



I-25 Express Lanes project in gear



The interchange at the junction of Interstate 25 and U.S. Highway 34, seen here from the south, is among five Loveland locations that will see sweeping change during the two- to three-year I-25 Express Lanes project.

Loveland's I-25 connections due for big changes

Roadbuilders reached Loveland's U.S. Highway 34 doorstep in 1963 as they pushed two parallel ribbons of concrete northward from Denver toward Wyoming.

At that time, a motel and gas station were the only businesses at the junction of U.S. 34 – then a two-lane country blacktop – with the new, four-lane Interstate 25.

In the 55 years since, I-25 hasn't changed much.

While enhanced safety features and larger, more efficient interchanges have been added, I-25 remains a four-lane highway – now clogged with traffic during most daylight hours, and sometimes at a near standstill during peak morning and evening rush periods.

Traffic counts have been driven upward toward the point of paralysis by the emergence of I-25 corridor commercial centers from Johnstown to Fort Collins and residential developments that stretch out east and west of the highway.

The Colorado Transportation Department (CDOT), in financial partnership with local governments

including Loveland's, has acted to forestall that tipping point with the North I-25 Express Lanes Project that officially launches in August.

Loveland has three big reasons to pay attention. Three I-25 interchanges – at Crossroads Boulevard, U.S. 34 and Colorado Highway 402 – lie within the City's jurisdiction. Each of them is due for changes during the Express Lanes project that will raise I-25's four-lane capacity to six by late 2021.

Rounding out the \$300 million-plus project are bridge, bus and trail improvements – including many in Loveland – that will improve mobility both on and off I-25.

(see **I-25** page 2)

During the next four years, Loveland users of I-25 will see:

- Completion of the Crossroads Boulevard interchange, where the new I-25 bridges over Crossroads have already been designed and built to accommodate the express lanes in each direction.
- New I-25 bridges over the Union Pacific Railway and Kendall Parkway, the planned east-west connector between Rocky Mountain Avenue and Centerra Parkway.
- Addition of one lane in each direction on the U.S. 34 bridge over I-25, with other interchange improvements possible depending on new funding sources.
- Reconstruction of the I-25 interchange at Colorado 402, one of the highway's most antiquated junctions, with a new bridge carrying 402 traffic over I-25.

Transit and trails

Motorists will not be the sole beneficiaries of the Johnstown to Fort Collins Express Lanes Project. Transit and trail users are also accommodated, with features that add efficiency to express bus service connecting Northern Colorado and metro-Denver. Cyclists and pedestrians will have access to 100-plus miles of trails with an I-25 underpass for the popular and heavily used Poudre River Trail.

Loveland pedestrians and cyclists will also enjoy a new trail parallel to the new Kendall Parkway under I-25 between Crossroads Boulevard and U.S. 34.

