



October Issue

# North I-25 Express Lanes Project Update

## **SAFETY**

Fall has arrived and the weather is starting to change. Along with the changes in the seasons, children are back in school. Please be aware of school buses and additional pedestrian traffic while driving through the project area. As weather conditions start to change, keep your eyes on the road, stay alert, and minimize distractions while driving through the construction zones.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

The I-25 project team continued to make significant progress this quarter. The Wagon Road Pedestrian Tunnel opened in September. Paving was completed from E-470 south to CO 7 and construction started south of 136th Avenue. Most major structures, like bridges and tunnels have been completed and work continues on a number of retaining and sound walls. The project is approximately 45% complete and expected to be finished by Fall 2018.

## **Wagon Road Pedestrian Tunnel**

The extension of the pedestrian tunnel under the new lanes of I-25 is now complete and the Wagon Road Pedestrian Tunnel opened on September 6, 2017. The tunnel is open to the public Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Construction of retaining walls and landscaping near the tunnel continues to be made. Please be aware of other construction activities nearby.



## **Stay Informed**

**Public Information Hotline:**

(720) 737-5118

**Email Inquiries:**

[i25northconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:i25northconstruction@gmail.com)

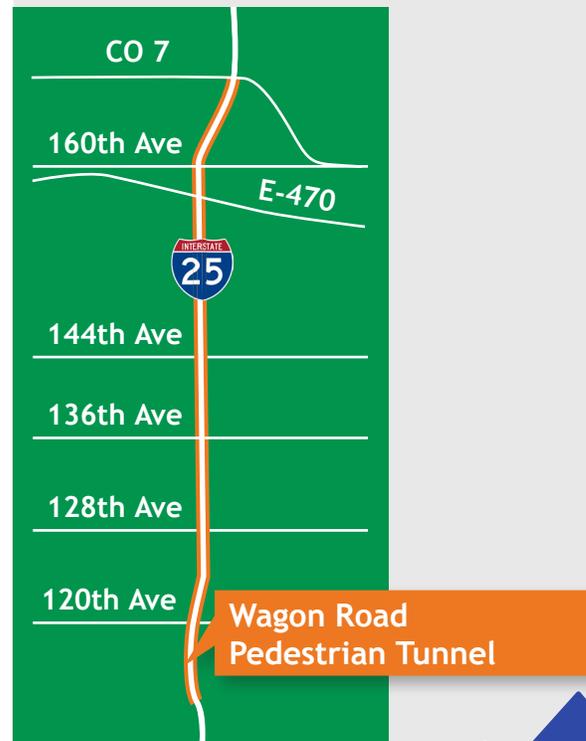
**Sign Up for Email Updates:**

[www.tinyurl.com/i25-north-express](http://www.tinyurl.com/i25-north-express)

## **Ways to Commute**

Smart Commute Metro North is offering great incentives to help you commute smarter! For more information or to sign up check out:

[www.smartcommutemetronorth.org/idrivei25](http://www.smartcommutemetronorth.org/idrivei25)





### Big Dry Creek Bridge

Work to widen the Big Dry Creek Bridge continues to progress. The steel frame portion of the bridge is already in place and the bridge deck is scheduled to be poured in October. The Big Dry Creek Trail is scheduled to re-open in early 2018.

### Asphalt Paving

Crews have completed milling and paving work on the widened sections of both northbound and southbound I-25, from E-470 to CO 7. This provides a smoother ride for travellers.

### RTD Bus Tunnel

Construction of the tunnel extensions on both the east and west sides of I-25 is nearing completion. Buses will have easy access to either north or south bound travel along the busy interstate. The bridge decks have been poured. Electrical and minor aesthetic work continues.

### Utility Work and Sound Walls

Utility work continues throughout the project, including moving power lines underground, and relocating phone and internet lines. Additionally, sound walls south of 120th Avenue on southbound I-25 have been completed. Work on a number of retaining walls at the 120th Avenue interchange also continues.

