



I-25/Cimarron Interchange Design-Build Project

eNewsletter ▶

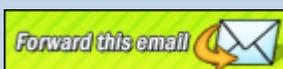


Colorado Department of Transportation

April 2017

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Please forward/share this email with others who may have an interest in the I-25/Cimarron Interchange project.

Project Schedule

- Phase 0 Construction (offline): complete
- Phase 1 Construction (mainline work): completed Fall 2016
- Phase 2 Construction: Late 2016 to Summer 2017
- Operationally complete: December 2017

Stay Connected

Website:

[Colorado Info Project](#)

Email:

dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us

Hotline: (719) 302-6781

To receive project updates and construction notices, send an email to:

dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us

Quick Links

[Project Website](#)

[CDOT Website](#)

Pedestrian Bridges to Be Placed in May; All Trails Open Late Summer



The community will soon see two new pedestrian bridges in place as part of the work being done on the Interstate-25/Cimarron Design-Build project - one over Monument Creek and one over Fountain Creek. Both bridges were designed by the Kraemer/TSH Team, design-build contractor on the Colorado Department of Transportation project. The bridges are being fabricated in Alexandria, Minnesota by Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC. Prior to delivery, Kraemer North America constructed the substructure of the bridges. The substructure is the portion of the bridge that supports the entire structure which, in this case, are the abutments (end support elements). Once fabricated, each bridge will be transported on flatbed trucks in two separate sections to the project site. Once delivered, Kraemer will assemble the bridges on site and hoist them onto the bridge abutments. Both bridges are expected to be erected in May.

The pre-fabricated Monument Creek pedestrian bridge structure was purchased by the City of Colorado Springs and is being installed by Kraemer. This bridge will be located north of Cimarron Street and will provide a new connection from the paved Pikes Peak Greenway Trail over Monument Creek, which becomes the realigned Midland Trail along Fountain Creek to the west.

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Prioritized Project Goals

Project goals were established and approved by the Executive Oversight Committee. The goals provide direction to the project team and to the design-build contractor team.

Project Goals

1. Maximize overall safety, capacity and operation of the interchange and the surrounding transportation network within the Project budget;
2. Complete Project construction to be fully operational December 2017;
3. Minimize impacts and inconvenience to the community, motorists, businesses, downtown and the public during construction; and
4. Achieve an aesthetically pleasing design compatible with current and future amenities and enhancements in and around the interchange.

Remaining Key Elements of Work

Prior to project completion, which is scheduled for late 2017, there are still several key elements of work left to complete. These include as follows (Sign up for weekly eAlerts for the most timely information about upcoming work and anticipated traffic impacts by sending an email to dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us):

- Finish the northbound I-25 bridge and northbound



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Kraemer removed the original Fountain Creek pedestrian bridge intact. It is now being used by the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region for access to its dog park. The new bridge will be located just east of the old location and will be a longer and wider structure to accommodate creek improvements and higher flows.

Once the Fountain Creek and Monument Creek pedestrian bridges are in place, the project team will finish remaining trail and stream improvements work to open all of the trails by late summer 2017.

I-25/Cimarron Interchange Project Team Plans for Spring and Summer Impacts



As the Interstate-25/Cimarron Interchange project prepares to move into the next phase of construction, additional impacts are anticipated this spring and summer. With the ongoing commitment of minimizing inconvenience to the community, motorists, businesses and the downtown area during construction, the project continues to implement overnight closures to reduce daytime traffic impacts.

"We appreciate the efforts of Kraemer, the project contractor, and the project team to get construction

I-25 on-ramp bridge

- Complete the Cimarron Street/US 24 intersection under I-25 and install new, permanent traffic signals
- Final paving and landscaping
- Trail enhancements
- Upper Fountain Creek improvements

You Can Also Expect:

- Speed reduction to 55 mph on I-25 between Colorado Avenue and south Nevada/Tejon Street and 30 mph speed reduction on US 24 between 8th Street and I-25
- Narrowed lanes and reduced shoulders
- Three lanes maintained northbound and southbound I-25 during the day

