



FORT COLLINS • LOVELAND
WATER DISTRICT

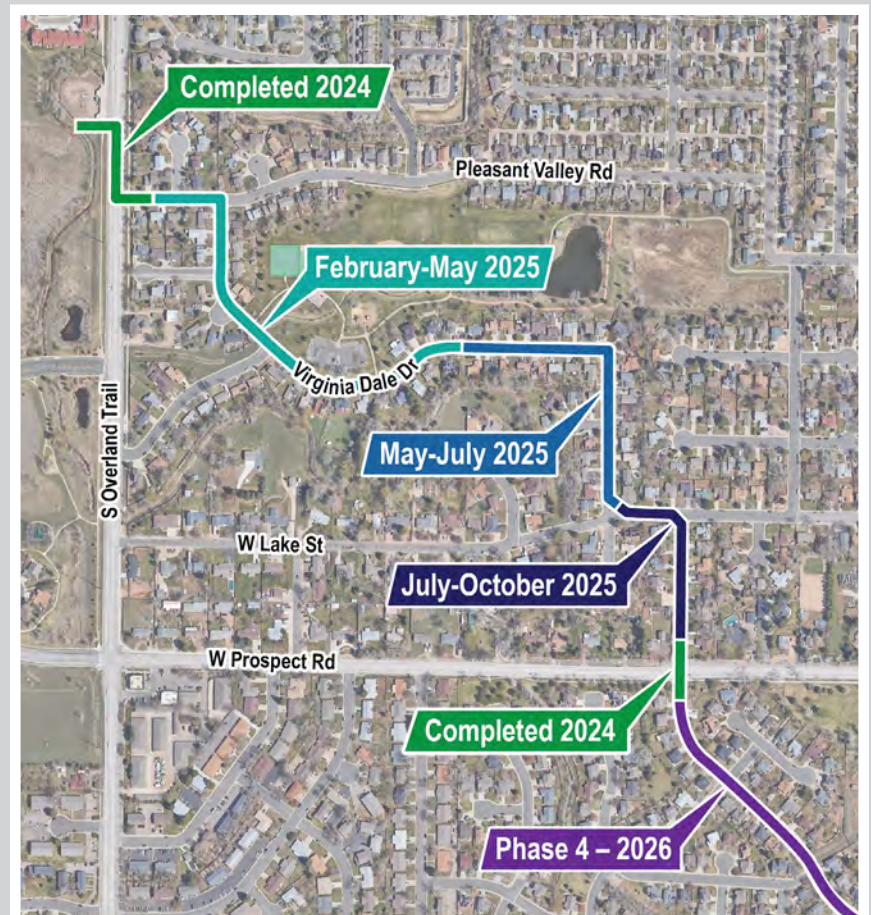
ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Western Backbone Transmission Pipeline Project is part of the district's ongoing water system improvements. This project will replace four miles of undersized transmission (water) mains along the western edge of the district's service area.

It also will increase hydraulic capacity and improve overall system performance by creating better water pressure for the district's customers. The project will take several years to complete and is divided into several phases. Phase 1 was completed in 2023, and Phase 2 will be complete by the end of 2024. The Western Backbone transmission line is currently being installed along the western edge of the district's service area. Learn more at fclwd.com/water/construction-projects.

Western Backbone
Transmission Pipeline Project

FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS



Schedule subject to change: Dates are preliminary in nature and are provided for information only. Dates, detours, closures, etc. are subject to change based on final design, weather, permit approvals, and construction production.

Frequently Asked Questions



Scan the QR code to sign up for email updates.

Why is the Western Backbone transmission line being installed?

For over 60 years, we have been dedicated to our mission of providing high-quality, secure, reliable, and affordable water. To ensure that we are well-positioned to meet the water needs of current and future customers for generations to come, the district has developed a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as part of its long-range master planning strategy.

