

# Interstate-25 (Fillmore Street to Garden of Gods Road) Operational Improvements

# Self-Guided Virtual Open House

- This is a self-guided virtual open house describing the project
- It will take approximately 20-25 minutes to view the recorded video
- You may pause the video at any time to allow more time on a particular slide
- If translation services are needed, please contact CDOT Region 2's Communication Manager at 719-562-5514

Website: <https://www.codot.gov/projects/i25fillmoregog>



**COLORADO**

Department of Transportation

**Interstate-25  
(Fillmore Street to Garden of Gods Road)  
Operational Improvements**

# Project Team



Mitch Holck, PE  
CDOT Project Manager



Kevan Kuhnel, PE  
FHU Project Manager



Lisa Bachman, APR  
Public Involvement



Monica Ramey  
Public Involvement



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# Presentation Agenda

**Welcome**

Lisa Bachman, Public Involvement

**Project Overview**

Mitch Holck, CDOT

Existing Conditions, Design Focus, Key Issues

**Project Details**

Kevan Kuhnel, FHU

Improvements/Benefits, Construction Goals

**Construction Impacts**

Mitch Holck

**Project Timeline**

Mitch Holck

**Public Engagement**

Lisa Bachman

**Contacts / Q&A**



## Existing Conditions:

I-25 is experiencing operational deficiencies between Fillmore St. (Exit 145) and Garden of the Gods Rd. (Exit 146) due to increased traffic from community and business growth in Colorado Springs.





## Design Focus:

The Colorado Department of Transportation has initiated design of operational improvements on I-25 between Exits 145 and 146 with a focus on

- *Development of auxiliary/continuous merge lanes*
- *Expansion of the Ellston St. overpass bridges*
- *Strategically preparing the corridor for long-term future expansion*
- *Align objectives with the previously completed South Front Range Corridor Assessment Study*

## Project Cost:

Preliminary estimate - approximately \$52 million for design and construction provided through state allocated infrastructure funds

## Key Issues

- Operational deficiencies of this section of I-25
- Slowing of traffic where on-ramp merge lanes transition onto the freeway
- Wait times from traffic congestion
- Crash history including side-swipes, fixed objects and wildlife





