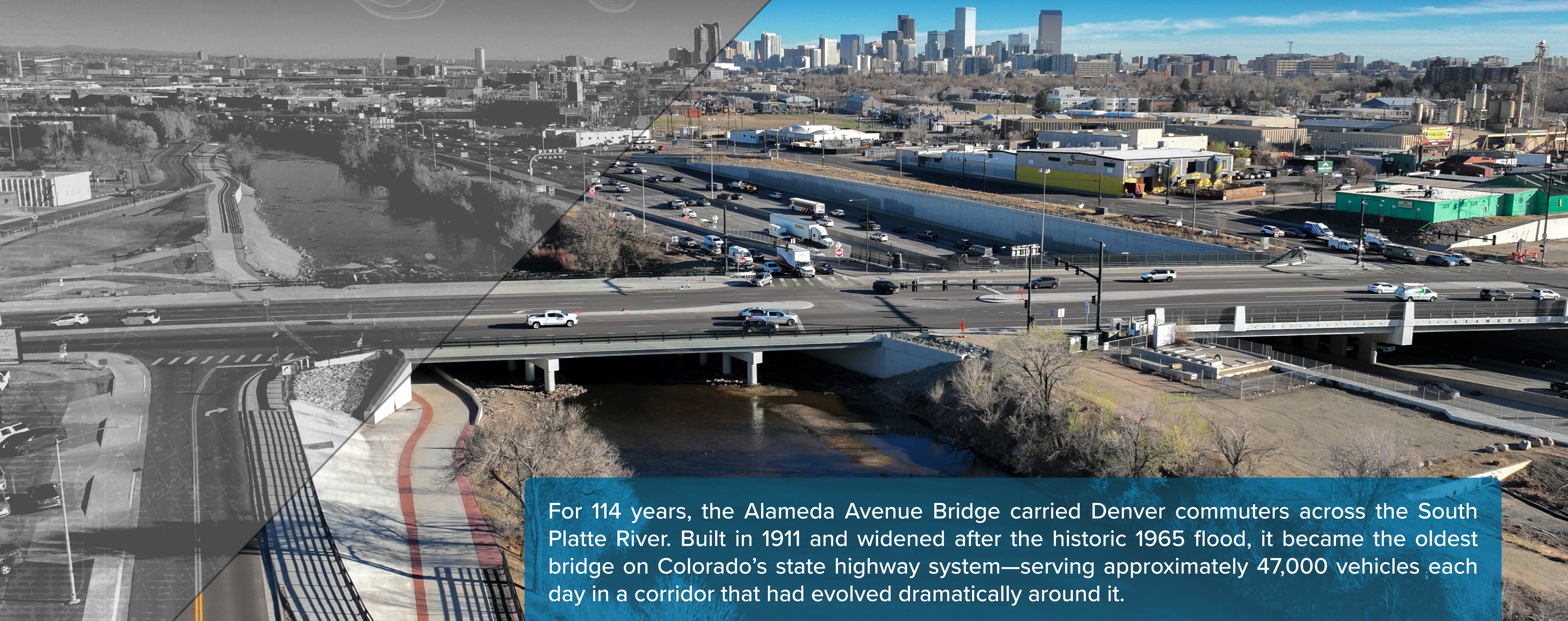


A BRIDGE BETWEEN ERAS

Replacing Colorado's oldest state highway bridge with a multimodal gateway built for today's Denver



For 114 years, the Alameda Avenue Bridge carried Denver commuters across the South Platte River. Built in 1911 and widened after the historic 1965 flood, it became the oldest bridge on Colorado's state highway system—serving approximately 47,000 vehicles each day in a corridor that had evolved dramatically around it.

More than a century later, Denver needed to build a connection to reflect how the city moves today. Replacing the bridge meant working within a constrained urban corridor bordered by the South Platte River, I-25, businesses, park space, environmentally sensitive areas, and major utilities, all while keeping two lanes of traffic open in each direction during construction.

FHU led final design of a solution that addressed those complexities and transformed the corridor for drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and trail users. The project delivered a wider bridge with improved pedestrian facilities and a two-way protected cycle track connecting to the South Platte River Trail. Below the bridge, the project reconstructed the trail as a 22-foot-wide corridor with concrete and soft-surface paths and vegetated shoulders.

The improvements reached beyond the bridge itself, reconfiguring traffic movements near I-25 and Santa Fe Drive, incorporating water quality treatment and landscaping, and strengthening connections among the river, trail system, neighborhoods, and regional transportation network.

A bridge built for another era has been reimagined for the way Denver moves today.



Historic photo of bicyclists on the Alameda Avenue Bridge (courtesy of Denver Public Library)