

PARKER ROAD/ARAPAHOE ROAD

INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

November 2010

Project Overview

In late June 2010, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) started the final phase of the Parker Road/Arapahoe Road interchange improvement project. The project will construct a grade-separated interchange that carries Parker Road over Arapahoe Road. The corresponding ramps will also be constructed to complete the full interchange. The project is scheduled to be complete by the end of November 2011.

What Work Has Been Completed?

To date, crews have completed and opened the ramps from northbound Parker Road to eastbound and westbound Arapahoe Road as well as the ramp from westbound Arapahoe Road to northbound Parker Road. The new ramps will help alleviate congestion at the intersection in the months to come.



The current configuration on Parker Road at Arapahoe Road looking north.

Temporary Traffic Alignment

Crews also recently realigned Parker Road to the west to accommodate the construction of the Parker Road bridge over Arapahoe Road. Here are the details of the temporary alignment:

- **Westbound Arapahoe Road:** Two through lanes will remain open on westbound Arapahoe Road as well as the two left turn lanes from westbound Arapahoe Road to southbound Parker Road.
- **Eastbound Arapahoe Road:** Two through lanes will remain open on eastbound Arapahoe Road as well as all three left turn lanes from eastbound Arapahoe Road to northbound Parker Road. There will still be a turn lane for motorists needing access to southbound Parker Road.

With this temporary configuration, major delays are expected, especially during peak hours and alternate routes are strongly advised.

What Work Will Take Place In November?

Over the next month, crews will construct the bridge pier columns and retaining walls. Crews will also place fill for the new portion of Parker Road and will continue drainage work.

Traffic Impacts

Even though Parker Road will be in a temporary alignment, crews will still have to occasionally close some lanes on Parker Road and Arapahoe Road through the project. Lane closures can take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. Occasional weekend work is possible, but major traffic impacts are not anticipated on the weekends during the holiday season.

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Crews have started constructing the pier columns for the new Parker Road bridge over Arapahoe Road.

- **Northbound Parker Road:** Three through lanes of northbound Parker Road will remain open. Motorists needing access to either eastbound or westbound Arapahoe will have to take the new ramp, which is located south of the existing intersection.
- **Southbound Parker Road:** Two through lanes will remain open on southbound Parker Road as well as one left turn lane from southbound Parker Road to eastbound Arapahoe Road (this will create delays during peak hours and alternate routes are advised). The existing triple-lane ramp from southbound Parker Road to westbound Arapahoe Road will remain open.



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In addition, full closures of Parker Road and Arapahoe Road will be required for bridge girder installation, bridge deck installation and concrete deck pour. The full closures will only take place in the overnight hours. More information will be released as work progresses.

For weekly lane closure information, visit <http://www.coloradodot.info/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html> and click on "Denver."

Project Timeline

This is a tentative schedule of major project milestones.

June 2010- Project begins with drainage and earth work

October 2010- Construction of the Parker Road structure begins

May 2011- Northbound Parker Road traffic is placed on the new structure

July 2011- Northbound and southbound Parker Road traffic is placed on the new structure with two lanes open in each direction

August 2011- Parker Road is placed in its final configuration and is open to three lanes in each direction

November 2011- Construction is complete



This rendering shows how the interchange will look when complete. All ramps are open except for the ramp from westbound Arapahoe Road to southbound Parker Road, which will not open until June 2011.

Project Benefits

Currently, the intersection carries 110,000 vehicles a day and projections show that traffic volumes will increase to 170,000 vehicles a day by 2030. The grade-separated interchange will better accommodate the higher traffic volumes while improving safety and mobility.



The new ramp from northbound Parker Road to eastbound and westbound Arapahoe Road is open.

The intersection will become a full interchange with ramps and limited traffic signals. Free-flowing traffic on Parker Road will benefit Arapahoe Road by eliminating the red light signal time on Arapahoe Road that is currently needed to provide for the Parker Road through movement.

In addition, the interchange as a whole will be designed to better handle traffic during peak travel times. The triple-lane ramp from southbound Parker Road to westbound Arapahoe Road will remain in place and a two-lane ramp from eastbound Arapahoe Road to northbound Parker Road will be constructed in the southeast corner.

Questions

If you have questions about the project, please contact the project hotline at 303-944-1824.

Updates

For e-mail updates about the project, visit www.coloradodot.info and click on the icon in the upper right corner. You can sign up for information on this project and other information you find of interest.

You can also visit the project website at <http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/parkerarapahoe>.

