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Hippity, Hoppity! Easter Avenue opens to ease east/west traffic along Arapahoe Road

Arapahoe County has opened the final stretch of roadway that offers an east - west alternative to commuters using Arapahoe Road between Parker Road and Havana Street.

With the completion of Easter Avenue, which is located between Arapahoe Road and Centennial Airport and Lima and Peoria streets, commuters will be able to use Broncos Parkway from Parker Road on the east to the new section of Easter Avenue to connect with Havana Street on the west.

Arapahoe County, Centennial Airport and the Dove Valley Metropolitan Improvement District paid for the \$2.6 million project, which entailed construction of a new four-lane roadway with turn lanes, traffic signals, utilities, box culverts and storm sewers. Construction also included turn lane improvements on Lima and Peoria Streets near the intersections of Easter Avenue.

During the past four years, Arapahoe County along with other public and private entities have invested in the development of alternative east-west routes to Arapahoe Road. Projects completed during this time include the Broncos Parkway Bridge over Cherry Creek; completion of Broncos Parkway between Parker and Jordan roads; widening of Broncos Parkway between Jordan Road and Potomac Street; and construction of new roadways south of Broncos Parkway to E-470, including Chambers Road and Potomac Street.

Arapahoe Road is a heavily used commuter and business corridor in the south metropolitan Denver area. Until the completion of Easter Avenue, Arapahoe Road was one of only three major roadways crossing Cherry Creek between I-225 and E-470.

Roadway alternatives in this area are limited by Cherry Creek, Cherry Creek State Park and Centennial Airport. Arapahoe County, along with assistance from Centennial Airport, was able to find a narrow strip of land to build Easter Avenue across the airport property. Once commuters realize there is an alternative to traveling Arapahoe Road, the County believes some of the congestion on Arapahoe Road will be reduced.

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