



## Fact Sheet

# US 50 Blue Mesa Bridge Update County Road 26 Local Access

### Overview

Improvements to County Road 26 (Lake City Cutoff) have been made to open this route for local commuters and critical travel between Montrose and Gunnison. Engineers continue to address cracking in the US Highway 50 bridge girder crossing the Blue Mesa Reservoir at Dillon Pinnacles.

A safety closure continues for a section of US Highway 50 located west of Gunnison. CDOT closed the bridge on Thursday, April 18, at the urging of the Federal Highway Administration and state bridge engineering experts.

### Pilot Car Operations

Beginning Monday, April 22, pilot cars will lead passenger vehicles through CR 26 two times a day in each direction. Travel time through the access route is expected to be 30 minutes or more.

- Westbound travel – 6:30 to 7 a.m. and 6:30 to 7 p.m.
- Eastbound travel – 7:30 to 8 a.m. and 7:30 to 8 p.m.

County Road 26 will only be open for travel during these timeframes. The road will remain closed at all other times for the ongoing restoration work needed to ensure the road remains safe for travel.

### Pilot Car Queue

- The queue for westbound travel will start near the intersection of [CO 149 and CR 26](#)
- The queue for eastbound travel will start near the intersection of [US 50 and CR 26](#)

### Weight Restrictions

Because CR 26 is a high-mountain, unpaved road that isn't intended to accommodate the traffic volumes of US 50, travel times will be limited and commercial vehicles exceeding a 16,001 gross vehicle weight rating are prohibited.

### Contact Information

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

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