

Frequently Asked Questions - Dutch Creek

Will Douglas County ever close access to the neighborhood?

- Douglas County does not intend to close the road at Dutch Creek. Safety is our No. 1 priority. We must maintain residential and emergency access through the neighborhood since it is a public road.
- Douglas County Public Works and the Sheriff's Office continue to monitor the access points to the neighborhood. After serious consideration, both parties determined that restricting left-turn access in and out of the neighborhood would ease congestion to Dutch Creek neighbors. Currently, motorists can only enter and exit the neighborhood by turning right.
- The decision to restrict left-turn access from Dutch Creek to Quebec was made to address a safety hazard. Sheriff's Office staff saw that the left turn lanes entering and exiting the Dutch Creek neighborhood were blocked by motorists heading northbound on Quebec Street, which led to the implementation of the left turn restriction. This restriction will be removed in late September, when Phase 3 of the project begins.

What is Douglas County doing to mitigate cut-through traffic along Dutch Creek Street?

Douglas County recognizes the impact construction at the University/Lincoln and Quebec intersection has had on local traffic. Public Works and the Sheriff's Office have heard resident concerns and are working together to:

- Install a "Local Traffic Only" sign at Dutch Creek Street and Quebec.
- Hire off duty officers to monitor traffic and be a safety presence for four hours in the morning and four hours in the evening during construction, whenever they are available.
- Install variable message boards (VMBs) on the south side of McArthur Road advising of delays and suggesting motorists take an alternate route to alleviate traffic on northbound Quebec.
- Install a "Radar Speed Sign" in Dutch Creek Street.

With ongoing construction, we have seen an increase in truck traffic in the neighborhood. What are you doing to mitigate the increased truck traffic?

- Douglas County Public Works has restricted all large trucks from accessing the neighborhood. Construction trucks are included in this restriction.

Frequently Asked Questions - Dutch Creek

How long will the restrictions to this neighborhood be in place?

- The left turn restriction from Dutch Creek to Quebec will remain in place until late September. Once Phase 3 begins, this restriction will be lifted and the traffic control plan for that phase will allow safer left turns.
- The other mitigation measures could be in place throughout the duration of construction, if needed. The project is currently slated to be complete in late 2024. A construction winter break will occur between November 2023 and March 2024, during which time these measures will be lifted. Once the winter break ends, Douglas County Sheriff and Public Works will determine whether mitigation measures need to be reinstated.

What should I do if I see motorists disregarding the restrictions in place for the Dutch Creek neighborhood?

- The project has added off-duty officers to be a safety presence during high volume hours on northbound Quebec Street. Currently, motorists can see these officers at the access points to the Dutch Creek neighborhood for four hours during the morning commute and four hours during the evening commute. Additionally, these officers work as a visual deterrent to decrease speeding in the area.
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office has agreed to increase enforcement of the neighborhood through construction. If you see someone driving egregiously through the Dutch Creek neighborhood, please contact Douglas County Sheriff's Office at their non-emergency line, 303-660-7500.