



## I-25/Cimarron Interchange Design-Build Project

eNewsletter ▶

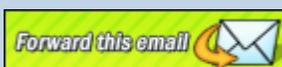


Colorado Department of Transportation

March 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](mailto:dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us)

Hotline: (719) 302-6781

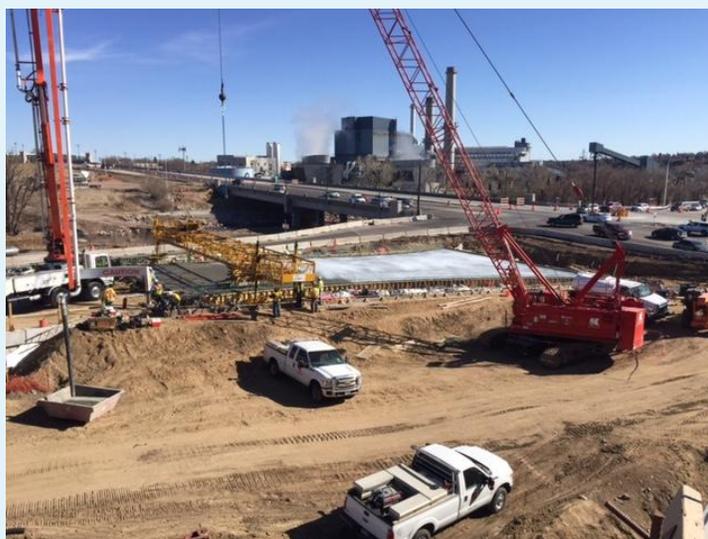
To receive project updates and construction notices, send an email to:

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### Quick Links

[Project Website](#)  
[CDOT Website](#)

## Innovative Solution for Northbound Interstate-25 On-Ramp



The I-25/Cimarron Project team built a temporary culvert in Fountain Creek, embankment, and pavement on the east side of the existing northbound on-ramp bridge to maintain continuous use of the northbound I-25 on-ramp throughout construction. To maximize efficiency, the project team used approximately half of the existing ramp pavement at the north end to provide adequate room to construct the new northbound slab span bridge over Fountain Creek and associated pavements on the new alignment.

"From the beginning of the project we created an innovative solution that included a temporary bridge and pavement built adjacent and off-line to avoid daytime closure of the ramp, with minor overnight closures for the traffic shifts," said Kassie Watson, construction manager with Kraemer North America. Once the new northbound I-25 on-ramp is complete, anticipated for spring 2017, a series of minor sub-phases will occur this summer to transfer northbound I-25 on-ramp traffic



## Sign Up to Receive E-newsletters / eAlerts

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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 (please remember to watch for weekly eAlerts for the most timely information about upcoming work and anticipated traffic impacts):

onto the new northbound I-25 ramp and tie-in final ramp pavements into I-25 and extending the auxiliary lane the full distance to Bijou Street.

## UpaDowna Provides Project Site Cleanup

UpaDowna is a Colorado Springs based 501(c)(3) nonprofit, who's mission is to provide access to outdoor adventures for all through events and programs that empower individuals, create healthier communities, and foster a respect for the environment.



BEFORE (top) and AFTER (bottom) photos

More than 35 volunteers from UpaDowna spent Saturday, March 11 cleaning up around the I-25 Cimarron Interchange project, roughly three-tenths of a mile. They started at the south end near Bear Creek, and the pedestrian bridge and worked their way to the north by the Cimarron Bridge. Volunteers cleaned up more than 130 bags of trash totaling four truckloads. Larger items were removed from the creek and vegetated areas and placed along the dirt trail/road where they were collected by the project construction team. "The transformation was incredible. What a difference!" said Mike Ingram, senior project manager, Kraemer North America. "The entire project team is thankful for the amazing job done by UpaDowna."

- Finish the northbound I-25 bridge and northbound 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



BEFORE (left) and AFTER (right) photos

Due to the amount of work, the volunteers ran out of time and plan on visiting the project site again on April 22 from 10 a.m. to noon.

**Do You Know About National Work Zone Awareness Week?**

**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 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the west and the Cimarron bridge over Fountain Creek to the east. Once construction is



National Work Zone Awareness Week began in 1999 when the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the Federal Highway Administration, and the American Traffic Safety Services Association joined forces to increase public awareness at the start of the highway construction season.

complete in 2017, the project will provide:

- 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.

### Progress Photos

Construction activity on northbound I-25 on-ramp



Upper Fountain Creek

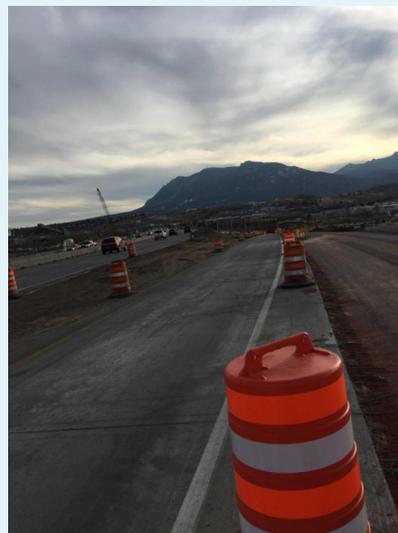


Upper Fountain Creek

This year's National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 3-7 and the theme is "Work Zone Safety is in Your Hands." The key message is for drivers to use extreme caution in work zones.

"Work Zone Awareness Week is an opportune time for Colorado Department of Transportation to remind motorists to slow down in work zones. You aren't just slowing for cones, you are slowing to protect the lives of those working to improve and maintain the roads you use everyday; you are slowing to protect yourself and fellow motorists," said Michelle Peulen, CDOT communications manager, Region 2. "Unfortunately, Colorado had 10 work zone fatalities in 2014 (most recent available data), the majority of which were motorists. Please, be aware of the cone zones, make sure everyone arrives safely to their destination and our workers go home to their families at the end of the day."

Work zones are dynamic environments with many moving parts including trucks, flaggers, changing traffic patterns, and reduced speed limits which all create the need for motorists to be aware of their surroundings to prevent accidents. In 2014, distracted driving was a factor in 16 percent of fatal crashes in work zones, and 29 percent involved speeding.



"Please remember to be safe around construction sites for the sake of the project workers, as well as for yourself and your passengers," said Peulen.

**The I-25/Cimarron Project Team reminds you to:**

- Watch for traffic alerts highlighting new alignments and anticipated lane closures
- Watch for signage to direct you through the construction zone
- Always be on high alert for construction traffic through the area
- Avoid distractions and drive slowAllow extra time for your commute
- Stay out of designated construction zones

### Additional Project Information



Sign Installation on I-25



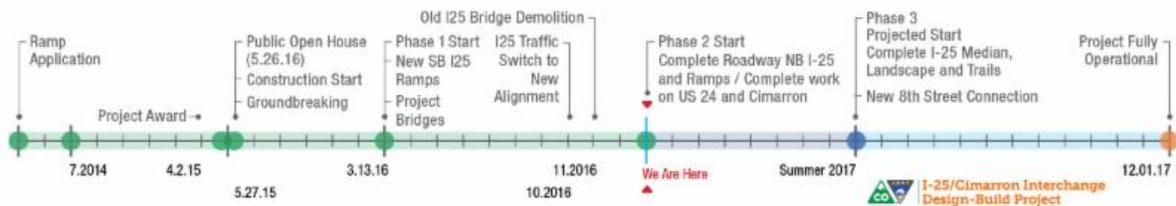
Sign Installation on I-25



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