Project Partners

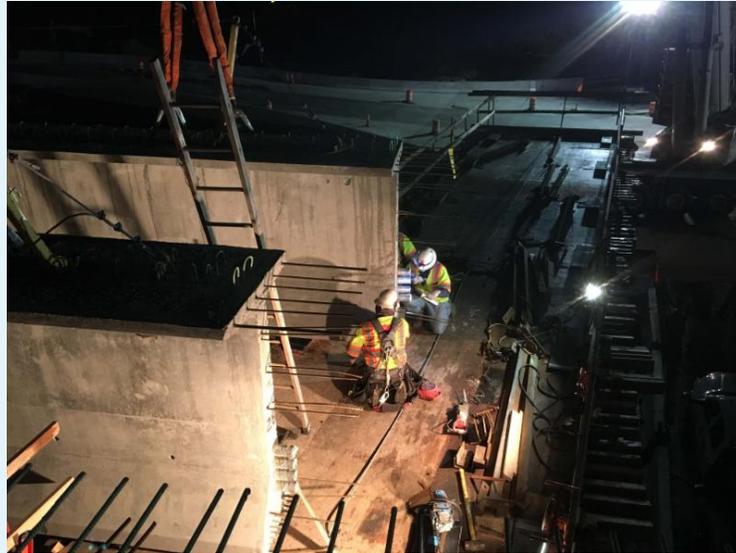
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- City of Colorado Springs
- El Paso County
- The Community

What the Project Involves

Planned improvements include reconstructing I-25 between Colorado Avenue (to the north) and the Nevada Avenue/Tejon Street interchange (to the south), and include a continuous northbound travel lane between the south Nevada Avenue/ Tejon Street interchange and the Cimarron interchange. Project boundaries on Cimarron are between 8th Street to the west and the Cimarron bridge over Fountain Creek to the east. Once construction is complete in 2017, the project will provide:

done both efficiently and safely. We know the upcoming closures and lane restrictions will be inconvenient for the traveling public," said Dave Watt, CDOT project manager. "We appreciate the patience of the entire community and are excited that the project is expected to be completed on schedule, by December 2017."

Project Milestone: Girders Set on Northbound I-25 Bridge



The project team reached another milestone: the final girders set on the northbound I-25 bridge. The girder set operation took place over two nights, April 5 and 6. The



I-25 bridge girders are precast concrete beams and vary from 72 to 155 feet in length and are an integral part of the bridge deck support structure that carries the traffic. A 500-ton and a 300-ton capacity crane were used

simultaneously to set girders each night, totaling 18 girders. Eighty-four girders in all have been set on the project. For safety reasons, full closures of US 24/ Cimarron Street were required during girder set operations. Additional closures will occur to set deck panels and pour the deck at a later date. Once the I-25 bridge is complete, northbound and southbound I-25 traffic will be on new concrete pavement with final alignment happening in fall 2017.

While the project team has made substantial progress to date, motorists can expect several closures this spring and summer in preparation to put traffic into final alignment. Some of the activities to expect in spring and summer 2017 include:

- Overnight closures associated with the northbound I-25 bridge

- Improved interstate and interchange operations and safety;
- Improved highway alignment and improved ramps, acceleration/deceleration lanes for increased vehicle storage and safety;
- New I-25 bridge structures;
- New connection between 8th Street and Cimarron Street;
- Improved trail connectivity and aesthetic treatments.
- Reconstruction of approximately 2,100 feet of Upper Fountain Creek, enhancing stream habitat.

- Day and night lane restrictions on Cimarron Street/US 24 for removals and final curb and gutter installation
- Paving and striping activities for traffic realignments on I-25 and Cimarron Street/US 24
- 8th Street/US 24 Connection/Quadrant Intersection construction activities to begin in May which will require turn lane restrictions and overnight closures on 8th Street
- Remaining trail and stream improvements - all trails anticipated to reopen late summer 2017
- Final landscaping, lighting, sign and traffic signal installation
- Pedestrian bridge construction
- Final aesthetics

The improvements will enhance operations, correct existing safety and design deficiencies, and serve the anticipated short-term and long-term travel demand in this area.

