



I-25 South Gap Project Monument–Castle Rock

MOVING FORWARD

FEBRUARY 2019

Work Near Monument, Concrete Barriers Protect Work Zone

Construction is revving up on the southern end of the I-25 South Gap project. Crews are placing barrier to protect a 7-mile work zone. Here's what to expect from construction between Monument and Greenland Road:

Temporary pavement will allow crews to maintain two driving lanes in each direction during peak travel times, though some extended ramp closures at Greenland and County Line roads will be necessary.

Monument to County Line Road: Similar to work on the northern end of the project, construction in this area will begin in the median, with traffic shifted to the outside shoulders. Then, the configuration will switch. Construction includes widening, earthwork, asphalt paving, storm sewer pipes, a new wildlife crossing, new median barrier, and retaining and noise walls.

County Line Road to Greenland Road: Work in this area will begin on the outside shoulders, so traffic will be shifted to the middle. Construction includes a new wildlife crossing, widening, storm sewer pipes, median barrier, retaining walls and asphalt paving.

Greenland Road Interchange: The Greenland Road interchange will be completely rebuilt. A new wildlife crossing will be built just north of the interchange. For crews to safely work, a major traffic shift is necessary. Northbound I-25 traffic will crossover and ride head-to-head on southbound I-25. Two lanes of traffic in each direction will remain and be separated by a temporary concrete barrier. When work is done in the northbound lanes, both driving directions will switch to the northbound side.

Monument Hill Road: To build a new wildlife crossing, crews will need to close Monument Hill Road for up to four months, starting later in 2019, or early 2020.

The entire 18-mile project is expected to be complete in 2022.



Contact Us!

Keeping drivers and other stakeholders informed is CDOT's top priority:

Email alerts: Sign up online at i25gap.codot.gov.

Text alerts: text I25Gap to 21000.

Call our hotline: 720-745-5434

Email us: i25gap@codot.us.

A Look Back at the South Gap

The I-25 South Gap corridor has been in use for decades. And those who built the corridor probably couldn't fathom how much Colorado residents and tourists would use this route.

Here are four significant facts about the South Gap project you may not have known:

- The South Gap between Castle Rock and Larkspur originally opened as a two-lane highway in 1948 and was known as the Larkspur Bypass. It was widened in 1955 and has not been upgraded since.
- Before original construction of the South Gap, the highway to Colorado Springs from Castle Rock was the East Frontage Road, or better known as Monument Hill Road.
- The South Gap project is CDOT's longest work zone project since the 1970s.
- The project is six miles longer than any other construction zone in Colorado right now. Currently, the closest project in length is the C-470 project in Denver, which is 12 miles long.



County Line Road, 1955



County Line Road, today

Mind the Gap: Safety First on I-25 South Gap Project

To protect workers while maintaining two driving lanes in each direction during peak travel hours, tighter lanes and shoulders are required. Please Mind the Gap:

- **Mind Your Space:** Allow plenty of room between your vehicle and the one ahead of you.
- **Mind Your Speed:** Drive the posted speed limit. In the work zone it will be a maximum of 65 mph.
- **Mind the Unexpected:** Speeds, construction, weather, lighting and wildlife can change road conditions quickly.
- **Mind the Latest Information:** Know before you go. Visit cotrip.org, or call 511 for the latest road conditions. Get project emails by emailing i25gap@codot.us, or call the project hotline, 720-745-5434. Sign up for text alerts. When you're not driving, text I25GAP to 21000.
- **Mind Construction:** Watch for various lane closures overnight and trucks entering and exiting the work zone during the day.
- **Mind Crash Procedures:** If you are involved in a crash, immediately turn on your flashers and remain in your vehicle. If there are injuries, or you suspect drugs or alcohol are involved, call 911. If there are no injuries, and you don't suspect alcohol or drugs, move your car to the next exit. If the car can't make it to the next exit, move it to a shoulder or emergency pull-off location. (Look for the orange "emergency pull-off" signs near the median.)
- **DON'T Mind Your Phone:** Driving in a construction zone requires extra attention. Avoid distracted driving.



Winter Driving Tips at 7,352 Feet

Monument Hill Road, in the southern section of the project, is at 7,352 feet in elevation - more than 2,000 feet higher than Denver. Higher elevation means more snow, requiring more attention when driving. As crews have started construction in this section, narrow lanes and shoulders leave very little room for error.

Please remember the golden rules for winter driving: slow down, leave plenty of space between you and the next vehicle, give plows plenty of room, and don't over-correct. Make sure your tires have proper tread and if you don't feel comfortable driving, stay off the roads.



Way to Go Program Offers Commute Solutions



Denver Regional Council of Government's Way to Go program is providing commute options for people traveling the I-25 South Gap project between Monument and Castle Rock. Instead of spending time navigating congestion alone in your car, save money, time and stress by commuting with others. Three commuting options will be available to commuters who are looking to take back their commute.

Option 1: Bustang

Commuters using Bustang have the option to travel from Colorado Springs to the Denver Tech Center or downtown Denver. The buses are equipped with a restroom, bike racks, free Wi-Fi, power outlets, and USB ports. This is the perfect way to let someone else take the wheel while you read, work, or relax. Try a free round-trip ride when you contact I-25 MyWay. After that, it's just \$9 one-way.

Option 2: Vanpool

Do you know a small group of people with a similar commuting route as you? Vanpool might be the commuting option for you! Vanpool works for five to 12 people, and the monthly cost is split between each person in the van. Subsidies make this an affordable, worry-free option meaning you don't have to worry about fuel, car maintenance, or insurance. New vanpool groups receive \$200 off their first month's invoice!

Option 3: Carpool

Carpooling is a great commute option for smaller groups of people or for those who have varying work schedules. This option allows for each commuter to share costs and make commuting more affordable. Track your carpool trips with us and qualify to win prizes. To find other carpoolers on your route or learn more about on-demand carpool with the Waze Carpool app, visit i25myway.org.

Want to give one of these a try? Email i25myway@drcog.org, or fill out an interest form at i25myway.org.

Glare Mitigation Planned for Frontage Roads

CDOT and contractor partner, Kraemer North America, are taking steps to improve safety along frontage roads during construction of the I-25 South Gap project. During February 2019, weather permitting, crews will install vehicle headlight glare mitigation at Tomah Road, Territorial Road, Crystal Valley Parkway, and Bell Mountain Road.

Some locations will receive a concrete barrier with vehicle headlight glare screen placed on top, other locations will receive fencing with vehicle headlight glare slats. The goal is to reduce vehicle headlight glare from motorists perpendicular to the highway.



Crews plow fiber optic conduit.



Drainage work in the north section



Paving in the north section

Construction in ACTION



Crews install drainage inlets.



Median walls in the north section