



eNewsletter ▶

Colorado Department of Transportation

May 2017

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

### I-25/Cimarron Interchange - Getting Ready for Single Point Urban Interchange



#### 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

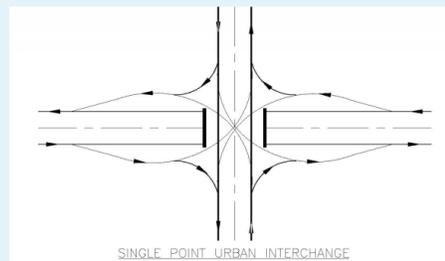
Website: [Colorado Info Project](#)  
 Email: [dot\\_i25Cimarron@state.co.us](mailto:dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us)  
 Hotline: (719) 302-6781  
 To receive project updates and construction notices, send an email to: [dot\\_i25Cimarron@state.co.us](mailto:dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us)

#### Quick Links

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

A Single-Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) was first proposed in the U.S. at two different freeway interchange sites in the 1970s. Today, there are more than 300 SPUIs in the U.S. and others can be found in Australia, Canada, Greece and Germany. There are a number of SPUI designed interchanges here in Colorado Springs including Union and Austin Bluffs, and Garden of the Gods/Interstate 25.

A SPUI helps move large volumes of traffic through limited amounts of space safely and efficiently. These interchanges are a great way to maximize the flow of traffic where streams of traffic merge or separate. The SPUI is a type of interchange where the arterial and ramp entrances/exits are controlled by a single traffic signal.



SINGLE POINT URBAN INTERCHANGE  
[CLICK HERE](#) to enlarge

In 2012, to meet traffic demand in the year 2035, the US 24 Environmental Assessment recommended reconstruction of the I-25/Cimarron Interchange to a SPUI. The prior interchange design had a single, three-phase signalized intersection handling all ramp traffic underneath I-25. The SPUI pushes the freeway ramps outward to be able to achieve free-flowing angles at the intersection underneath I-25.

## Sign Up to Receive E-newsletters / eAlerts

To receive future I-25/Cimarron project e-newsletters and construction notices, send an email to [dot\\_i25Cimarron@state.co.us](mailto:dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us)

## 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.

## Project Partners

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

## What the Project Involves

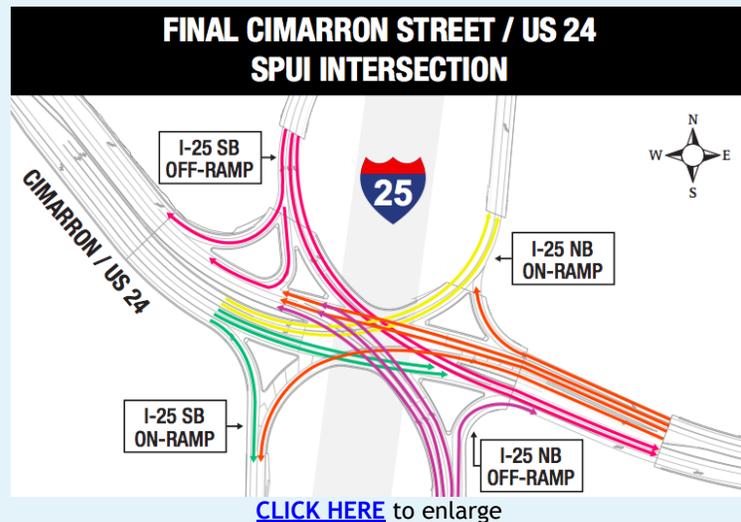
Planned improvements include reconstructing I-25 between Colorado Avenue (to the north)

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

Advantages of the SPUI are:

- Beneficial in urban areas because it can be constructed in limited rights-of-way.
- Reduces signal phases.
- Left-turn paths are flatter and can be made at higher speeds, thus increasing traffic flow and intersection capacity.

## Prepare for I-25/Cimarron SPUI Configuration



The I-25 Cimarron Design-Build project SPUI under I-25 at Cimarron Street/US 24 will be operational in late-June.

**Overnight Interstate Full Closures Ahead:** Prior to implementing the final configuration, overnight closures will take place mid- to late-June for paving and striping operations. Project eAlerts will be issued as reminders prior to these closures, including designated detour routes.

Watch for detour signs to direct you, adhere to posted speed limits and avoid distractions.

[SPUI 3D Animation for an Interstate](#)

## Summer Work - A Look Ahead

The summer season is underway with more visitors to the region and additional traffic on the roadways. With ongoing commitment to the project goal of minimizing impacts and inconvenience to the community, motorists, businesses, and the downtown area during construction, the project will continue to have night closures. The project remains on schedule to be complete by winter 2017.

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 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.

