

I-25 CIMARRON INTERCHANGE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REEVALUATION

ATTACHMENT 8

Stakeholder Process Summary



Stakeholder Process Summary

The Interstate-25/Cimarron Interchange project is of significant importance to the citizens of the Pikes Peak region. US 24 is the primary east-west highway through the City of Colorado Springs and to the mountain communities to the west, and the only major route into the Rocky Mountains for nearly 50 miles north and south of Colorado Springs. The lack of gateway routes into the mountains and the City of Colorado Springs results in congestion for regional weekday commuters, and seasonal destination and recreational traffic. As a key transportation connection within the region, this project will enhance the capacity and safety of the US 24 connection to the I-25 network by redesigning and rebuilding structures, most of which date back to 1959.

Since fall 2013, the contribution of numerous community stakeholder organizations and individuals has been instrumental in helping to establish the project goals and prioritization, and their involvement has provided valuable guidance to the project team during the development of the contractor team Request for Proposals. Their work has influenced how traffic will be maintained during construction, the aesthetics design of the structures, and enhancements of the trails/creek in and around this gateway interchange.

The stakeholder groups were brought into the project very early in the process to assure that aspects important to the community are carefully thought through and carefully communicated to the design/build contractor teams during the Request for Proposal process. These stakeholder committees serve as information conduits, keeping their respective constituents informed about project progress and scheduling while also providing the project team community feedback. The committees will continue to play an active role in the project through construction, expected to be fully operational by July 2017.

Working Team Stakeholders (WTS)

This committee, of about 20 community leaders and representatives from local organizations, has met quarterly since January 2014. Members provided the project team guidance and coordination on the project's overarching themes, such as aesthetics and maintenance of traffic during construction, to assure community desires and expectations are met. Their focus involves:

- Providing direction on community desires and expectations that helped establish and prioritize the project goals used by the project team, the design/build contractor, and to inform the community about project priorities;
- Coordinating with their representatives on the Aesthetics/Landscaping/Trails Technical Team regarding general approaches to aesthetic and architectural treatments and landscaping;
- Assuring the project design meets the goals of an arrival sequence/gateway, mobility, connectivity, multi-modal use, and efficiency;
- Offering guidance on Midland Trail and creek connections;
- Contributing recommendations on potential closures, detour routes, and critical event dates



during construction;

- Participation in the public review process;
- Exploring opportunities for community partnerships with regard to enhancements; and,
- Other general aspects of the project.

Aesthetics/Landscaping/Trails Technical Team

About 20 community leaders and representatives from local organizations serve on this team, which has met monthly since December 2013. This specialty technical advisory committee provides detailed input to the project team on specific aspects of aesthetics design, landscaping and trail/creek enhancements. Their focus involves:

- Providing input on community desires and expectations that helped establish and prioritize the project goals;
- Contributing design strategies that reflect community desires and expectations;
- Assuring architectural consistency with established architectural guidelines;
- Providing recommendations on the location and enhancements of Midland Trail connections along Fountain and Monument creeks and into America the Beautiful Park, as well as on creek restoration and trail enhancements;
- Assuring the bridge structures and landscaping plan result in a strong visual “Gateway”;
- Providing direction on specific details of architectural lighting, decorative bridge railings, color scheme, decorative panels, median design/landscaping treatments; and
- Participation in and guidance of public presentation/open house process.

On-going Stakeholder Involvement

The proposal development and contractor procurement phase of the project is a proprietary process that stresses confidentiality. The WTS committee and Aesthetics/Landscaping/Trails Technical Team stakeholders will meet again once the design/build contractor has been selected, at which time they will continue their involvement through the construction phase.

"Aesthetics Plans and Details" technical requirements document

The “Aesthetics Plans and Details” document is the culmination of several months work by the many project stakeholders. Drafted with guidance from the WTS and the Aesthetics/Landscaping/Trails Technical Team, the document is included in the technical requirements provided to the three shortlisted design/build contractor teams as part of the Draft Request for Proposals. Direction from the Aesthetics Team and WTS prescribes project aesthetics, landscaping and trail enhancement design details to the contractor teams as they develop their proposals and plans, to assure the final product meets community desires and expectations.

The “Aesthetics Plans and Details” document can be found on the CDOT I-25/Cimarron Interchange webpage:

[Index of /content/projects/I25CimarronRFP/BOOK 4-Contract Drawings/I-25_Cimarron_Aesthetic](#)



Plans and Details

Document Summary

The following summarizes input received from I-25/Cimarron Interchange project stakeholders as reflected in the “Aesthetics Plans and Details” document.

