

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

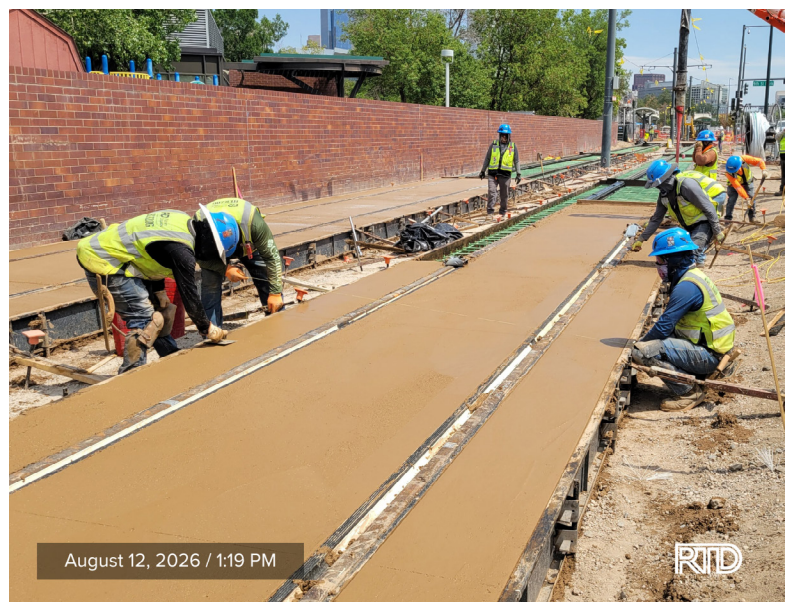
Week In Review



Monday, August 17, 2026

Overview:

This week, crews advanced construction in both the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** and **Colfax Avenue Alignment** areas. Along Stout Street, crews progressed **drainage improvements** while preparing for **embedded track concrete pours**. Along Colfax Avenue, crews advanced rail utility work while **completing reconstruction** at the Ninth Street crossing and **reopening to vehicle traffic**.



Embedded Track Concrete Placement
Colfax Avenue Alignment | August 12, 1:19 PM



Safety Moment: Construction vehicles and equipment have large blind spots that can make it difficult for operators to see people nearby. Whether driving, walking, or biking near a construction area, stay alert, keep a safe distance from equipment, and make eye contact with operators when possible before crossing in front of or behind a vehicle.



19%



Total Progress

20%



Track Replacement
1,160/5,907 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



1 | Inlet Drain Pipe Installation

Downtown Loop Area | August 13, 11:43 AM



2 | Ninth Street Asphalt Placement

Colfax Avenue Alignment | August 12, 11:48 AM

In the **Downtown Loop Midblocks** area, crews continued drainage work along Stout Street. Between 14th and 15th streets, crews installed a **new storm sewer pipe** and **drain** leading to a **new catch basin**. Work continued on **drain utilities** near 14th Street, while crews collaborated with the design team to ensure the **new drainage system** fits with **existing infrastructure**. Between 18th and 19th streets, crews continued **installing trench boxes** for upcoming drainage work.

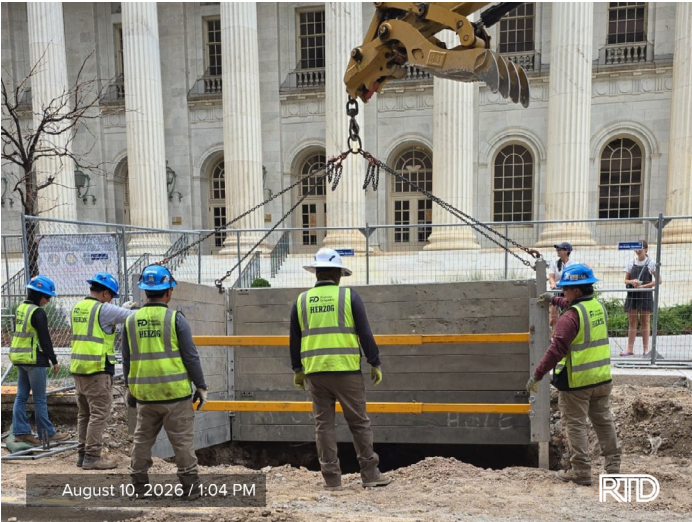
In the **Colfax Avenue Alignment** area, crews completed **track slab construction** and **asphalt placement** at the Ninth Street crossing. Ninth Street was **reopened to vehicle traffic** between Colfax Avenue and Champa Street following completion of **full reconstruction** at the crossing. Crews also continued rail and utility work along Colfax Avenue between Seventh and Ninth streets and **advanced drainage** and **rail system utility** work between Ninth and Kalamath Streets.



