

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

Week In Review



Monday, August 3, 2026

Overview:

This week, crews continued construction in the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** and **Colfax Avenue Alignment** areas. In the Downtown Loop, crews progressed work on **underground duct banks**, and prepared the corridor for **track placement**. Along Colfax Avenue, crews continued **embedded track** construction, **drainage improvements**, and demolition work.



Track Demolition

Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 27, 9:41 AM



Safety Moment: *Hot summer temperatures can increase the risk of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Drink water regularly, seek shade or air conditioning when possible, and take frequent breaks if spending time outdoors. Remember to check on family members, neighbors, and pets during extreme heat, and never leave children or animals unattended in a parked vehicle.*



17%



Total Progress

7%



Track Replacement
428/5,907 Track Feet

0%



Track Transitions
0/25 Transitions

8%



Concrete Poured
343/4,367 Cubic Yards

8%



Intersection Upgrades
1/12 Intersections

16%



Drainage Upgrades
11/70 Drainage Inlets

64%

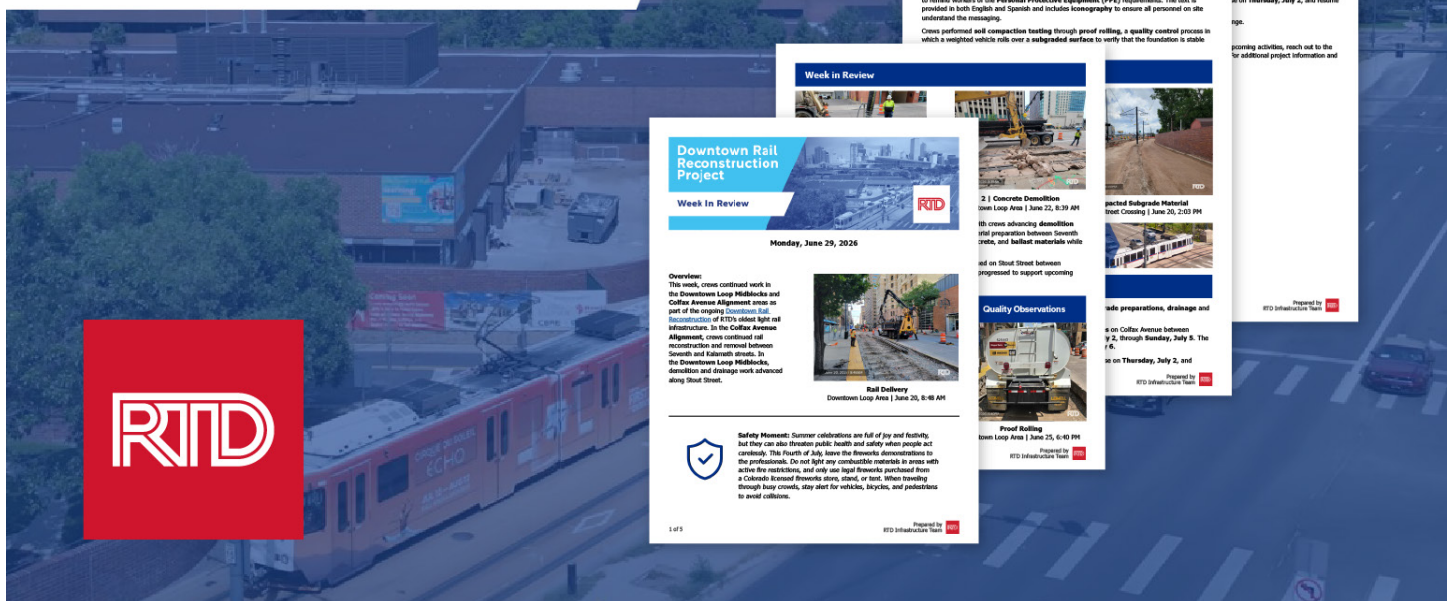


Rail Welds
95/148 Welds

Week in Review: Upcoming Cadence Shift

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

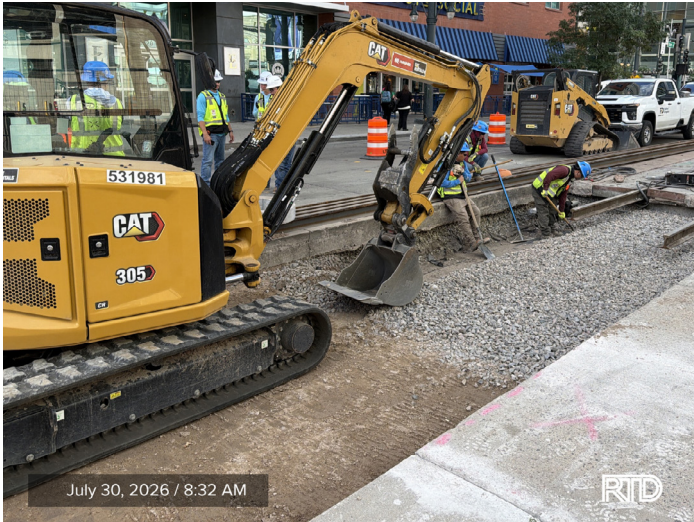
Shifting to bi-weekly updates!



Now that the project team is **several weeks** into construction in **both active work areas**, many of the **new milestones** and **types of work** have been either completed or started. Much of the **work to come** will be the same process repeated in new areas. To keep content **fresh** and **relevant**, RTD will be shifting these **Week in Review updates** to a **bi-weekly cadence** starting in **mid-August**.