Structure Architecture/Treatments:

- Bridge architectural design consistency reflects the existing look of the Bijou and Cimarron Street bridges, simple and streamlined
- Opportunities for gathering places and the possible future addition of sculptures
- Aesthetics and landscaping create a sense of entry, “gateway,” connect the trails/creeks to downtown Colorado Springs and to the mountain corridor
- “Gateway” concept/feel of the interchange comes from a total package combination of aesthetics, enhancements, landscaping treatments, views, access to the creeks and the new trail location
- Recognition that while there is a desire to consider additional enhancements, they are not part of the budget/project at this time. The Aesthetics Team would like to capture those ideas for consideration of being added after construction is completed, recognizing they would not be included as part of the project.
- Scaled architectural treatments based on the speed of the user (auto v. pedestrian/biker)
- Higher/wider bridge end caps to accommodate potential future community embellishments
- Rock structures and color palate is tan, beige and brown reflecting the Rocky Mountains (vs. red that fades to pink)
- Lighting: Standard cobra head highway lighting with brown poles; lower decorative lighting on the I-25 bridge matching those on the Cimarron St. and Bijou St. bridges; up lighting of the end monuments and sconces, and down lighting of the pillars to light the trail below
- Decorative bridge railings in keeping with others used throughout the City; reflect the Julie Penrose Fountain circle and Olympic ring theme
- Deeply textured (to minimize graffiti) decorative panels at the base of the structure/creek level spread out over several panels that reflect the natural habitat of the creeks as experienced by trail users; include fish, vegetation and other aspects of the natural creek environment; panel design selected based on stakeholder and public feedback
- Guardrails: Solid type 7 concrete with ornamental treatments on the Cimarron bridge; Type 10 open guard rail on top of the retaining walls
- Pedestrian bridge structures of similar architecture to the City’s newer trail system bridges

Landscaping:

- Landscaping plan provides visual gateways view sheds to downtown, to America the Beautiful Park, to the creeks, and to the mountains to the west; directs the eyes toward bridges, use of vegetation to screen undesirable views, providing windows and views to other areas more desirable for the eyes to focus.
- Landscaping: native, riparian vegetation, filling/relocating some of the existing vegetation, pruning/thinning of some of the invasive species to open up the view shed to the creek, more of



a natural look, evergreens as a buffer to frame the views, ornamental grasses

- Minimal use of CDOT Right-of-Way maintenance fencing
- Simple medians with concrete aprons, sandstone boulders, colored concrete and 6” - 12” cobblestones with no vegetation to minimize maintenance

Trail/Creeks:

- Midland Trail relocation along the creek consistent with the Parks Master Plan tying in at the southwest corner America the Beautiful Park, provides better park access and keeps trail users along the creek. The new trail connection/sidewalk to Chestnut Street will tie into the trail system
- Minimize conflicts of the drainage with the pedestrians/bikers and across the trail
- Riparian natural channel v. an engineered channel

Community Desires and Expectations for the Project

(As provided by the stakeholder groups in January 2014)

Personal

- Fulfill public service responsibilities
- Build a community legacy project
- Be proud of the project

Organizational

- Respect the creeks as an amenity
- The project must fit the environment (Context Sensitive)
- Meet multiple objectives and goals for multiple users
 - improve mobility
 - provide connectivity
 - create an attractive gateway, both locally and regionally
 - provide improved multiple access for multiple users
 - project must function efficiently and look good
 - improve quality of life
 - improve the outdoor environment
- Make the community better, set higher standards, raise community appreciation for design and arts heritage
- Create a complete multi-modal project
- Maximize cost benefit ratio
- Through collaboration, maximize resources by taking advantage of partnerships
- Recognize that the creek corridor is a recreational and commuter corridor
- Recognize the culture and historical importance of the Fountain and Monument Creeks confluence

Design Strategies

- Aesthetics must support function
- Continue architectural theme established for I-25 through Colorado Springs



I-25/Cimarron Interchange Design-Build Project

- Use appropriate and adequate vegetation
- Maximize the opportunity to create an activity center at the confluence of Fountain and Monument Creeks
- Provide safe connections
- Open up the confluence area to maximize opportunities for community use
- Improve connectivity to America the Beautiful Park and Bear Creek
- Maintain views to the mountains and downtown
- Design to appropriate scale remembering users
- Prioritize landscape and higher maintenance areas (Focal Points)
- Reduce noise impacts wherever possible
- Do not overdo the aesthetics “don’t try to hard”
- Redefine an aesthetics theme, striking a balance of assuring a pleasing design but keeping continuity between the existing structures
- Create a gateway to downtown, and to the mountains, coordinate regarding potential City for Champions projects
- Add life and energy to the aesthetic design
- Develop scale based on the speed of user (auto and pedestrian). Consider a different scale for each.
- This area is also a gateway for pedestrian and bicyclists
- Consider an arrival sequence on the off-ramp and along Cimarron and U.S. 24

