

Project Sponsor: City of Boulder

Project Title: West Colorado Avenue Multimodal Improvements (Regent Drive – Folsom Street)

Project Phases: Design/Right-of-Way/Construction

STBG or AQ/MM: AQ/MM

Background/ Project Justification:

The West Colorado Multimodal Improvements project is a key active transportation link for those traveling in the City of Boulder. Colorado Avenue moves several thousand students, community members, and regional employees each day through connections to education and employment centers, such as the CU-East and Main campuses with more than 70,000 students, faculty and staff, and commercial land-uses along Folsom, 28th, and 30th streets. In fulfillment to city, subregional, and regional goals for Vision Zero, active transportation, and climate, the city endeavors to build safer, more comfortable, and convenient transportation choices and first-and-last-mile connections. To that end, the city currently has projects underway at 28th St/Colorado intersection and 30th St/Colorado intersection to build protected bike facilities and dedicated transit lanes. The West Colorado Avenue project, combined with these intersection projects and other recently completed work, will complete the west segment of the 30th and Colorado Corridors Study and provide almost a mile of connected and protected bicycle lanes, intersection enhancements, and dedicated transit lane and associated facility upgrades.

Project Description:

The West Colorado Avenue project will build out the multimodal complete street cross section for the west segment of Colorado Avenue developed through the 30th and Colorado Corridors Study. This section of Colorado Avenue is part of the city's Core Arterial Network, which focuses improvements on the city's busiest roads to reduce the potential for severe crashes and make it more comfortable and convenient for people to get where they need to go in the city. With a concentration of travel from the sub-region and surrounding counties ending in the city, these low-stress first-and-last mile connections will contribute to local, subregional, and regional Vision Zero and mode shift goals.

The West Colorado Avenue project, combined with the work that is currently underway at 28th/Colorado and 30th/ Colorado intersections, will construct Vision Zero proven crash countermeasures, such as hardened separation for pedestrians and bicyclists from vehicles, intersection enhancements at Folsom Street, pedestrian facility improvements, and transit priority in each direction along Colorado Avenue through implementation of dedicated transit lanes, consolidation of transit stops to improve transit reliability, installation of transit amenities to increase rider comfort and convenience, and construction of a super transit stop adjacent to CU to accommodate the high number of transit users in this corridor.

As a result, the project will provide safer and more comfortable transportation options and first-and-last mile connections for the 4,000 pedestrians, 1,750 bicyclists, and 684 public transit riders that travel this corridor on an average day and reduce conflict and the potential for crashes with the more than 22,000 vehicles that travel the corridor. Further, the project's complete street corridor would support the sub-region's strong first-and-last mile active transportation mode share (15% versus 8% for the entire region) as population grows, per projections 30% by 2040.

Without these TIP grant funds the multi-modal Colorado Avenue corridor to connect the CU Main and East campuses will leave an incomplete segment of safe, comfortable travel choices and create a barrier to traveler's choosing active transportation modes. Funding the West Colorado Avenue project will also advance the connectivity of this vital east-west corridor to other important north-south corridors in the

city's broader transportation system such as Folsom Street, the recently completed protected intersection improvements at Regent Dr., and the following efforts on 30th Street:

- The 30th Street Corridor Multimodal Improvements Project will extend the safer, separated pedestrian and bicycle facilities and improved transit stops being introduced at the 30th and Colorado Ave Underpass and 30th and Colorado Ave Intersection projects north to CO7/Arapahoe Ave. Design work is underway with implementation scheduled to be completed in 2024.
- The 30th St Preliminary Design (CO7/Arapahoe Ave to CO119/Iris Ave) project was recently awarded TIP funds through the second call. This project will design a complete street corridor that will extend north the safer, separated pedestrian and bicycle facilities and improved transit begun at the 30th St and Colorado Ave intersection and continued through the above 30th St Multimodal Improvements Project. Once implemented, these projects will extend the safer, more comfortable, and convenient transportation choices implemented along 30th St north on Colorado Ave for a total of two miles.

Funding Breakdown in \$1,000s (by program year)¹				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
DRCOG Requested Funds	\$720	\$	\$2,160	\$2,880
CDOT or RTD Supplied Funds²	\$	\$	\$	\$
Local Funds (Funding from sources other than DRCOG, CDOT, or RTD)	\$180	\$	\$540	\$600
Total Funding	\$900	\$	\$2,700	\$3,600

Project Location/ Map:



Visuals/ Images:

