



We Create Community

Woodmen Road Corridor Improvement Project
c/o Wilson & Company
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Colorado Springs CO 80919

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The first year - September 2009 to September 2010

One Year: Halfway Through – On Schedule and On Budget

The Project Team has been very pleased with the progress on the Woodmen Road project and is especially grateful for the cooperation and support of local neighbors, businesses, and the traveling public. Careful planning and construction has resulted in reasonable traffic flows and minimal delays over the past year, and the expected unexpected incidents – always a part of big construction projects – have been handled quickly and not slowed progress.

The first year saw the substantial completion of five of the eight steps of construction that the Project Team anticipated to complete the project. Some of the major milestones achieved include the relocation of the 42-inch water line, installation of the 66-inch storm drain, construction of the retaining and noise walls, relocation of utilities, placement of bridge girders, and implementation of numerous traffic shifts and realignments. It has been an eventful year!

We asked some folks for their comments on how the first year of construction appeared to them:

"As a newspaper reporter, I've been following the Woodmen Road Project since groundbreaking. I'm fortunate to have an inside and outside perspective. Camaraderie amongst the members of the Project Team makes for an efficient work schedule and prompt problem solving. Communication with the public continues to receive an A+ rating. Few people I've interviewed have negative feelings about progress and even these anticipate future rewards."
— Christine Ryktarsyk,
Woodmen Edition

"It has been a very interesting year. Having a front-row seat to 'Progress' has, at times, been thrilling, scary, frustrating and interesting. The communication to business owners has been phenomenal. Thank you."
—Linda Doole,
Sign of the Rose Florist

"The feedback I've received from some neighbors in Brookwood Estates has been positive about the Woodmen Road Project and Edward Kraemer & Sons. We have been nicely surprised at how smoothly the project seems to be going with a lesser impact on our neighborhood than we originally thought would occur. The folks at EKS have been more than accommodating and very nice to work with. All of our requests have been handled in a timely and satisfactory manner."
—Ann DeVere,
Brookwood Estates Representative of the Woodmen Enhancement Committee

Have a quote you would like to share?
Please e-mail us at: projectteam@woodmenroad.com
We will share your thoughts about the year's accomplishments on our website: www.woodmenroad.com

The second year will bring many changes as well, but it will focus more on the intersection of Woodmen and Academy and the Woodmen Road widening completion. The bridge structure and the bridge embankments are planned to be completed later this year. The Project Team will continue to communicate project progress and changes through the project website, www.woodmenroad.com, and through weekly e-mail blasts.

Did You Know?

The Great Clips for Hair franchise owned by Frank and Jane Evans remains at its original location after a quarter of a century serving the community. It is located at 6944 North Academy Blvd., in the Woodmen Valley Shopping Center (King Soopers) on the southwest corner of Woodmen and Academy. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jane said that their everyday price for a haircut

is \$12 for adults and \$10 for children under 10 and seniors 65 years of age. Great Clips is a "value priced" salon, offering a walk-in, no-appointment haircut service. Frank and Jane believe not only in offering the best value to their community, but also in giving back to the community through fund raisers for local organizations such as Children's Hospital and Greccio Housing.

"Did You Know" reveals interesting tidbits regarding landmarks, history, people and businesses in the project area. If you have an interesting fact to contribute, let us know!

Stay Current:

- www.woodmenroad.com
- sign up on our website and we'll add you to our e-mail Alert list.
- No internet access? If you wish to receive the quarterly newsletter through the mail, please call us at 266-8085. If you are currently receiving a newsletter, you do not have to sign up again.

Contacts:

City of Colorado Springs
Dan Krueger

Edward Kraemer & Sons, Inc.
Chad Dubs or Cheryl Everitt

Project Hotline
719-266-8085

Project Website
www.woodmenroad.com

Project E-mail
ProjectTeam@woodmenroad.com

Businesses throughout the construction area are open for your continued patronage.



Woodmen Road Aesthetics: Landscaping

As part of the Woodmen Road project design, the City convened an aesthetics committee made up of business owners and residents along the Woodmen corridor to advise the project team on landscape, walls, finishes and colors.

For the landscape, committee members preferred a natural planting scheme with grouped trees and shrubs. Rather than bluegrass lawns, they committed to the less water and less maintenance intensive natural short prairie grass along with a generous helping of wildflowers.

Trees chosen include the spring blooming hawthorns and redbuds with magenta flowers that emerge before the leaves. Selected shrubs, such as the dwarf burning bush, will add dramatic color in the fall. And the addition of colorful perennials, such as

blue mist spirea that blooms from August until mid-October, will ensure continuous color in the landscape from May to November.

Along Academy Boulevard, at the entrance to the Woodmen Road underpass, there will be a variety of tall, spectacular grasses, including pampas grass with its showy plumes. These will create an attractive entrance to the underpass along both northbound and southbound Academy Boulevard.

The landscape installation will be one of the final phases of the construction effort.

Mulch, cobblestones and other trimmings will give the landscape a nice level of finish. The landscape will have lower water requirements and, as with all landscapes, will require some maintenance. The plantings along the corridor and around the new interchange will add continuity, order and beauty for the enjoyment of residents, businesses and the traveling public for many years to come.



