

Resolution Number TC-1835
I-70 Parachute West Interchange

WHEREAS, the Transportation Commission has approved Policy Directive 1601 concerning the interchange approval process; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Parachute, has completed a System Level Feasibility Study for the Parachute West Interchange on Interstate 70; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has reviewed the System Level Feasibility Study and found it to be consistent with the steps contained in Policy Directive Number 1601; and

WHEREAS, the System Level Feasibility Study documents the need for the I-70 Parachute West Interchange to improve connectivity between I-70 and the Town of Parachute/ Battlement Mesa area, improve traffic operations in the area including at the existing Parachute interchange, and improve mobility for both regional and local traffic; and

WHEREAS, the System Level Feasibility Study documents that traffic operations improve at the existing Parachute interchange; and

WHEREAS, the System Level Feasibility Study documents that the proposed interchange accommodates 2035 traffic demand; and

WHEREAS, the System Level Feasibility Study documents that the proposed interchange minimizes impacts to private property and the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the I-70 Parachute West Interchange improvements are included in the 2030 Intermountain Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) ; and

WHEREAS, the total construction cost of the proposed I-70 Parachute West Interchange and its connection to US 6 is estimated to be between \$12 and \$14 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the related Interstate Access Request (IAR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) have both been approved by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Parachute is working with CDOT staff on an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with regard to operations and maintenance of the I-70 Parachute West Interchange; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The Transportation Commission approves the System Level Feasibility Study for the I-70 Parachute West Interchange as meeting the standards set forth in Policy Directive Number 1601.
2. The Colorado Department of Transportation, through the Chief Engineer or Designee, is authorized to enter into an IGA for the ownership, maintenance and operations of the facilities associated with the construction of I-70 Parachute West Interchange.
3. The Town of Parachute may proceed, facilitated by CDOT staff, with preparation of the final design and with all other processes necessary for the construction of the interchange improvements.
4. The Town of Parachute may proceed to initiate the process outlined in the State Highway Access Code to obtain the other necessary approvals that are required from the Colorado Department of Transportation for construction of the I-70 Parachute West Interchange.