



# I-25 South Gap Project Monument–Castle Rock

## MOVING FORWARD

SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Elected Officials and Community Leaders,

As the I-25 South Gap project enters its third year of construction, we are celebrating much progress — including a major milestone, the near completion this fall of the north section of the project between Plum Creek Parkway and Sky View Lane (Tomah Road). While this will be our first glimpse at a finished product, we still have a way to go. The project is on schedule to conclude in 2022. Overall, this project will improve 18 miles of I-25 between Monument and Castle Rock by widening the highway from two to three lanes in each direction. The new lane will operate as an Express Lane, allowing motorists the choice of taking the Express Lane for a faster, more reliable trip in exchange for a toll.

A picture can say a thousand words! Here are a few images to give you an idea of the progress we are making. Clockwise from top left: completed pavement in northern section, bridge work at Greenland Road, nighttime bridge work at Spruce Mountain Road, new climbing lane construction, new wildlife fencing.



## A Look at Project Promises and Progress

At peak capacity, more than 300 men and women are working along the 18-mile I-25 South Gap corridor to bring safety and travel reliability to the more than 80,000 drivers who travel this important corridor.

Here is a look progress so far.

Project Promise	Progress as of August 2020
<b>Bridges:</b> Five bridges will be reconstructed as part of the I-25 South Gap project.	From north to south: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spruce Mountain Road bridge is 95% complete.</li> <li>• Upper Lake Gulch Road bridge is 25% complete.</li> <li>• The bridge over Plum Creek is 50% complete.</li> <li>• Greenland Road interchange is about 50% complete.</li> <li>• Reconstruction of the County Line Road bridge was added to the project last year. Design is underway, and construction on that bridge is expected to begin in 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>Paving:</b> All lanes will get new pavement. Including temporary pavement, the project will use 850,000 tons of asphalt.	Summer 2020 has been the season of paving on the I-25 South Gap project. More than 40% of paving (350,000 tons) is set to be complete in summer 2020.
<b>Advanced Technology:</b> Crews are working to modernize communications and power along the corridor to enable future advanced technology. Part of this advanced technology comes in the form of new fiber-optic cable.	Crews have relocated nearly 90,000 linear feet of existing fiber-optic line that was beneath I-25.
<b>Wildlife Safety:</b> Four new wildlife underpasses are being built to reduce animal/vehicle collisions along the I-25 South Gap corridor. These full-span bridges were designed in partnership with the Colorado Division of Wildlife specifically to accommodate animal crossing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All four bridges are under construction.</li> <li>• 14 miles of over 27 miles of deer fencing, which helps guide wildlife to the crossings, has been installed.</li> </ul>

## Upcoming Events

### Virtual Media Briefing

*Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 10:30 a.m.*

The I-25 South Gap project team will provide a general project update to media and report on progress following two years of construction. Please contact us if you would like to participate. Please see contact information on next page.

### Telephone Town Hall

*Thursday, Sept. 17 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.*

Join the project team for an open discussion related to construction progress and safety along the I-25 South Gap corridor. An automated system will call residents throughout the corridor at random to participate. Those who don't receive calls but wish to join can call toll free, 855-710-6230.



Aerial of the bridge over Plum Creek & Spruce Mountain Road



## General Update

- Overnight lane closures continue Sundays through Fridays from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.
- Some extended lane closures up to 16 hours
- Overnight ramp closures at various interchanges from Sky View Lane (Tomah Road) to County Line Road near Monument
- Continued long-term ramp closures at Upper Lake Gulch and Spruce Mountain roads
- I-25 closures and ramp detours at County Line Road
- A seven-month closure of Monument Hill Frontage Road, which began in late August 2020
- This fall, the majority of work will be complete on the northern section between Plum Creek Parkway and Sky View Lane (Tomah Road). The Express Lane in either direction will open when the project completes in 2022. In the meantime, the extra pavement will be used as a wide shoulder, which can aid in emergency response.



*Overnight paving operations with a single lane closure.*

## Safety Updates and Reminders

- During COVID-19, CDOT saw a dramatic reduction in traffic volumes along state highways. While COVID has impacted all of us in a variety of ways, the I-25 South Gap project is still on-time and on-budget.
- The I-25 South Gap corridor continued to be vital to essential workers. With just two lanes to begin with, the project used just a handful of daytime closures to accomplish work during lower traffic volumes.
- Traffic is now returning to normal levels, including along the I-25 South Gap.
- Construction is continuing, and, at full force, more than 300 people (fathers, mothers, daughters, sons, friends and neighbors) will still be working hard in the I-25 South Gap construction zone.
- Please: slow down, increase your following distance and pay attention. Never, ever drive distracted or impaired.
- Due to the reduced speed limit to protect workers and drivers, it WILL take you longer to travel the Gap. Plan extra time and check cotrip.org to know before you go.

**For questions related to this project update, please call:**

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## Useful Links

- [Project FAQ](#)
- [Project Fact Sheets and Brochure](#)
- [Current Traffic Impacts](#)
- [Cotrip.org](#)