A new bimonthly community update on the future reconstruction of the I-70 East corridor.

A New Name?

I-70 East is a project that is central to communities, commerce, connections and Colorado. As the first phase project moves from planning to construction, residents will start to see a new project identity--Central 70. This new name better communicates the geographic location of the project and the project limits, as well as reinforces the regional and statewide criticality of I-70 moving people, goods and services.

New Project Office and Community Hours

Stop in to the new Project Office to ask questions, find the latest information on the project or just say hello. Right-of-way specialists are available at the dates and times listed below along with twice-monthly Community Hours in the evenings. We are located at 3601 East 46th Ave. (in the Sno-White Linen & Uniform Rental building).

General Project Questions/Community Hours

First and third Wednesday of every month, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Right-of-Way Staff Hours

Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ■ Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spanish translation, after hours, and weekend appointments are available by request. Contact CDOT Right-of-Way Manager Tawana Kelly at 303-757-9846 or tawana.kelly@state.co.us.

Have you Heard?

With a project as large as I-70, there is bound to be some misinformation. Check back here in each edition for the facts. If you have heard a rumor that you would like to check, send them to contactus@i-70east.com.

Myth: CDOT is partnering with realtors and developers to purchase homes for the project.

Fact: All right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions for the Central 70 project are conducted through CDOT's ROW office, not through a private developer or realtor. The purchase of properties and relocation of residents and businesses impacted by the project is one of the most difficult aspects of a project of this magnitude, therefore, a full-time CDOT right-of-way (ROW) specialist and an interpreter are on staff to work with residents throughout this process. In addition, there are important benefits provided to ensure that residents are not unduly impacted by recent increases in housing costs in the Denver-metro area (these benefits apply to renters as well). If a property is acquired for the project, a representative from CDOT will contact the property owner directly. If you have questions about ROW, visit i-70east.com/purchase-and-relocation.html, or contact Tawana Kelly at tawana.kelly@state.co.us.

Myth: CDOT is requiring all impacted residents to move this summer when the Record of Decision (ROD) is finalized. Fact: All property acquisition and residential and business relocation will be done in compliance with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. This law was enacted to ensure that people whose property is acquired, or who move as a result of projects receiving federal funds, will be treated fairly and equitably. This means they will receive fair market value for their property, and will receive assistance in moving. If the property you own or lease needs to be acquired and you need to be relocated, the process will allow you plenty of time and assistance to relocate and resettle your home or your business. The occupant receives a Notice of Eligibility for relocation benefits and a written notice that states the occupant, owner or tenant will not be required to move for at least 90 days. Importantly, there is no unique deadline or trigger associated with the Record of Decision.

Where Are We Now?

CDOT is nearing the final stages of the 13-year environmental planning process with the recent release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement. The team anticipates a Record of Decision from the Federal Highway Administration this summer. From there, a developer will be selected to build the project and begin construction in late 2017.

For more information, go to central 70. codot. gov.