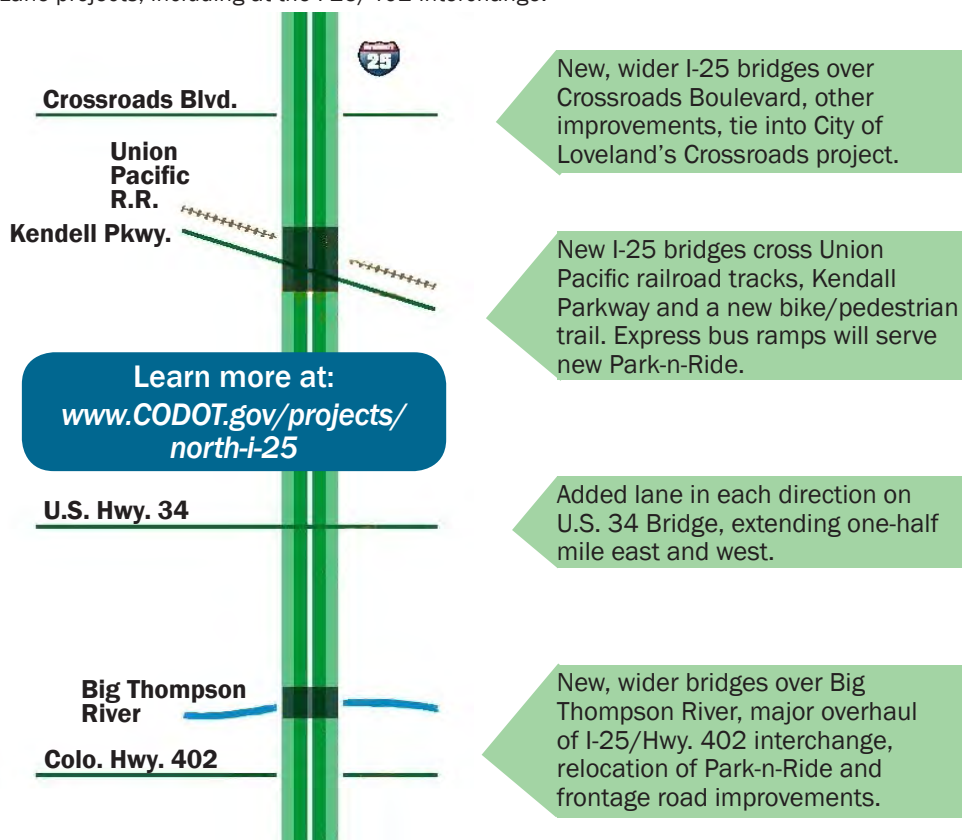
Former Loveland Mayor Kathy Gilliland, now District 5 Colorado Transportation Commissioner, said the project culminates more than two decades of planning.

"It goes back to when I was on City Council in the 1990s," said Gilliland, who represents four counties including Larimer and Weld on the state commission. "We saw then what the demand would be, and that we really needed to widen I-25."

Nearly 30 years later, following an exhaustive, \$11 million



A mountain of crushed rock, more than 8,000 truckloads hauled from CDOT's U.S. Highway 34 project in Big Thompson Canyon, is a new feature on the landscape at Interstate 25 and Colorado Highway 402. The rock will be used throughout the corridor on North I-25 Express Lane projects, including at the I-25/402 interchange.



environmental study that took the better part of a decade, a federal grant and contributions from I-25 corridor communities make the Express Lanes project possible.

Loveland's stake so far is \$2 million, appropriated by City Council earlier this year, with two more \$2 million installments scheduled over the next two years. McWhinney, the developer of the Centerra commercial and

residential properties that straddle I-25, is in for \$6 million.

"Loveland has worked with me very closely from the beginning on this plan," said Johnny Olson, CDOT's regional director in charge of the Express Lanes project.

"This is a city that is very forward-thinking. Loveland comes to the table with the question, 'What do we need to do to make our community better?'"

Loveland Police move ahead on 3-month pilot study for body-worn cameras

After many months of research and information gathering, the Loveland Police Department is ready to begin a pilot program for testing body-worn cameras, or BWCs.

At last month's City Council meeting, Sgt. Jeff Pyle, who is heading this effort, and Police Chief Bob Ticer presented information to Council on what they've learned and how they plan to proceed with the study.

Pyle began his research by questioning other Colorado police departments, starting with the City of Fort Collins that has used BWCs since 2011, and was the first community in the state to do so. Pyle also contacted the Town of Steamboat and the Town of Avon where Ticer was formerly employed as Chief of Police.

According to Pyle, learning what worked and what didn't in the other communities has given the LPD a big leg up by arming them with valuable knowledge that will help them be able to more critically compare the cameras they study, and ultimately select the best, most reliable and easily integrated product for Loveland officers.

All of the products being tested had to meet the LPD's requirements, which included that storage of the cameras' images be cloud-based, that cameras would be leased, not purchased, and that

the technology would be upgraded every 2 1/2 years.