Progress updates will still be **detailed** and highlight **important project milestones**, but a bi-weekly cadence will help RTD avoid repetitive updates. Thank you for staying invested in the **Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project!**

Week in Review



1 | Transition from Embedded to Ballasted Track

Downtown Loop Area | July 30, 8:32 AM



2 | Drainage Inlet Backfill

Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 27, 1:44 PM

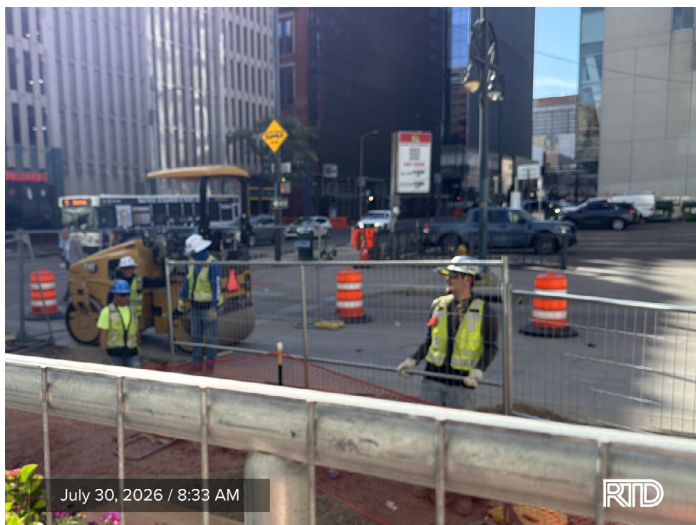
In the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area, construction continued along Stout Street. Between 18th and 19th streets, crews began installation of **underground duct bank conduits** and placed **self-compacting base materials** to protect the new utility system. Crews also reinforced traffic control and pedestrian barriers by **installing additional fencing** between 14th and 19th streets. Later in the week, crews **excavated for duct banks** near 14th Street and placed **geogrid materials** and **base course**

Last week in the **Colfax Avenue Alignment area**, the team broke ground on the Ninth Street crossing by starting **demolition** and removing existing **track panels** and rail. This marks the start of final, full **intersection reconstruction** in both work areas. Work in the Ninth Street crossing is scheduled to be **complete in mid-August** before classes begin on **Auraria Campus**.

Crews also continued construction of **embedded track** between Seventh and Ninth streets by preparing **embedded track rebar** and pouring the **embedded track concrete slab**. Between Ninth and Kalamath streets, crews completed a new drainage inlet and continued grading and **compaction of base materials**.



Safety Observations



Placing Pedestrian Fence

Downtown Loop Area | July 30, 8:33 AM



Quality Observations



Track Rebar and Forms

Colfax Avenue Alignment | July 20, 3:19 PM

As construction activities shift throughout the corridor, crews regularly **inspect, replace, and expand** pedestrian fencing to match **changing work zones**. Maintaining these barriers helps **separate pedestrians** from **active construction** while providing clear, safe routes through the project area.

Before concrete is placed, crews assemble the **embedded track** by positioning rails, **reinforcing steel**, and **supporting molds** to meet precise design requirements. This preparation helps ensure the finished track is **properly aligned** and provides the **strength** and **durability** needed for long-term light rail operations.

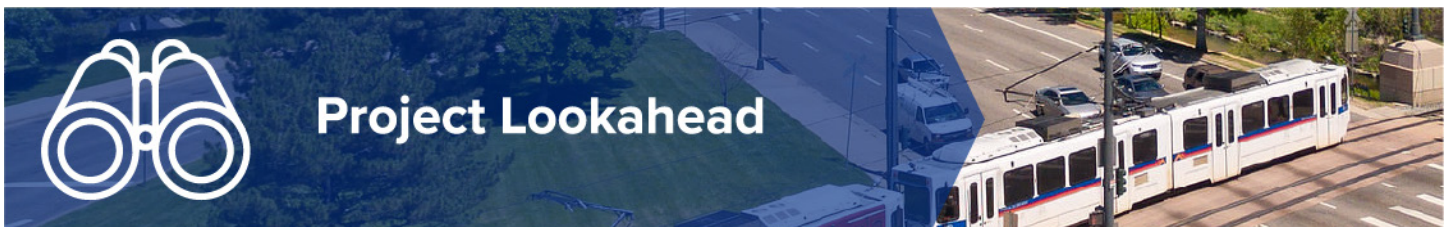
Customer Experience

Open communication is an important part of keeping the Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project moving while **minimizing impacts** to the surrounding community. **Each month**, the project team hosts a meeting with key stakeholders and organizations in downtown Denver to **share construction updates, discuss upcoming pedestrian and traffic impacts**, and open a dialogue for questions or concerns.

These meetings help the project team better understand how **construction activities** may affect the surrounding area and allow RTD to connect with community organizations that can help **share project messages**. Feedback gathered during these meetings is shared with the contractor and considered during **project planning**, helping the team identify opportunities to **reduce impacts** while keeping the **project on schedule**.



Light Rail in Downtown Denver



Colfax Avenue Alignment

Crews will continue with construction of the **embedded track** between Seventh and Ninth streets and complete **subgrade preparation** and **conduit installation** at the Ninth Street crossing. Ninth Street is closed **between Champa Street and Colfax Avenue** during work on the crossing. Work on the **Cherry Creek Bridge** is anticipated to begin in early- to **mid- 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.

Downtown Loop Midblocks

Construction activities will continue along Stout Street with **concrete placement** and **curb and gutter** work between 15th and 16th streets. Between 16th and 19th streets, crews will continue **drainage improvements**.

As soon as early to **mid-August**, **temporary lane closures** are expected within **intersections** along Stout Street for concrete work. 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