Iconic arch installed for Aurora Line/I-225 Rail at Colfax Station

Aurora’s signature Colfax Station will provide access to medical center campus and popular RTD routes

Denver - October 27, 2015 – A new iconic arch now resides over the Colfax light rail station along the Aurora Line/I-225 Rail project. The Regional Transportation District (RTD) and I-225 FasTracks partners Kiewit Infrastructure Company, the city of Aurora and the Colorado Department of Transportation installed the 57,000-pound steel arch which will support the center canopy of the elevated station.

Two consecutive overnight closures of E. Colfax Avenue were needed to install the arch. Contractor Kiewit Infrastructure Company first inserted “legs,” then used a crane to set the 252-foot-long structure.

“The Colfax station will be the most distinctive station along the I-225/Aurora Line, featuring not only a stunning arch, but also a permanent art installation with eight to 12 suspended structures that project images and words underneath the bridge, visually telling the stories of the city’s diverse community,” said Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan. “The effect will be truly spectacular and will serve to welcome visitors to the surrounding medical campus, the new Hyatt Hotel and Conference Center, as well as the city’s first transit oriented development, the Forum Fitzsimons.”

The city of Aurora contributed more than $2 million toward design of the arch, which emulates the city’s sunrise image. Along with the distinctive arch design, public art will be added at street level as part of Aurora’s Art in Public Places program.

“The arch and the Colfax Station are key features of the Aurora Line/I-225 Rail project that positively reflect the partnership between the city of Aurora, RTD FasTracks and Kiewit Infrastructure Company,” Project Manager Chuck Culig said. “The station serves as a pedestrian bridge across Colfax, and acts as a gateway for the city of Aurora, as well as the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.”

The arch was fabricated by Schuff Steel Company in Ottawa, Kansas – the same company that manufactured the steel for the open-air train hall canopy at Denver’s Union Station.
The 10.5-mile Aurora Line/I-225 Rail will extend light rail service from the current Nine Mile Station near I-225 and Parker Road, travel through major activity centers in Aurora, such as the Aurora City Center and Anschutz Medical Campus, Children’s Hospital and the new VA Hospital, and end at the Peoria Station. There, riders will be able to connect to the East Rail Line to Denver International Airport or Denver Union Station. The Aurora Line/I-225 Rail will open in 2016.

FasTracks is RTD’s voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to connect the eight-county district better. For more information, visit www.rtd-denver.com.

# # #