I-25/Cimarron Interchange

CDOT PROJECT: IM 0252-423
WILSON PROJECT: 13-100-31201

MEETING SUMMARY

DATE	MEETING DESCRIPTION
August 26, 2013	Project NTP
August 27, 2013	Project Leadership Team Kickoff
September 9, 2013	Project Leadership Team
September 9, 2013	SW Downtown Urban Renewal-Chris Jenkins
September 16, 2013	Project Leadership Team
September 23, 2013	Project Leadership Team
September 27, 2013	El Paso County -Jeff Greene and Andre Brackin
September 30, 2013	Project Leadership Team
October 2, 2013	City of Colorado Springs Coordination-Chris Leiber, Bob Cope, Kathleen Krager, Dave Lethbridge
October 3, 2013	Project Goal Setting Meeting
October 10, 2013	CONO-Jan Doran and Dave Munger
October 11, 2013	Internal Coordination Meeting (Dave P, Scott A, Mark S)
October 14, 2013	Project Leadership Team
October 15, 2013	El POMAR-Kyle Hybl
October 15, 2013	Downtown Partnership
October 17, 2013	CDOT Environmental Coordination Meeting
October 18, 2013	Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greeway District-Larry Small
October 18, 2013	Project Leadership Team
October 18, 2013	Larry Small-Fountain Creek Watershed and Flood Control District
October 22, 2013	Laura Neumann-City of Colorado Springs
October 25, 2013	Project Management Team Kickoff
October 30, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-CSU Meeting #1
October 31, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-City of Colorado Springs Traffic
November 1, 2013	Project Leadership Team
November 4, 2013	Internal Design Team Kick Off Meeting
November 4, 2013	Sallie Clark& Dennis Hisey El Paso County Meeting
November 4, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-Century Link
November 8, 2013	Project Leadership Team
November 12, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-CSU Telecom
November 12, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-Comcast
November 13, 2013	Utility Coordination Meeting-Level 3
November 13, 2013	Keith King City Council Meeting
November 14, 2013	Aesthetics Technical Team Kick Off Meeting
November 15, 2013	Project Leadership Team
November 15, 2013	Executive Oversight Committee Meeting
November 21, 2013	CDOT Discipline Kick Off Meeting
November 22, 2013	Project Management Team
November 26, 2013	Design Coordination Meeting w/Lesley Mace

December 4, 2013 Design Working Meeting at CDOT CMC
December 6, 2013 PLT Meeting
December 10, 2013 Meeting with Chris Lieber and Lesley
December 10, 2013 Project Update Meeting with Colorado Springs Utilities Management
December 11, 2013 Design Development Coordination Meeting-Utilities & Traffic
December 11, 2013 Meeting w/ Craig Weiden to discuss materials & pavement
December 11, 2013 PPACG presentation
December 13, 2013 PLT Meeting with CDOT & FHWA
December 18, 2013 Design Development Coordination Meeting
December 18, 2013 Utility Coordination Meeting with CSU
December 19, 2013 Aesthetic/Landscaping Technical Team Meeting
December 20, 2013 PMT meeting
December 30, 2013 Aesthetic Coordination Meeting w/ Kevin Shanks
December 30, 2013 Environmental Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 3, 2014 PLT Meeting
January 8, 2014 Survey, ROW, Utility Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 8, 2014 Structures and Geotechnical Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 10, 2014 PLT Meeting
January 10, 2014 RFQ Review Meeting
January 13, 2014 City Council Update
January 14, 2014 CSU-Electric Coordination Meeting
January 14, 2014 County Commission Update
January 15, 2014 Traffic & MOT Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 15, 2014 Drainage Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 16, 2014 FHWA Coordination Meeting at FHWA
January 17, 2014 PMT Meeting At CDOT
January 20, 2014 Contractor Meeting
January 22, 2014 Pavement/Geotechnical Coordination Meeting at CDOT
January 22, 2014 WTS Meeting
January 24, 2014 PLT Meeting
January 30, 2014 Aesthetics Coordination Meeting
January 31, 2014 PLT Meeting
February 4, 2014 Coordination Meeting with Chris Leiber
February 5, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
February 7, 2014 PLT Meeting
February 12, 2014 Structures Coordination Meeting
February 13, 2014 Environmental Coord. Meeting w/EPB
February 14, 2014 PLT Meeting at CDOT
February 14, 2014 EOC Meeting at CDOT
February 18, 2014 Pavement Design Coordination Meeting
February 19, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
February 19, 2014 Conf Call with ACOE
February 20, 2014 Aesthetics Tech Team Meeting
February 21, 2014 PMT Meeting
February 21, 2014 Consultant Team Meeting
February 25, 2014 Coordination Meeting with City Transit-Craig Blewitt
February 26, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
February 26, 2014 Coordination Meeting with State Parks-6(f)
February 28, 2014 PLT Meeting
February 28, 2014 Consultant Team Meeting
February 28, 2014 ROW Coordination Meeting

