

DRCOG Quick-Build Toolkit

2026 MPO Summit

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

What are “quick-build” projects?

- **No shovel required** (no concrete). Easily **reversable**.
- Durability can range from a **couple months to a couple years**.
- Examples: changes to signage and striping, use of bollards and temporary curbs, and changes to traffic signals that can be done by in-house crews.

Quick-build







Project type	Demonstration / pop-up	Pilot project	Interim design	Capital / long-term
Purpose	Engage the community in exploring new ideas.	Test designs or materials, evaluate impacts.	Make improvements or build out system quickly.	Make durable, permanent improvements .
Longevity	1 day - 1 week	1 month - 1 year	1 - 5+ years	20+ years
Relative cost	$	$$ - $$$	$$ - $$$	$$$$$

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Why quick-builds?

- Lower cost (e.g., less than $250,000), allowing limited dollars to go further.
- Faster to implement (less than 18 months), with less detailed engineering and use of in-house crews or on-call contracts.
- Allow for testing, experimenting, and adjusting.
- Provide data on project outcomes to help shape policy and standards.
- Community members can experience new, unfamiliar designs before committing to making them permanent.

Implementing proven countermeasures widely is **essential for making progress towards Vision Zero**.



DRCOG Quick-Build Toolkit

Purpose: Provide resources that facilitate the construction of more quick-build projects, including **customizable tools**, **case studies** and **lessons learned** from communities in the Denver region and beyond.

Part 1. What is “Quick-Build?” (PDF)

Part 2. Inventory of Quick-Build Safety Improvements (Excel), About the Inventory (PDF)

Part 3. Quick-Build Materials and Asphalt Art Considerations (PDF)

Part 4. Quick-Build Example Images (Flickr albums)

Part 5. Before and After Evaluation Template (PDF)

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

How to access the toolkit

DRCOG's Regional Vision Zero webpage: https://drcog.org/visionzero.

Some materials are already on the website, and the rest should be posted **by the end of this month**.

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Demonstration of Inventory of Quick-Build Safety Improvements (Excel)

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Part 3. Quick-Build Materials and Asphalt Art Considerations

- Overview of the various materials that can be used for quick-builds.
- What products have (not) worked well for communities, maintenance considerations, case studies and guidance.
- Split into four sections: 1) Vertical elements, 2) Pavement markings and surface treatments, 3) Maintenance and seasonality considerations, 4) Improving the aesthetics: asphalt art.

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Vertical elements

- 19 different types of vertical elements reviewed: flex posts, low-profile rubber reflective traffic separators, longitudinal channelizers, rubber speed bumps, etc.).
- Information provided for each element:
  - Project types (e.g., pilot projects, interim design projects).
  - Common uses in quick-build projects (e.g., curb extensions, access restrictions, bike lanes, etc.).
  - Links to specific project examples.
  - Experiences and lessons learned.



Pavement markings and surface treatments

- 11 surface treatments reviewed.
- Information provided for each:
  - Project types (e.g., pilot projects, interim design projects, asphalt art).
  - Common uses (e.g., asphalt art, filling areas with color, pavement marking lines or symbols).
  - Longevity.
  - Relative cost.
  - Product examples.
  - Experiences and lessons learned.
  - Pros and cons.



Asphalt art

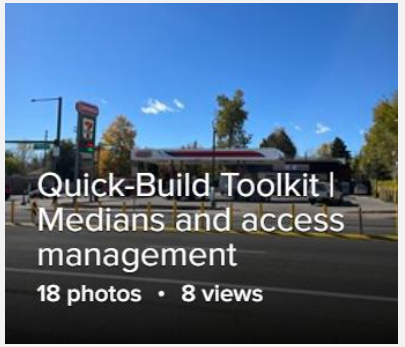
- Typical processes followed by communities, with case studies.
  - Process A – A community organization funds the asphalt art.
  - Process B – The local roadway authority funds the asphalt art.
- Asphalt art paint products.
- Federal regulations related to asphalt art.
- Safety considerations for asphalt art.
- Examples of local regulations on asphalt art.



drcog We make life better! DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Part 4. Quick-Build Example Images (Flickr albums)

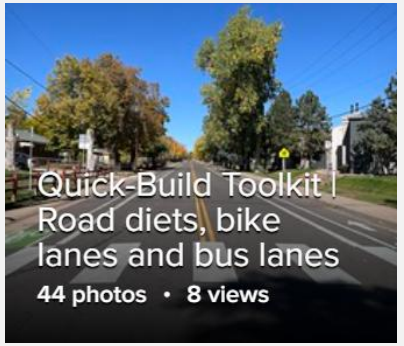
- 7 albums with images of quick-build improvements from across Colorado and the nation:
  - Medians and access management.
  - Curb extensions.
  - Pedestrian crossing enhancements.
  - Residential traffic calming.
  - Road diets, bike lanes and bus lanes.
  - Pedestrian paths.
  - Other miscellaneous treatments.
- Image descriptions often contain the specific materials that were used.
- Intended to celebrate the work already done and inspire creativity.















We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Part 5. Before and After Evaluation Template

- 15 potential evaluation questions, with associated metrics, data sources, and typical data collection periods.
- A Before and After Project Evaluation Plan Template.
- Examples of public survey questions.

Goal	Evaluation question	Metric(s)	Data source	Data collection period	When to collect data pre-installation	When to collect data post-installation
Improve safety (generally).	Are vehicles traveling at safer speeds?	50th percentile speeds, 85th percentile speeds, the percent of vehicles traveling above the speed limit, and the percent of vehicles going ≥10 mph over the speed limit.	Pneumatic tubes.	Weekday - 48 hours	Up to 2 years prior	4 to 6 months after
Improve safety (generally).	Have crashes decreased?	Pedestrian crashes, bicycle and scooter crashes, injury and fatal crashes, total crashes.	Crash data.	3 or more years (see note about crash data at end of table)	3 or more years prior	3 or more years after
Improve safety (generally).	Has safety improved?	Near-miss or potential conflict metrics like time-to-collision (TTC), post-encroachment time (PET), evasive actions.	Counts generated from video footage	2 days to 1 week	Up to 2 years prior	4 to 6 months after

We make life better!
drcog
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



Next steps

- To contribute images to the Flickr albums, send them to krush@drcog.org with the disclaimer, “I am allowing DRCOG to use the photos I have provided for the Quick-Build Toolkit, in perpetuity.”
- Lessons learned about materials or countermeasures can also be sent to krush@drcog.org.

Thank you!

Kathryn Rush, AICP
Senior Safety Planner
krush@drcog.org

https://drcog.org/visionzero

If you need digital accessibility assistance, submit a request at drcog.org/access or call 303-455-1000. Please expect a response within 72 hours (three business days).