The CIP includes a variety of construction projects such as the installation of new pipelines (like the Western Backbone Transmission Pipeline Project), maintenance and repair of water infrastructure such as pipelines and pump stations, and the construction of new storage facilities. These projects are crucial for ensuring access to clean and safe water, improving water infrastructure and meeting growing demands.

What is a transmission line?

Transmission lines are large pipes that carry large quantities of water from the treatment plant and storage tanks to our distribution system (a network of pipes, pumps, and valves that transport drinking water to homes or businesses). The Western Backbone transmission line is 42 inches (3.5 feet) wide. Standard water mains are typically between 6-16 inches and water service lines range from 0.5-3 inches.

Why not install the transmission line down Overland Trail?

- Overland Trail is a congested utility corridor. There is no room for the FCLWD pipeline in that roadway. This is one of the oldest parts of Fort Collins and the entire roadway is full of abandoned and live utilities, like Fort Collins Utilities' 42-inch and 60-inch waterlines, large underground duct banks, and high voltage overhead power.
- The broader traffic impact and closure of major roadways is difficult to get approved and permitted through the City of Fort Collins due to schools, Transfort, and pushback from the general motoring public.
- Large pipelines like this require a full road closure during construction for the safety of the public and construction crews.
- Using Overland Trail and Prospect Road would require two additional ditch crossings, adding months to the project schedule resulting in longer impacts.
- Easements outside of the road right-of-way would require a City 1041 permit. This process is very costly and time prohibitive.
- Overland and Prospect have very deep asphalt sections. These require timely replacements, which are costly.
- Major intersections and roadways are very difficult for crews to access safely for future operations and maintenance activities.



Why is Fort Collins-Loveland Water District doing work in my neighborhood when I get my water from Fort Collins Utilities?

Fort Collins has several different water providers, including Fort Collins Utilities and Fort Collins-Loveland Water District. Water treatment facilities for both utilities are in northwest Fort Collins due to the access to water supplies in Horsetooth Reservoir and the Poudre River. While Fort Collins Utilities serves your neighborhood, water still needs to be distributed to other neighborhoods in southern Fort Collins, which is where this project comes in. It will allow the district to better provide water to its customers.

Resident Impacts

When will construction happen in front of my home?

The project team is working to limit impacts to residents as much as possible. Each section of the project area is anticipated to take three to four months. The rest of the project area will remain open while construction is performed in each specific section. View the map in this handout for the anticipated construction timeline.

Will construction impact trash pickup, mail or deliveries?

Crews will assist with trash pickup. They will also allow access to mail carriers and delivery drivers.

Will there be construction materials in my neighborhood?

There will be stockpiles of construction materials and equipment on either side of the excavation area.

Will I be able to access my home while construction is happening in my area?

There will likely be a two-day period during pipe installation where those along the construction route will not be able to access driveways. There will also likely be a two-day period during paving operations where driveways will not be accessible. We ask that you park nearby down the street during these times.

We will be operating under a “rolling closure,” which means there will be a hard full closure at our excavation site. You will see soft closures for local traffic only as you enter your neighborhood, but you should have access to your driveways for most of the construction. You will be notified by door hanger 24 hours before changes to your driveway accessibility.

Some homes may have a portion of their walkway or driveway redone as part of the work. This would require more than two days of no access to driveways. The project team will coordinate with each resident on impacts and durations if this is the case.

Will my water service be disrupted during construction?

It is not expected that water services will be interrupted as part of construction. If an interruption is necessary, residents will be notified via a door hanger 24 hours in advance.

What hours will construction take place?

Construction may take place 7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Work will only occur on Saturdays if there are delays due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. You will be notified if work will be performed on Sundays. No work will be done on major holidays.



While we are making every effort to limit inconvenience, there will be active construction areas, so we ask that you use caution if walking or driving near the work area. We appreciate your cooperation and patience as we work to complete the needed installation as quickly and safely as possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



For questions or concerns, contact:
Linsey Chalfant at lchalfant@fclwd.com or
970.226.3104 ext. 108.