



I-25 South Gap Project Monument–Castle Rock

MOVING FORWARD

DECEMBER 2018

What to Expect Along the I-25 South Gap in the New Year

The new year will bring a new construction zone as part of the 18-mile I-25 South Gap project. But one thing will stay the same: two lanes of traffic will remain open in both directions during daytime peak travel times.

On the southern end of the project - between Greenland Road and Monument - drivers can expect a new seven-mile work zone. Some portions of the work zone will be in the center median, while others will be on the outside. At one point during construction, all traffic will be shifted to one side of the interstate or the other. Two lanes of traffic in each direction will be maintained during daytime peak travel times.



Construction in this southern section will result in new Express Lanes, new wildlife crossings, a wider bridge at Greenland Road and flattening of the vertical curves approaching the Greenland exit.

During work in this area, drivers can expect:

- **Traffic shifts:** Traffic will shift depending on the phase of construction. Temporary pavement and narrower lanes and shoulders will allow two lanes in each direction to be maintained during the day throughout construction.
- **Overnight single lane closures:** Lane closures along this section will typically occur from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sundays through Thursdays.
- **Full closures:** Full ramp closures at Greenland Road will help crews safely build new ramps and bridges. A temporary, full closure of Monument Hill Road, north of Deer Creek Road, is required to build a new wildlife crossing. In addition, crews will need to periodically close the County Line/Palmer Divide Road ramp from I-25. Sign up for email updates by emailing i25gap@codot.us.

Until now, crews have been actively working on the northern five miles of the project, between Plum Creek Parkway and Sky View Lane (Tomah Road). By summer 2019, the entire 18-mile corridor will be experiencing active construction.



Increased Courtesy Patrol Helps Drivers

To help keep traffic flowing, a dedicated courtesy patrol has been on-hand daily to move stalled or crashed vehicles out of traffic.

When work on the southern end ramps up, another courtesy patrol will be available. If you're stranded, they'll help you move safely off the road and to the nearest interstate exit.

Stay up-to-date on all traffic impacts at i25gap.codot.gov.

CDOT Increases Bustang Services for South Gap Commuters

The Colorado Department of Transportation is taking another step to help relieve commuter traffic through the South Gap segment. Beginning Monday, Dec. 17, Bustang is adding a couple more runs to serve the Denver Tech Center to and from Colorado Springs.



Bustang's DTC circulator will run four times each weekday - twice in the morning from Colorado Springs and twice each afternoon to Colorado Springs. It will stop at 16 locations between Arapahoe Road/Yosemite Street and the RTD Light Rail Belleview Station.

A one-way fare between El Paso County and the DTC will be \$9.

In addition to helping reduce traffic on I-25, the route will provide service for people from the Colorado Springs area who have been seeking more direct access to their place of employment in the DTC.

Bustang currently provides service seven times each weekday between Colorado Springs and Denver. Each coach is climate controlled, equipped with WiFi access, and provides bicycle storage, restrooms, USB outlets, power outlets, comfortable seats and wheelchair access.

For more information, please visit ridebustang.com.

Avoid Crashes - Watch Your Following Distance While Driving

According to Colorado State Patrol, the leading cause of crashes on Colorado highways is following too closely. In a tight construction zone, this driving habit is even more dangerous.

Throughout the 18-mile I-25 South Gap construction zone, crews are working hard to build wider shoulders and new Express Lanes to increase safety on the corridor.

To safely work while maintaining two lanes of traffic for drivers, every inch of pavement is being used during construction. Crews need your help.

For every 10 mph you're traveling, please leave at least one car length of space between you and the car in front of you. In the I-25 South Gap construction zone, the speed limit is 65 mph, so that's 6.5 car lengths.



Crews performing overnight repairs of guardrail following vehicle crash

Following too closely is dangerous and costs both time and money.

Since the project began, crews have spent many hours fixing broken guardrail. Guardrail keeps everyone safe on the road, which is why crews drop what they're doing to fix it. However, time repairing guardrail is time not spent building improvements. Be courteous. Put down the phone and drive safely.

State Patrol Safety Tip: Move Over Law

If a road has two or more lanes and a speed limit of 65 mph or more, drivers are required to move over to the next lane for stationary emergency vehicles, tow trucks and road workers. If traffic is too heavy or the shoulder is too small, the driver is required to slow down. The best practice is to give that courtesy to anyone on the shoulder. Please pay extra attention in construction zones.



'Tis the season of giving, and the I-25 South Gap project team was excited to deliver this truck of supplies to the Help and Hope Center in Douglas County. Thank you to all of our co-workers who donated to this cause!

How Winter Weather Impacts Construction

In Colorado, construction crews are constantly watching the weather. For safety reasons, low visibility, rain or snow can prevent planned work. Sunny days, on the other hand, can be opportunities to make up for weather-related delays.

In good conditions, crews will sometimes work Saturdays. Please always pay attention and avoid distracted driving in the construction zone, no matter how nice the weather.

Know before you go. Check Cotrip.org for current travel conditions.

'Tis the Season for Snow Removal

During winter weather, CDOT snow removal teams will be out in full force. In this corridor in particular, they'll increase operations in the southern section of the project and lay down extra deicing product.

Here are a few things drivers can do to help:

- Know road conditions before you go by visiting Cotrip.org. Give yourself plenty of time to reach your destination.
- Ensure appropriate tread depth on your tires. Adequate tires have a minimum one-eighth tread on all four tires.
- Slow down in winter weather, as driving too fast for conditions causes most accidents.
- Take a little extra time to clear your car of snow and ice before leaving for your destination.
- When driving at night, keep your headlight beams low. High beams can amplify the appearance of snow and lead to decreased visibility.
- Always wear your seatbelt.



For more information, visit CDOT's winter weather website: <https://www.codot.gov/travel/winter-driving>.

Construction Photo Gallery