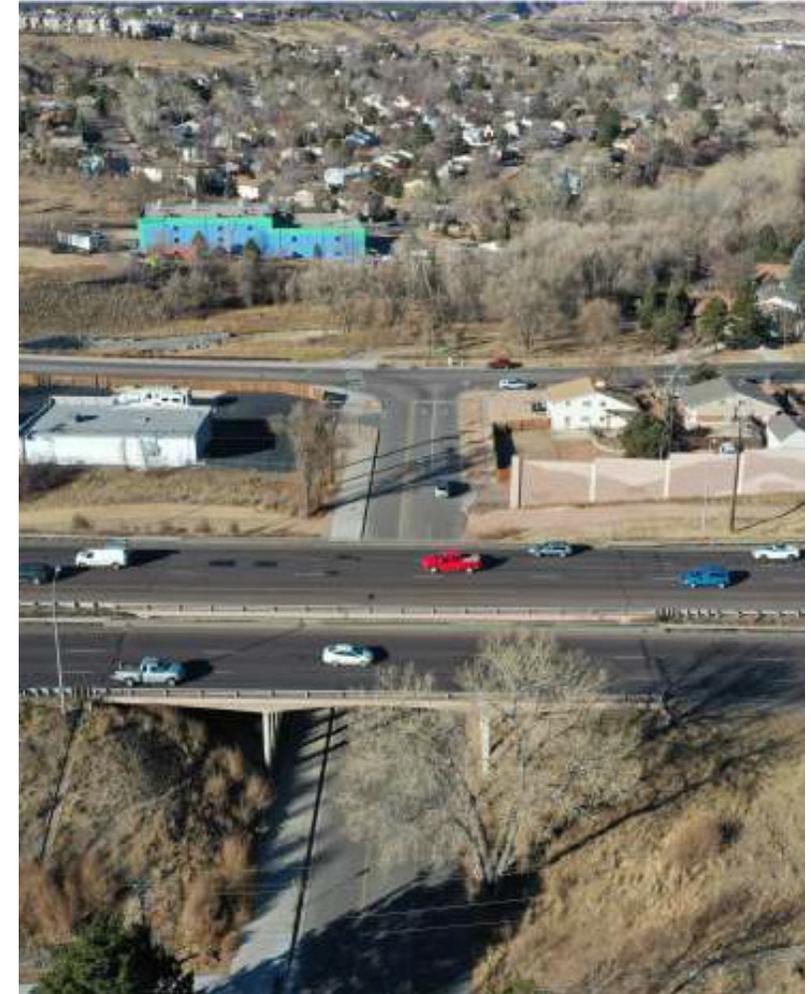
## Improvements / Benefits

- Ease congestion along the approximately one-mile stretch of I-25
  - Connecting ramp lanes between Fillmore Exit 145 and Garden of the Gods Exit 146 to create a continuous auxiliary lane in each direction between these two interchanges
  - Provide larger inside and outside shoulders along with lane balance at the ramps



## Improvements / Benefits

- Reconstruct aging Ellston Street Bridge overpass structures
- Asphalt pavement resurfacing within project limits, approx. 2 miles
- Intelligent Transportation System infrastructure upgrades as needed (fiber replacement and ramp meter station)
  - Improvements where possible at ramp metering station on northbound Fillmore on-ramp





## Improvements / Benefits

- Permanent water quality enhancements as needed
- Preservation of the existing Sinton recreation trail and sidewalks at the Ellston Street Bridge overpass
- Wildlife crossing improvements
- Guardrail repairs and barrier upgrades
- Updated traffic signage and pavement markings
- Bridge deck rehabilitation on the Garden of Gods overpass structure



# Construction Goals

- Three through-lanes maintained in each direction, except during occasional off peak or nighttime lane closures
- Access to local neighborhoods and businesses maintained. Location of Sinton Trail and Ellston Street detour notices and signage will be determined during final design
- Phased-construction implemented to minimize disruption to the traveling public



