



# I-25 South Gap Project Monument–Castle Rock

## MOVING FORWARD

OCTOBER 2018



### Project to bring safety, choice, travel reliability and advanced technology

Gov. John Hickenlooper and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) led a groundbreaking ceremony Aug. 30 to kick off construction on the I-25 South Gap project. Joining them were representatives from Colorado State Patrol, the Federal Highway Administration, Douglas County, El Paso County, the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority and several elected officials who played major roles in getting this project from study to construction.

With this project, CDOT is improving 18 miles of I-25 by widening the road 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 and more reliable travel time in exchange for a toll, or driving the general purpose lanes for free. Carpools with three or more people and motorcyclists will be able to ride the Express Lane for free.

Other improvements include widening the shoulders, rebuilding bridges, building new wildlife crossings, resurfacing with new pavement and modernizing technology. The total cost of the project is \$350 million.

Substantial completion of the project is expected late 2021 with toll collection beginning in 2022.

### Get to know the project

Welcome to the first issue of the I-25 South Gap project newsletter! Keeping drivers and other stakeholders informed is CDOT's top priority:

**Email alerts:** Sign up online at [i25gap.codot.gov](http://i25gap.codot.gov).

**Text alerts:** text I25Gap to 21000.

**Call our hotline:** 720-745-5434

**Email us:** [i25gap@codot.us](mailto:i25gap@codot.us).

## CM/GC - What is it and why does it matter to the South Gap project?

The I-25 South Gap project is setting records.

With just nine months from the beginning of the Environmental Assessment to construction start, this is the fastest delivery of a project of this size ever by CDOT.

Contributing to that delivery speed is the project's delivery method. While some projects are designed, then bid and built, the I-25 South Gap has overlapping phases as a Construction Manager/General Contractor project (CM/GC).

Rather than waiting until design is completed to bid the project, Kraemer North America has been on-board with the project since early in the design phase. With construction experts contributing to the design team, the project gains efficiencies in many ways. According to the Federal Highway Administration, benefits of this method include:

- Fostering innovation
- Mitigating risk
- Improving design quality
- Improving cost control
- Optimizing construction schedules

This method has also allowed construction to begin on one area of the project (the northern end) while design is being completed on other areas.



### Courtesy Patrol: Looking out for stranded drivers on Interstate 25

A blocked lane can have a huge impact on traffic - even if it's only blocked for a few minutes. That's why the project team, has dedicated a courtesy patrol to this project. This tow truck driver's only job is to travel the corridor daily and move stalled or crashed vehicles out of traffic. If you're stranded, they'll help you move safely off the road and to the nearest interstate exit.

### Construction: Here's what's ahead

Near Castle Rock, crews are working in the I-25 median, where the new Express Lanes and wider shoulders will be built. Please watch for trucks entering and exiting the interstate and obey all posted speed limits.

Near the southern end of the project, crews are finalizing design and preparing for construction. Expect work to begin between Monument and the Greenland exit by December 2018. Work to install new fiber optic cables will continue along the entire 18-mile corridor.



### State Patrol safety tip: Watch your distance

Drivers should allow themselves a minimum safe following distance of one car length for every 10 miles per hour of speed. In our construction zone on I-25, that's 6.5 car lengths. During inclement weather or reduced visibility, the distance should be doubled.

## About Kraemer North America

Kraemer North America is a privately held general contractor with more than 100 years of highway and bridge construction experience, headquartered in Plain, Wisconsin. The company's Colorado regional office is in Castle Rock. The company has successfully constructed numerous major infrastructure projects throughout Colorado including I-25 Cimarron and U.S. 6 Bridges design-build projects, I-25 and Arapahoe Interchange CM/GC reconstruction project and Idaho Springs Westbound I-70 Veterans Memorial Tunnels project.