Saving the video collected to a data cloud rather than on a server enables almost limitless storage and provides the most efficient and cost-effective way to store data, Pyle said. It also prevents issues with servers mal-functioning or being down. Storage of data will be included as part of the camera purchase cost.

Leasing cameras instead of purchasing them outright will also be more user-friendly for the LPD. Through a leasing program,



Loveland Police Officer Paul Ashe is equipped with one of the BWCs to be tested.

when a camera breaks, it can be shipped back to the company and replaced with a new camera within a day, which means officers won't be without cameras for extended periods of time, waiting on repairs. And leasing allows for updating the technology every few years so that officers have the most current technology available.

Twenty cameras will be tested for 30 days without cost to the LPD.

All BWCs will be tested during normal police work including traffic stops, searches, when taking statements, for interrogations and any other situation the officer deems appropriate to record.

A policy for use during testing was developed by Sgt. Pyle and representatives from the City's legal department, and aligns with all state and federal laws as well as the International Association of Chiefs of Police for best practices for BWCs.

Acquiring and implementing the use of BWCs for the Loveland department has been on Chief Ticer's priority list since he assumed the role of Chief in 2016, and is also part of the LPD's strategic plan.

They are widely used in departments throughout Colorado and across the country, and have proven to be an invaluable tool in law enforcement.

Lago Vista satellite site provides materials, enriches lives, builds community

Residents of the Lago Vista Mobile Home Park at the north end of Loveland are benefitting from a new program that began this summer.

Every week, Claudeth Castellanos, the Loveland Public Library's Spanish Services Librarian, takes as many library materials as she can fit into her car and sets up a small, satellite library at Lago Vista.

She does her best to cater to a wide variety of interests in a number of formats including books, audiobooks, DVDs and music on CDs. She also issues library cards

and lets residents know about library programs and events they can attend.

Residents who visit the satellite site use library laptops to logon to the library's website to locate additional materials they might want.

Taking library services to residents where they live is part of the library's mission to be very accessible to the public, and to enrich and inspire all residents including those who may be unable to get to the downtown library.

This program is made possible

through a co-sponsorship with the Colorado Trust and could possibly become a standard library offering if long-term funding is secured.

All services are provided in both English and Spanish.

For more info call 962-2426.



Young Lago Vista patrons choose materials at site.

Open Lands & Trails September Programs & Activities

- 9/1 Guided Bird Walk
- 9/4-9/7 Volunteer Environmental Educator Training
- 9/8 Astronomy Night
- 9/14 Art in Nature
- 9/20 Preschool Environmental Education (PEEPs)



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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
10AM - 5PM

5th & Lincoln Ave in Downtown Loveland
Sidewalk Chalk • Live Music • Food • Kids Area • Free



2018 Business Appreciation Breakfast

An admission FREE event
for Loveland Businesses

Wednesday, Sept. 12
7:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Loveland Embassy Suites

Guest Speaker: Jeremy Bloom

www.cityofloveland.org/businessevent



Loveland Loves to Read 2018 ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE

by Anthony Doer

MON SEPT 24 | 4:30-6 PM

Author meet & greet

\$50, includes wine, hors d'oeuvres

SWEET HEART WINERY

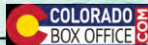
MON SEPT 24 | 7:30 PM

Author talk & book signing

\$22 general admission, \$38 preferred seating

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MANAGING FOOTHILLS ASSETS



Upon the completion of the Foothills Solar Array and Substation in June 2017, Loveland Water and Power (LWP) assigned the maintenance of the 3.5 MW solar facility and neighboring substation to Utility Application Services Division. Since the solar field is the first of its kind in Loveland, developing a cost effective, efficient process of maintaining the property and site-assets seemed a daunting task for Ryan Smith, Senior GIS Specialist.

Smith landed at LWP only three months ago but brought over twenty years' experience creating web-based maps, dashboards, and leveraging new technologies.