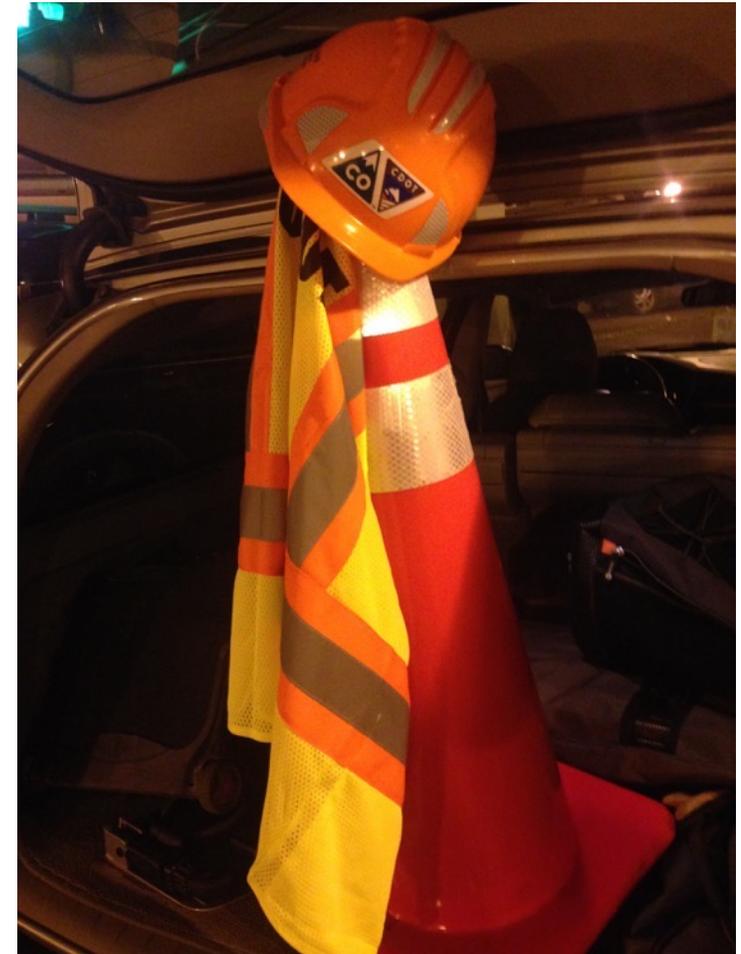


# Construction Goals

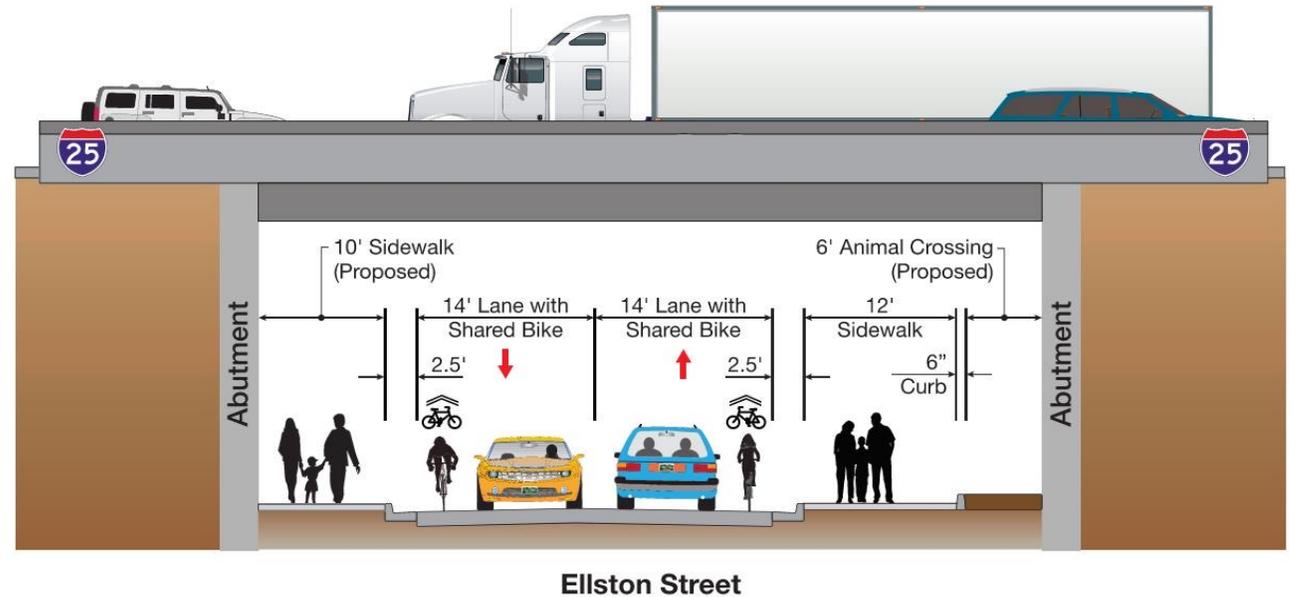
- Access to sidewalks and trails maintained to the maximum extent possible during construction
- Pedestrian and Bicycle detour routes evaluated with project stakeholders, publicized in advance of construction closures
- Methods to minimize delays and provide access to properties during construction coordinated with emergency-service providers



- I-25 lane shifts and closures
  - Lane closures predominately during nighttime construction, outside of peak traffic hours
  - Daytime lane shifts in place to route traffic around work areas. Ongoing temporary lane reconfigurations expected during construction, within project limits
- Temporary short-term impacts such as noise, air quality, traffic congestion, and access detours