Safety Observations

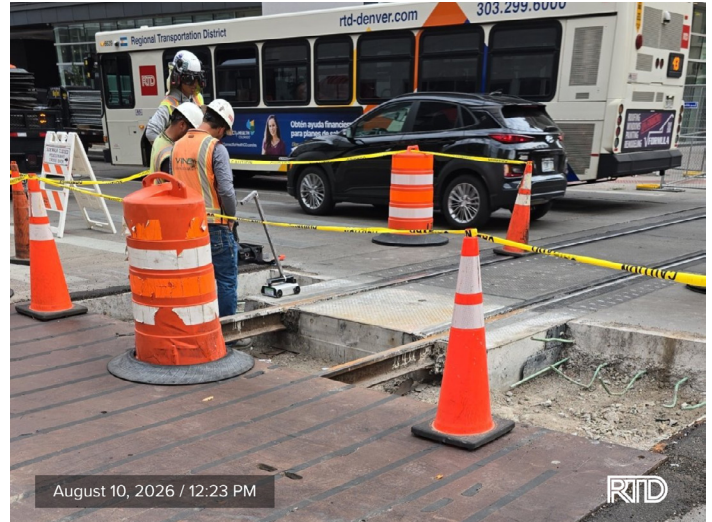


Quality Observations



Trench Boxes

Downtown Loop Area | August 10, 1:04 PM



Ground-Penetrating Radar

Downtown Loop Area | August 10 12:23 PM

When crews are working in **excavated areas**, particularly during utility or drainage work, they **install trench boxes** to create a **protected workspace** below ground. Trench boxes are **reinforced structures** placed inside an excavation that **shield workers** from surrounding soil and help protect them if the **walls of the excavation** become unstable.

Before work begins around existing concrete structures, crews can use **ground-penetrating radar (GPR)** to locate **reinforcing steel** and other materials beneath the surface. Identifying what is within the existing structure helps crews plan their work more precisely and **avoid damaging underground utilities** during construction.

Customer Experience

Throughout construction, RTD has maintained a close partnership with **Auraria Higher Education Campus** to ensure the project team is aware of **campus activity** and **travel patterns** that may be impacted by construction. Through this collaboration, RTD was able to **proactively schedule** the full reconstruction of the **Seventh and Ninth Street crossings**, which required full street closures. The two crossings were completed ahead of fall classes resuming this week when **both streets** become **integral to traffic flow** on campus.



Completed Ninth Street Crossing
Colfax Avenue Alignment | August 17, 11:23 AM



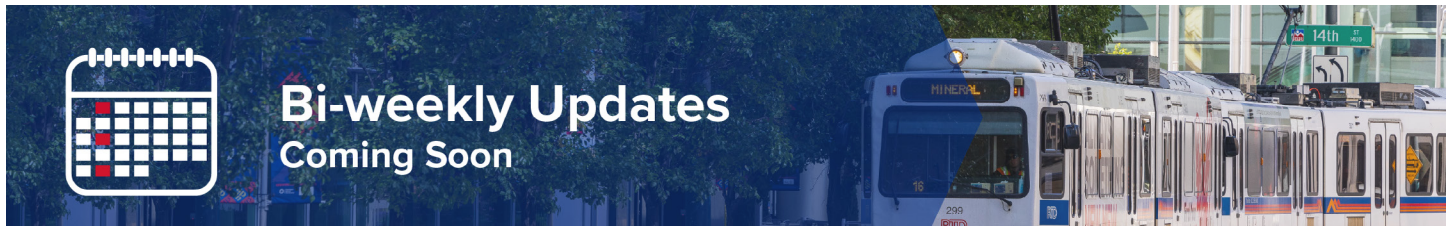
Project Lookahead

Colfax Avenue Alignment

Construction will continue between Seventh and 10th streets, including **rail utility work** near Seventh Street and **concrete slab placement** between Seventh and Ninth streets. Work on the **Cherry Creek Bridge** is scheduled to begin **Monday, August 17**, with lane closures on Speer Boulevard and Stout Street. The **westbound Colfax Avenue** sidewalk closure between Seventh and 10th streets will remain in place through **late September**.

Downtown Loop Midblocks

Crews will begin **concrete slab placement** between 15th and 16th streets and **drainage work** between 16th and 19th streets. **Rail installation** activities are also expected to begin between 14th and 15th streets and between 17th and 18th streets as crews prepare the corridor for track construction.



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 **Monday, Aug. 24**.

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!**

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