### Bridge, Creek, Trail and Landscaping Work Still Ahead

Prior to project completion, scheduled for late 2017, there are several key elements of work left to complete, including:

- 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

As part of the project Phase 2 construction, the SPUI under I-25 at Cimarron Street/US 24 will be operational in late-June.

### Phase 2 - Summer 2017

- Pave northbound I-25
- Northbound I-25 on-ramp
- Northbound I-25 off-ramp
- US 24 / I-25 Cimarron - install lighting signals and signs
- ARE 2B - Provide additional lanes to 8th Street from US 24
- Northbound south-end overlay for tie-in
- Northbound I-25 bridge
- Northbound I-25 on-ramp bridge over Upper Fountain Creek
- ARE 3 stream channel reconstruction and multi-use trail extension
- Landscaping begins

### Phase 3 - Summer 2017 to Late 2017

- Landscaping
- Finish aesthetics
- Install median barrier, lighting, conduit
- Final striping
- Laterals/inlet tie-ins
- Storm drainage outfalls
- Finish island/median curbs
- Complete remaining trails and stream improvements

### Pedestrian Bridges to Trails Open Late Summer 2017



In early May, the pedestrian bridges over Upper Fountain Creek and Monument Creek were placed in their final location, just south of America The Beautiful Park,

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

Sign up for weekly eAlerts for the most timely information about upcoming work and anticipated traffic impacts by sending an email to [cdot\\_i25Cimarron@state.co.us](mailto:cdot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us)

marking another step closer to full trail connectivity scheduled for late summer 2017.

I-25/Cimarron enhancements include a multi-modal trail system for improved connectivity to parks and the many natural features of the project area. Careful attention was paid to the design of the grade of the paths to assure the grade change complies with the Americans with Disabilities act. The gradual slope will also enable better views of the creek.



### Progress Photos



Cimarron Bridge



Cimarron Bridge



Fountain Creek near 8th Street



Based on community input during the design phase of the project, a bicycle and pedestrian roundabout at the confluence of Fountain and Monument Creeks will provide a unique gathering place for trail users.

Concrete retaining wall panels with fish designs were installed along both the new Midland Trail directly under I-25 bridges and the Pikes Peak Greenway Trail located under the Cimarron Bridge.



Allen Beauchamp - Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC)

### June is Bike Month



The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is committed to including multi-modal transportation facilities as part of its projects whenever possible. The I-25/Cimarron interchange is no exception. Full trail connectivity around the project will not be complete until later in the summer, but as a community gateway, trail enhancements have been designed as part of the

TOSC Allen Beauchamp and COS Sr. Bike Planner Kate Brady Tour Site



Placing the Pedestrian Bridges



project commitment to the goals of increased mobility and an aesthetically pleasing project.

The focus of Bike Month is to encourage bicycle riding as a viable alternative to the car. Colorado Bike Month in full force in June with opportunities to experience the fun and freedom of using a bicycle for transportation and recreation.

In its tenth year, Bike Month provides activities for the entire family at all levels and abilities. From sanctioned races to bike parades, breakfast rides to safety fairs and bike safety checks, leisure rides to mountain bike clinics - there's numerous biking activity to take advantage of throughout the community.

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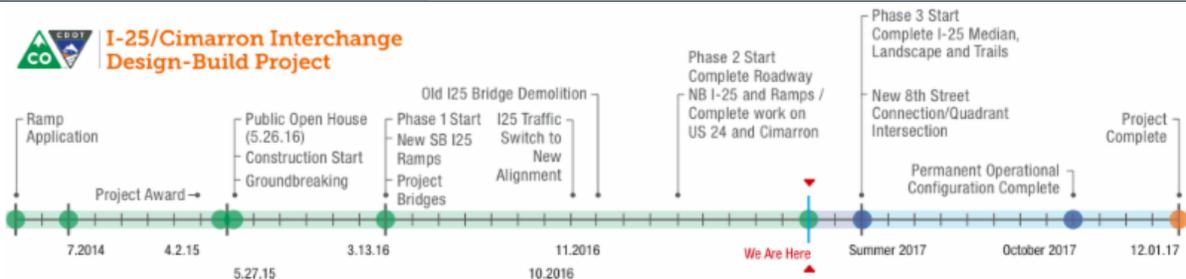
### CIMARRON STREET/US 24 OPEN TRAILS



[CLICK HERE](#) to enlarge trails map.

Bike to Work Day is celebrated annually the third Wednesday of June to encourage bicycling for personal and community health, alternative transportation, recreation and sustainability. Riding one day a week every week can help reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. This year's 24th Annual Bike to Work Day is Wednesday, June 28. Registration open soon for any one of several breakfast locations across Colorado Springs. For more information or to register visit: <https://coloradosprings.gov/biketowork>

[CLICK HERE](#) for Bike to Work tips provided by CDOT.



[CLICK HERE](#) to enlarge.

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