in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** and **Colfax Avenue Alignment** areas. In the Downtown Loop, crews prepared for **track slab concrete placement** while continuing **subgrade preparation** and progressing work on **drainage inlets** and rail system utilities. Along Colfax Avenue, crews advanced **drainage improvements** and rail system utility work.



Rail Rebar

Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 20, 9:12 AM



Safety Moment: *Summer storms can create dangerous conditions, including flash flooding and mudslides with flowing debris. Stay informed about weather conditions, avoid easily flooded areas, and be prepared to change your route if hazardous conditions develop. If you encounter flooded roads or areas with fast-moving water, never attempt to walk or drive through them.*



16%



Total Progress

4%



Track Replacement
260/5,907 Track Feet

0%



Track Transitions
0/25 Transitions

5%



Concrete Poured
223/4,367 Cubic Yards

8%



Intersection Upgrades
1/12 Intersections

16%



Drainage Upgrades
11/70 Drainage Inlets

64%



Rail Welds
95/148 Welds

Week in Review



1 | Duct Bank Trench Excavation
Downtown Loop Area | July 22, 3:17 PM



2 | Drainage Inlet Backfill and Compaction
Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 23, 10:44 AM

In the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area, construction continued progressing through the Stout Street corridor. Between 15th and 16th streets, crews continued preparations for **track slab concrete placement** and continued **drainage inlet** construction. **Drainage improvements** advanced between 16th and 17th streets. Between 17th and 18th streets, crews installed a part of the **underground rail utility system** called **duct banks**. Farther along the corridor, between 18th and 19th streets, crews **placed** and **compacted aggregate base** to continue **subgrade** preparation.

In the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area, crews continued rail construction between Seventh and Ninth streets, where rail sections were **welded, ground, and prepared for installation**. Crews also continued constructing new **drainage inlets** while filling in areas around completed structures. Between Ninth and Kalamath streets, drainage and rail system utility work progressed as crews **laid conduits** and **compacted subgrade**.



Safety Observations

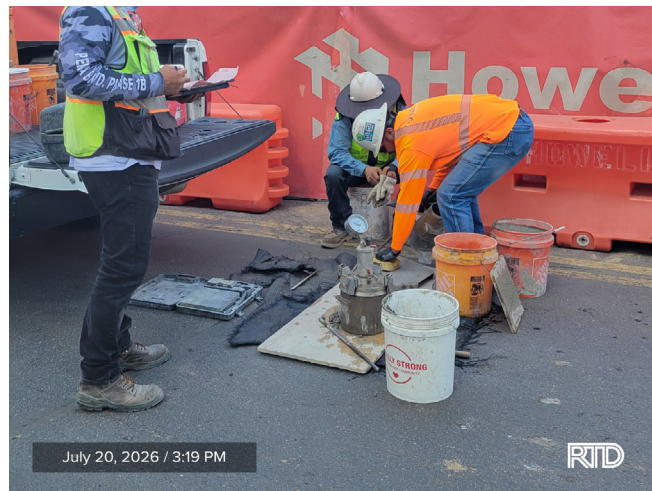


Geogrid for Soil Stabilization

Downtown Loop Area | July 21, 9:07 AM



Quality Observations



Concrete Testing

Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 20, 3:19 PM

Throughout construction, crews take time to identify areas with weaker soil and **install geogrid material** to reinforce the ground and create a more **stable working surface**. Placement of geogrid materials improves **ground stability**, which helps **support construction equipment** and **reduces the risk** of **shifting** or **uneven surfaces** as work progresses.

Before concrete is placed, quality teams test each batch for **air content** and **temperature** to verify it meets **project specifications**. These tests help confirm the concrete will perform as intended once it cures, supporting the **long-term durability** of the rail system and its **drainage structures**.



Project Lookahead



Colfax Avenue Alignment

Construction activities in the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area will continue with rail construction through the Ninth Street crossing and **concrete placement** between Seventh and Ninth streets. Work on the **Cherry Creek Bridge** will begin as soon as **early August** and will require **various lane closures** on **Speer Boulevard**.

The sidewalk closure along **westbound** Colfax Avenue between Seventh and 10th streets will remain in place through **late September**. Pedestrian access to the **Auraria campus** will continue via the **Seventh, Ninth, and 10th Street crosswalks**.

Did You Know?

Before new rail can be installed, crews construct **duct banks — underground utility structures** that house and protect the rail system's **electrical** and **communication cables**. After digging a trench, crews lay **PVC conduits** to keep the **cables organized** and allow access for future cable work when needed. Once the conduits are set, **concrete** is poured over them for **added reinforcement**. To prevent any damage during ongoing construction, the **cables** themselves are **threaded** through the conduits later.

By organizing and protecting these critical lines, duct banks ensure **future maintenance** and **cable replacements** are safer, faster, and **less disruptive** to both the rail network and surrounding roadways.



Duct Bank and Conduits

Downtown Loop Area | July 21, 10:55 AM

Downtown Loop Midblocks

Construction activities in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** will continue north through the Stout Street corridor. Crews will **place curb** and **gutter concrete** between 15th and 16th streets, continue **drainage improvements** between 16th and 19th streets, and **rail placement** between 17th and 18th streets.

Work on concrete panels within the **Stout Street intersections** between 15th and 19th streets will begin as soon as **early August** and will require **shifting lane closures**. Construction activities remain schedule- and weather-dependent.

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

Deputy Chief Executive Officer