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Construction underway on East Jewell Avenue in Watkins

Improvements will include paving and widening 2-mile stretch of roadway in rural Arapahoe County

Watkins, Colorado – Arapahoe County began construction in January on East Jewell Avenue between South Hayesmount Road and South Watkins Road. This project is anticipated to take five months and will improve safety, drainage and the road surface on this high-volume east-west corridor located east of Aurora.

Delays are expected during construction. Traffic will be reduced to one shared lane for the entire two-mile length of the project, and both directions will be controlled by a temporary traffic signal. Wait times at the temporary signal are anticipated to be approximately six minutes. Advance notice will be posted. Motorists are encouraged to use East Quincy Avenue to the south or Interstate 70 to the north as alternate routes.

The East Jewell Avenue project will include widening and paving a two-mile stretch of the roadway to accommodate current and future traffic; adding shoulders and making vertical profile adjustments to improve safety; and making drainage improvements, including ditches and utility relocations. When complete this section of East Jewell Avenue will feature two 12-foot travel lanes with two 3-foot shoulders, for a total paved width of 30-feet.

Construction will be completed in two phases. The first phase will be completed by a general contractor and is expected to be completed in May 2015. This phase will involve installation of new drainage structures, major modification to the road profile, and temporary road surfacing using recycled asphalt millings.

The second phase will include final paving by the Arapahoe County Road and Bridge Division between May and September 2015.

This project was identified as a priority in Arapahoe County's 2035 Transportation Plan and will be managed by the Public Works and Development Department. Total project costs are estimated to be \$1.45 million and will be funded entirely from Arapahoe County's Transportation Division Capital Improvement Program.

Arapahoe County would like to thank motorists for their patience and understanding during this project, which will enhance safety and quality of life. Please contact Scott Wiggs at swiggs@arapahoegov.com or 720-874-6500 with any questions or concerns. For more information, please visit www.arapahoegov.com/ActiveRoadProjects.

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Download an image of the project map:

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