



City of Glenwood Springs
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27th Street Bridge Project
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PRESS RELEASE

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27th Street Bridge Construction Begins January 2, 2019

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO – Construction activities for the 27th Street Bridge (also known as Sunlight Bridge) project will begin on Tuesday, January 2, 2019. Crews will begin with mobilization, temporary shoring, and erosion control on the east and west sides of the bridge. Motorists should anticipate traffic control with periodic lane closures and holds for construction access; delays are anticipated.

Work is expected to take place throughout 2019 for this project, which includes the traffic bridge, pedestrian bridge, and the roundabout. The current 27th Street Bridge and pedestrian bridge will remain open until the replacement of the bridges occurs in summer 2019. Pedestrian and river access will largely remain open; however, there will be periodic holds and some full closures for critical overhead work later in 2019.

“The current 27th Street bridge is at the end of its useful life. This project will replace a critical connection in Glenwood Springs and elevate the recreational experience in this area,” said assistant city engineer, Jessica Bowser. “We would like to thank the public in advance for your patience during construction and encourage motorists to allow some extra time traveling through the area or use alternative modes of transportation. Be sure to sign up for updates to get the latest information on traffic impacts and current construction.”

Business access will remain open. Follow flagger instructions and construction signage. There will be daily lane closures on both sides of the bridge. Motorists should also expect delays for travel along South Grand Ave. between 23rd Street and 29th Street. (Please note that CO-82 switches from Grand Ave. to Glen Ave. south of 23rd Street.)

Project Information

All traffic impacts, travel advisories, and construction updates will be announced via city ConeZone email updates, the project webpage, and via the city’s social media channels with the hashtags #27thStreetBridge and #SunlightBridge.

Project Webpage: cogs.us/27thStreetBridge -- AND/OR -- cogs.us/SunlightBridge

Email: 27thStreetBridge@gmail.com

Phone (call or text): 970-618-5379

To receive the latest ConeZone email updates on construction and traffic impacts, contact the project team via email (27thStreetBridge@gmail.com) or call/text (970-618-5379). You can also subscribe to the “Glenwood Springs News” list via the project’s webpage.

Construction Information

Work hours are generally Mondays-Fridays, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Expect some weekend work (Saturdays and Sundays) and night work throughout the project.

In the summer of 2019, construction crews will build the new replacement bridge just south of the existing bridge. The old bridge will be deconstructed, and the new bridge will be slid into place. This technique, called a bridge slide, will minimize impacts to traffic, pedestrians, utilities, and river users while replacing the existing vehicle bridge. A new and separate pedestrian bridge also will be built to the north and all bridge piers will be removed from the Roaring Fork River.

About the 27th Street Bridge Project

The current 27th Street bridge, also known as the Sunlight bridge, was built in 1968 and officially opened to traffic in January 1969. The traffic bridge transports more than 14,000 vehicles per day. Other than the 8th Street bridge from Midland to downtown, this is the only other option in Glenwood Springs to cross the Roaring Fork River by car. The bridge also carries several utilities including water, sewer, gas and communication.

The current bridge is at the end of its lifespan and is rated one of the worst bridges in Colorado. The new bridge will improve pedestrian and river user experiences by creating a separate traffic and pedestrian bridge and removing the piers from the Roaring Fork River.

The project general contractor, Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Co., was part of the joint venture that led the Grand Avenue Bridge project construction. With a strong history working with Glenwood Springs and the surrounding communities, RLW Construction is committed to safety and quality on every project.

City Council approved the 27th Street Bridge project design services during construction and construction management contract at the regular August 2, 2018 City Council meeting. Council awarded the bridge design services during construction contract to Wood and construction management contract to HDR.

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