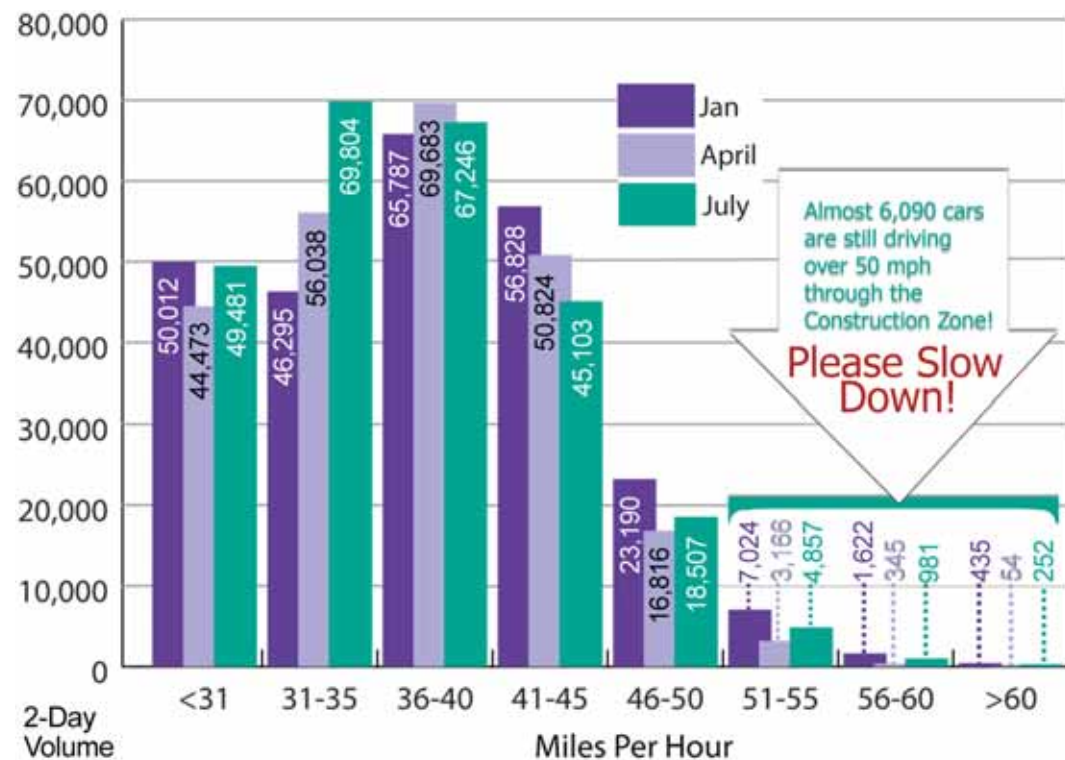
Left to right: dwarf burning bush, blue mist spirea and pampas grass

Please Slow Down

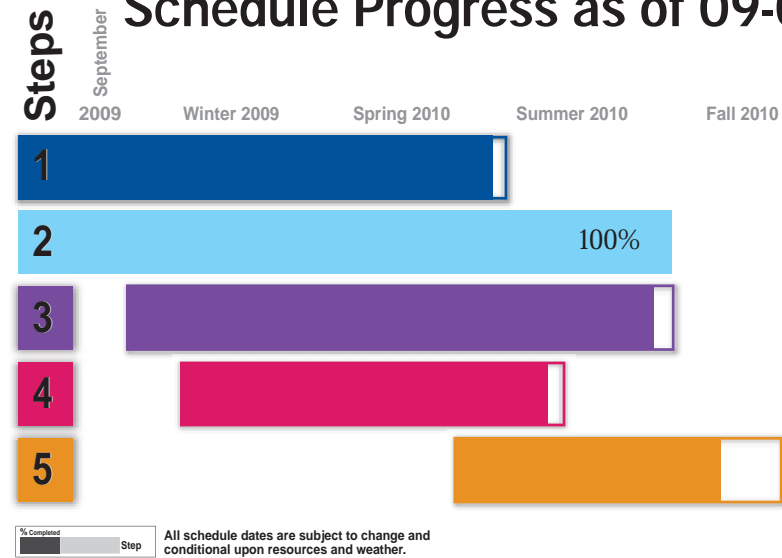
Based on two-day traffic studies performed in the project area in January, April and July 2010, the chart above documents traffic speeds and percent of total traffic in each speed range. Approximately **20%** of the vehicles obeyed the speed limit, **31%** of the drivers through the area exceeded **40 mph**, and in two days almost **6,090** cars exceeded **50 mph**!

When one car slows down, the cars behind it are forced to do the same. Starting with one car at a time, we can make the construction zone a much safer place.

For the safety of the traveling public, pedestrians, and construction crews, please reduce your speed!



Schedule Progress as of 09-01-10



For listings of key activities and their status, please visit www.woodmenroad.com and click the "Phase 1 Construction has Begun" link, which will take you to the Woodmen-Academy construction information.

FAQ: Where Did the Mountain Go?

On the north side of Woodmen Road, east of Academy Boulevard, a mountain of dirt grew. The dirt was excavated material from around the project area, and it was stored in the construction yard. Stories came to the project team's attention that this was where the bridge would be built. Not so! As the project progresses, the dirt is being used to backfill retaining and noise walls and is gradually disappearing. Soon, the mountain will be gone and replaced with a storm water detention pond.



Members of the project team holding a python from Scales and Tails at the June BBQ

Thank You! Project Team Sponsored BBQs

The fourth project BBQ, held in conjunction with Scales & Tails Second Anniversary Celebration, was held on June 12, 2010. It was a cold and misty day to hold an outdoor event, but that didn't stop the large number of participants from stopping by and visiting with the team, sampling the muffins and baked goods from Mimi's Café, and receiving a carnation from Sign of the Rose Florist. The event offered project information, a table of giveaways from the area businesses, and an

opportunity to hold some of the offerings from Scales and Tails.

The fifth project BBQ was held in the Woodmen Commons Shopping Center in front of the Wild Bird Center on Saturday, Aug. 21. Owner Frank Dodge invited two bird rehabilitation centers to bring their birds for the event. The property management company for the center provided tables and chairs for attendees.



Attendees enjoying the August BBQ