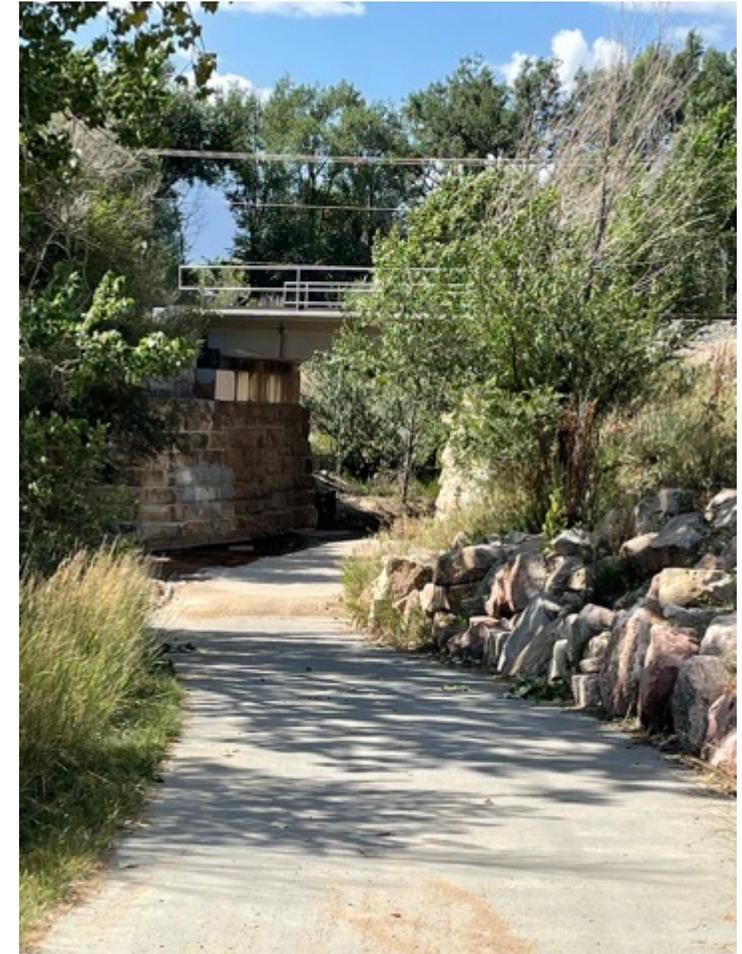
- Temporary closures of Sinton Trail & Ellston Street under I-25
  - An innovative, phased construction approach involves short term closures of Ellston Street and Sinton Trail for safety during critical construction operations (such as placing girders)





# Construction Impacts

- Temporary closures of Sinton Trail & Ellston Street under I-25
  - Sinton Trail is a highly used bicycle commuter route
    - Potential impacts to biking/trails community minimized to the extent possible while I-25 bridges over Ellston Street are replaced
    - Bike/pedestrian route detours will be in place during Ellston Street/Sinton Trail closures





## Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

- Technical analysis and preliminary design: Complete
- Public virtual open house: available on the project website, comments should be submitted by April 30
- Final design: this Summer
- Anticipated construction: starting as early as this Fall
- Estimated construction durations:
  - Total project = Approximately 18 months
  - Ellston Street overpass bridge reconstruction = Approximately 15 months
- Anticipated project completion: 2024



## Community stakeholders include:

- Adjacent neighborhoods
- Businesses / residents in the project vicinity
- School District 11
- Traveling public
- Biking/trails community
- Mountain Metro Transit
- City of Colorado Springs
- Colorado Springs Parks Recreation and Cultural Services
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration



Outreach efforts indicate the public has a positive outlook about this project, would like to see it completed quickly.



# Public Engagement

The Project Team has and will continue engaging with property owners/stakeholders through:

- Direct contact with property and business owners
- Small group one-on-one meetings/briefings
- Email notices and construction progress
- Information posted to CDOT website
- News media and social media posts

**COLORADO** Department of Transportation **PROJECT FACT SHEET**

**Interstate-25 (Fillmore Street to Garden of Gods Road) Operational Improvements**

**Project Details**

**Overview**

Increased traffic from community growth and business development has created the need for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to initiate design and development of I-25 auxiliary/continuous merge lanes and other operational improvements from the Fillmore Street to Garden of the Gods Road exits in Colorado Springs. Improvements are in accordance with the previously completed Environmental Assessment.

**Key Issues**

- Functionality and operational deficiencies of this section of I-25
- Slowing of traffic where on-ramp merge lanes transition to regular traffic through lanes
- Wait times from traffic congestion
- Safety concerns / crashes from side swipes, fixed objects and wildlife

**Project Cost**

A preliminary estimate of approximately \$47 million for design and construction provided through state allocated infrastructure funds.

Jan. 2022



**COLORADO**

Department of Transportation

# Project Contacts

## For more information and questions:

**Website:** <https://www.codot.gov/projects/i25fillmoregog>

**Email:** [i25FillmoreGOG@gmail.com](mailto:i25FillmoreGOG@gmail.com)

## Project Contacts:

Mitch Holck, CDOT Project Manager      Ph: 719-565-9272

[mitchell.holck@state.co.us](mailto:mitchell.holck@state.co.us)

Kevan Kuhnel, FHU Project Manager      Ph: 719-424-4785

[kevan.kuhnel@fhueng.com](mailto:kevan.kuhnel@fhueng.com)

Lisa Bachman, Public Involvement      Ph: 719-488-5908

[lisa@bachmanpr.com](mailto:lisa@bachmanpr.com)

Thank you!

Thank you for your participation!

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