After doing some digging, Smith discovered no other communities were using LWP's asset management platform for tracking assets related to solar fields. Smith created a homegrown data model that empowered LWP to execute work orders, manage workflow, maintenance schedules and track associated costs. Along the way, Smith managed to incorporate several tenets of LWP's mission including fiscal responsibility, quality customer service and adoption of new technology.

Utility Application Services employs the database to ensure the landscape is maintained and the photovoltaic panels are cleaned and functioning properly.

In the future, LWP will use the data model to guarantee regular scheduling of tracker motors, drive shafts and temperature sensors and even enable field personnel to log and track requests from their phones.

"LWP can now better understand each job along with associated cost," said Smith. "This helps us to better manage our equipment and staff time. This will lead to better management of the facility overall."

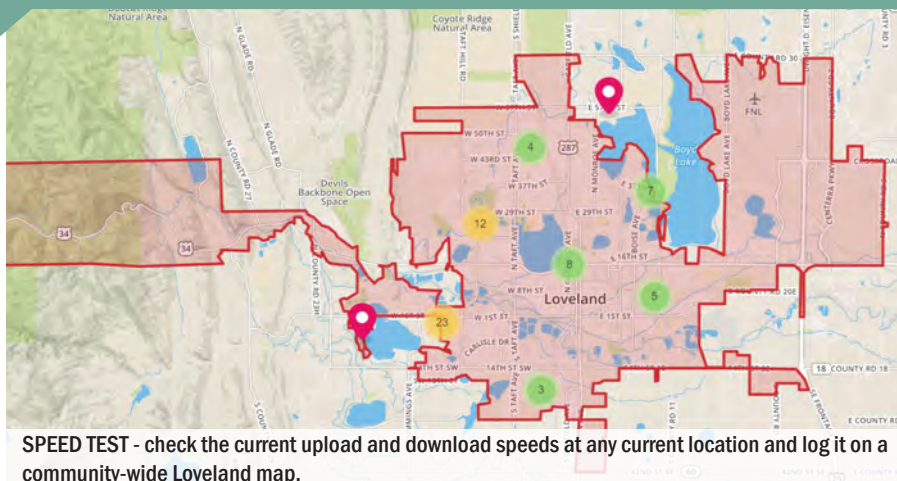
For more information on the Foothills solar and substation project visit cityofloveland.org/foothills.

LET'S TALK BROADBAND

The City of Loveland has been exploring the possibility of bringing broadband, otherwise known as high-speed internet, to the community. This is an important decision for our community and we want to hear from you.

CONNECT WITH US

- Visit cityofloveland.org/Broadband
- Email Broadband@cityofloveland.org
- Call 970-962-2010 to speak with someone live
- Join us at an upcoming meeting, event or Town Hall



SPEED TEST - check the current upload and download speeds at any current location and log it on a community-wide Loveland map.

UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING
970-962-2111

visit us online...
cityofloveland.org/LWP



For more information, go to
cityofloveland.org/pretreatment or
call 970-962-3719



PREVENT SEWER BACKUP & COSTLY REPAIRS

DO NOT PUT F.O.G. DOWN THE DRAIN

**F.O.G. stands for
fats, oils, and grease**

FOG is contained in many foods
such as cheese, butter, gravy,
dressing and dessert.

FOG can be a result of cooking
meat and fish or using oil, lard,
etc. to cook food.

Use the following practices to avoid a blockage or backup in your sewer line:

Scrape food
waste from
plates and pans
into trash.



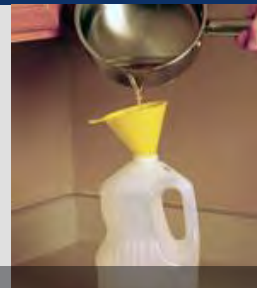
DO NOT use
the garbage
disposal for
leftover food
waste.



Wipe dry pots,
pans, and
dishware prior
to dishwashing.



Recycle waste
cooking oil.
DO NOT overfill
containers.



Use screens in
sinks and drains
to catch food
waste. Put that
in the trash.



DO NOT use
enzymes or
emulsifying
products.