Progress Photos

I-25 Bridge Work



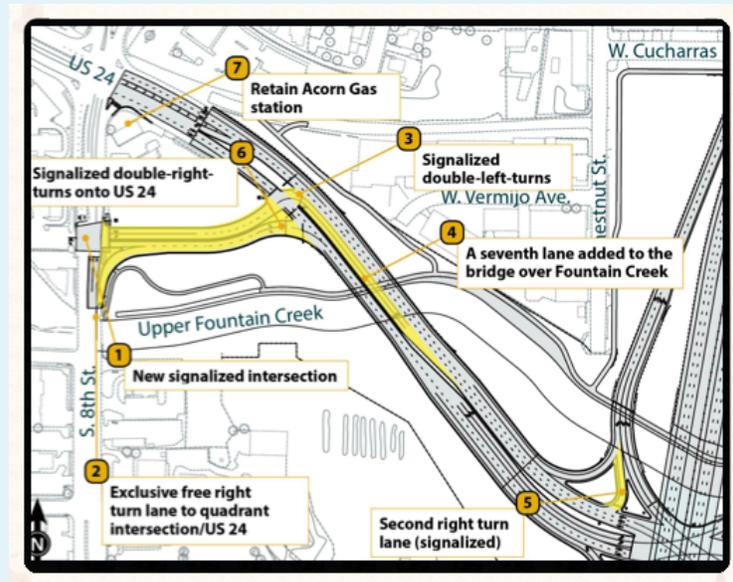
Upper Fountain Creek



Trail Photos



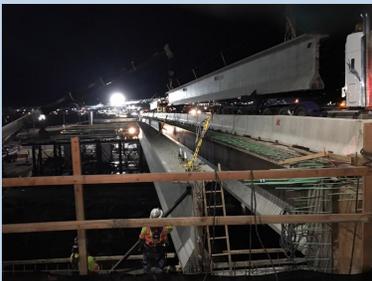
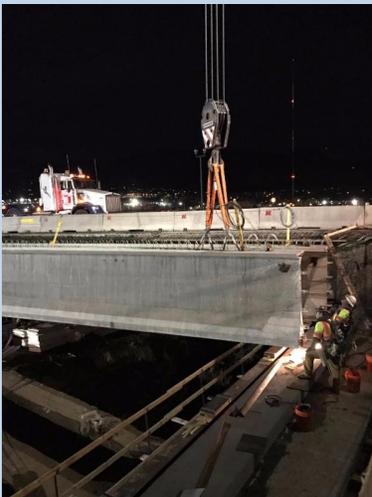
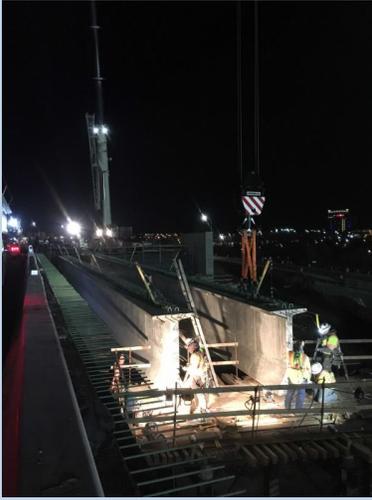
Work Begins on Innovative 8th Street/US 24 Quadrant Intersection



In May work begins on the 8th Street Quadrant Intersection. In simple terms, the newly constructed quadrant takes the existing heavy traffic at US 24/8th Street intersection, currently approximately 60,000 vehicles per day, and divides it into three separate signalized intersections. "This innovative addition to the project suggested by the contractor will significantly reduce the amount of conflicting traffic at the US 24/8th Street intersection by spreading the traffic out," said Dave Watt, CDOT project manager. Adding the new US24/8th Street connection is anticipated to accommodate 20 percent more weekday rush hour traffic capacity and 40 percent more weekend rush hour traffic capacity in this area overall. The additional



Northbound I-25 Bridge - Girder Set



connection will accommodate long-term traffic demands and reduce congestion-related accidents.

On opening day, about 1,300 vehicles will use the quadrant intersection in the p.m. peak hour, which equates to 13,000 to 15,000 vehicles per day. In 2035, about 1,870 vehicles will use the quadrant intersection in the p.m. peak hour, which would be about 18,000 to 20,000 vehicles per day.



[Video Simulation: New 8th Street to US 24 Connection](#)

Some improvements include:

1. A new signalized intersection on 8th Street
2. Exclusive right turn lane from northbound 8th Street to eastbound US 24
3. Signalized double left turns from westbound US 24 to 8th Street
4. The seventh lane on the bridge over Upper Fountain Creek allows lane balance on US 24 and double left turns to the Quadrant Intersection
5. A second southbound I-25 to westbound US 24 right turn lane will be signalized
6. Signalized double right turns from the quadrant road to eastbound US 24
7. This design retains the Acorn Gas Station and provides new access from the quadrant road.

The project team's approach maximizes the safety, capacity, and operation of the interchange and surrounding transportation network, while improving the capacity at US 24 and 8th Street.

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Additional Project Information

For more information about the project, visit the [CDOT website project page](#). To receive future I-25/Cimarron project e-newsletters and construction notices, send an email to dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us.



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