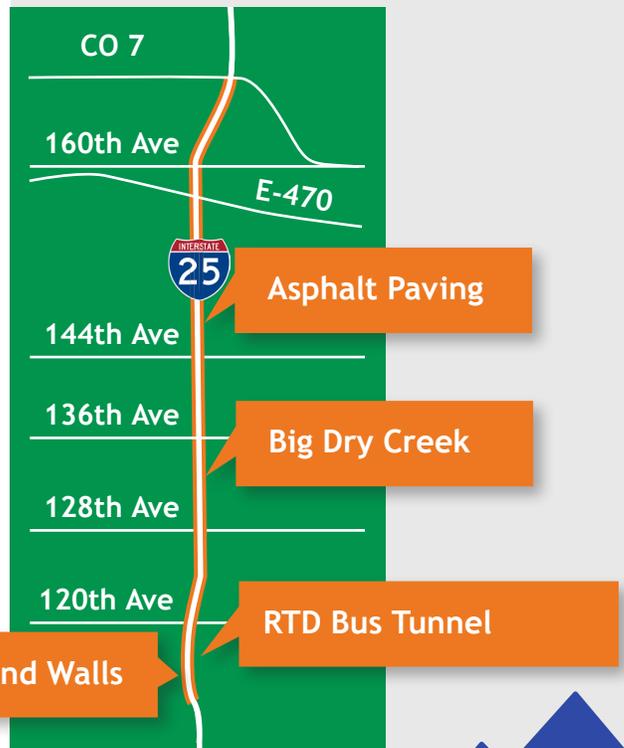
Sound walls reduce noise by blocking the direct travel of sound waves from a highway to adjacent homes, forcing the waves over the top and around the wall. The new sound walls on the North I-25 Express Lanes project will be made of concrete, replacing the previous wood fences. The new walls will greatly reduce traffic noise in adjacent neighborhoods.



Big Dry Creek Bridge, south of 136th Avenue



RTD Bus Tunnel, south of 120th Avenue



Sound walls, south of 120th Avenue

Project Boundary



## PROJECT BACKGROUND

The North I-25 Express Lanes project from 120th Avenue to Northwest Parkway/E-470 is a \$97.5 million project that will improve safety, capacity and user choice in a rapidly developing region.

This project continues the previous Express Lanes project, which was completed on I-25 between US 36 and 120th Avenue, and will extend the Express Lanes to Northwest Parkway/E-470. The project will add capacity on I-25 up to Northwest Parkway/E-470 and construct a new asphalt surface from 120th Avenue to Colorado State Highway 7. Motorists can expect project completion by Fall 2018.

Construction will take place Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with periodic night and weekend work. Motorists can expect various lane closures on both northbound and southbound I-25, as well as periodic ramp closures. Traffic will be maintained during peak travel times throughout construction.

## About Express Lanes

Express Lanes increase roadway capacity and help to manage congestion on the highways. The use of toll pricing during peak travel times reduces delays, manages congestion, and maintains reliable travel times. Express Lanes are currently open between:

- 120th Avenue to US 36 on North and South I-25
- US 36 from Denver to Boulder
- I-70 Mountain Express Lane
- I-25/US 36 interchange to downtown Denver/Speer Blvd.

Visit [www.codot.gov/programs/expresslanes](http://www.codot.gov/programs/expresslanes) for information. To get an ExpressToll account and pass, visit: [www.expresstoll.com](http://www.expresstoll.com).



Construction Zone I-25 at 120th Avenue

## Traffic Impacts

Construction will take place Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with periodic night and weekend work.

### Impacts include:

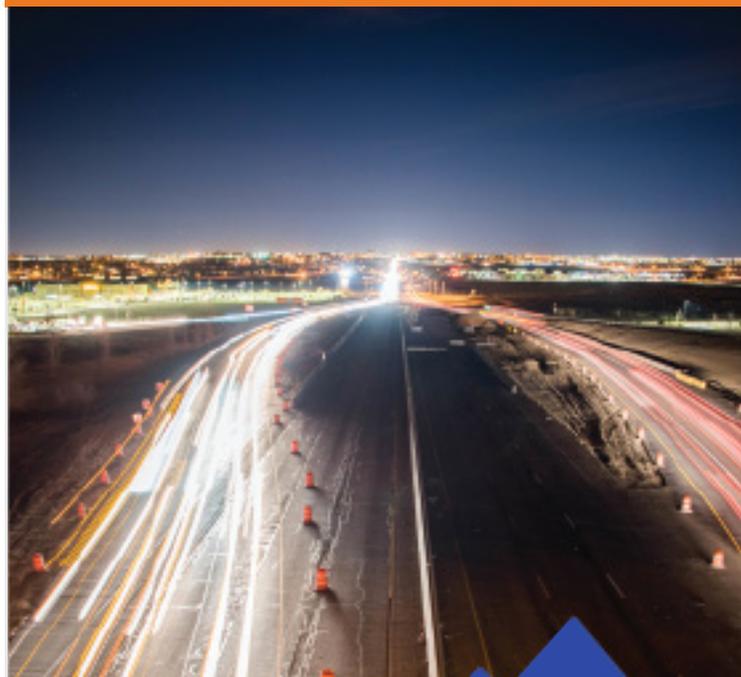
- Lane closures
- Ramp closures
- Reduced speed limits
- Lane shifts
- Trail closures

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I-25 at 144th Avenue