



Design-Build

Client

Colorado Department of
Transportation

Location

Colorado Springs, CO, USA

Colorado Springs Metro Interstate Expansion (COSMIX™)

Rockrimmon Constructors, a CH2M HILL and SEMA Construction joint venture, won this design-build contract in January 2005. The project extends and expands Colorado Springs' highway capacity from Bijou Street to the North Academy Boulevard interchange by widening I-25 to six through-lanes, while accommodating the future expansion to eight lanes. The \$129 million scope includes 18 new bridges, two culverts, and numerous retaining walls. Other agency costs, including right-of-way acquisition, bring the total value of the project to \$150 million.

Segment 1: Bijou Street Interchange

The Bijou Street Interchange (Segment 1), located at the southern portion of the project, will be the last phase of work performed. This complex reconstruction of a 40-year old interchange and 70-year old bridge over Monument Creek will also reduce I-25 curvature and provide a new mainline crossing over Colorado Avenue, and improved storm drainage. The new Bijou Bridge will improve downtown access with two additional lanes and be expandable for two more in the future.

A gravity storm water outfall to Monument Creek for I-25 runoff will be provided under Bijou Street to reduce the flooding currently experienced on I-25 during major storm events.

Heavily traveled and often congested, this elderly "gateway to downtown" will be closed for construction. Our plans to detour traffic from this busy access point include providing shuttle bus services to transport pedestrians and bicyclists across the highway while normal routes are closed. Construction and traffic-related noise at the nearby Monument Valley Park duck ponds, horticultural gardens and baseball fields will be mitigated with sound walls and earthen berms. These features will help preserve the quiet environment and character of this urban open space.

Segment 2: I-25 Expansion at Fillmore to Garden of the Gods Road

The Fillmore segment will widen I-25 from two lanes to three in each direction, widen the median, provide an asphalt overlay south of Garden of the Gods, widen the Ellston Street bridges, and widen and replace the I-25 pavement north of Garden of the Gods to Garden of the Gods Road. The Garden of the Gods Road north ramps will be rebuilt.

Segment 3: Nevada/Rockrimmon Interchange

The interchange will reconfigure the existing southbound left exit ramp to the right side, dramatically improving driver expectations while other additions improve cross traffic flow between neighborhoods on both sides of I-25. A newly configured split-diamond interchange will tie Nevada to Rockrimmon together and add collector-distributor (C D) roads between the two interchanges. Corporate Drive will link into Nevada Avenue, and the



business arterials of Mark Dabling and Corporate Drive will gain improved connectivity with several new means of access.

Ramps will be closed during this construction, which will connect with the recent roadway improvements associated with the south end of the Woodmen Road interchange project.

Segment 4: I-25 from Woodmen to North Academy

This segment adds a third lane to I-25 in each direction, widens concrete in the median from Cottonwood Creek to Pine Creek, and widens asphalt on the outside of the existing roadway pavement and asphalt overlay from Pine Creek to the North Academy Interchange. We will maintain two lanes of traffic in each direction to minimize delays and traffic flow disruptions.

The Finished Product

As the project tasks are completed and segments connected, the miles between Bijou and the North Academy Interchange will provide a seamless network of roadway specifically designed to keep pace with Colorado Springs's continued growth.

Beginning in the summer of 2005, our team's sequenced construction approach accelerates the work dramatically during the life of the project. We expect to complete the COSMIX™ tasks by winter of 2007, one year earlier than required by CDOT.