March 3, 2014	CTAB Presentation Coordination Meeting w/Dave Watt
March 4, 2014	CTAB Presentation
March 5, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
March 5, 2014	Fiber Optic Coordination Meeting with City and CDOT
March 7, 2014	PLT Meeting
March 12, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
March 13, 2014	Parks Board Presentation
March 13, 2014	Survey coordination meeting
March 14, 2014	PLT Meeting
March 14, 2014	Consultant Team Meeting
March 20, 2014	Aesthetics Tech Team Meeting
March 21, 2014	PMT Meeting
March 25, 2014	FHWA Coordination Meeting at FHWA
March 26, 2014	CSU electric coordination meeting
March 26, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
March 28, 2014	PLT Meeting
March 28, 2014	Colorado Springs Parks Coordination Meeting—Maintenance Discussion
April 1, 2014	Floodplain Coordination Meeting PPRBD—Keith Curtis
April 2, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
April 4, 2014	Right of Way Coordination Meeting
April 7, 2014	Traffic meeting with PB
April 8, 2014	WTS Meeting
April 8, 2014	FHWA IAR Coordination Meeting
April 9, 2014	Right of Way Coordination Meeting
April 10, 2014	Parks Board Update
April 11, 2014	PLT Meeting
April 16, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
April 18, 2014	PMT Meeting
April 21, 2014	ACOE Coordination Meeting at CDOT
April 22, 2014	Aesthetics Tech Team Meeting
April 23, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
April 25, 2014	PLT Meeting
April 25, 2014	Steve Cox Project Briefing
April 29, 2014	Project Coordination Meeting
April 30, 2014	Tom Wrona Project Briefing
May 2, 2014	PLT Meeting
May 2, 2014	EOC Meeting
May 2, 2014	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Coordination Meeting
May 6, 2014	IAR Coordination Meeting with CDOT
May 12, 2014	PLT Meeting
May 13, 2014	ACOE/CPW Field Meeting
May 14, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
May 15, 2014	Aesthetics Tech Team Meeting
May 15, 2014	ROWPR Meeting
May 16, 2014	PMT Meeting
May 16, 2014	Technical Requirement Review Meeting at CDOT
May 19, 2014	Technical Requirement Review Meeting at WCI
May 21, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
May 23, 2014	PLT Meeting
May 23, 2014	IAR Review Meeting with CDOT

May 27, 2014	Open House Planning Meeting
May 28, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
May 29, 2014	Floodplain Coordination Meeting PPRBD—Keith Curtis
May 30, 2014	PLT Meeting
June 3, 2014	Open House Meeting
June 6, 2014	PLT Meeting
June 11, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
June 13, 2014	PLT Meeting
June 17, 2014	Traffic Review Meeting
June 18, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
June 18, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2
June 19, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
June 20, 2014	PMT Meeting
June 20, 2014	Traffic Review Meeting
June 25, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
June 26, 2014	RFP review Meeting
June 27, 2014	PLT Meeting
July 1, 2014	FHWA IAR Coordination Meeting
July 2, 2014	PLT Meeting
July 2, 2014	FHWA Traffic Modeling Meeting
July 8, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
July 9, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
July 10, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2
July 10, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
July 11, 2014	PLT Meeting
July 11, 2014	OCIP Coordination Meeting with CDOT HQ
July 11, 2014	FHWA Traffic Modeling Meeting
July 16, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
July 17, 2014	Environmental Coordination Meeting
July 20, 2014	PMT Meeting
July 20, 2014	EOC Meeting
July 22, 2014	Geotechnical Coordination Meeting with Craig Wieden
July 23, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
July 25, 2014	PLT Meeting
July 30, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
August 6, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
August 6, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2
August 8, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
August 12, 2014	CSU coordination meeting
August 15, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
August 18, 2014	ROW Coordination Meeting at WCI
August 19, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2
August 20, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
August 21, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
August 22, 2014	PLT Meeting
August 27, 2014	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Coordination Meeting
August 29, 2014	PLT Meeting
September 3, 2014	Design Coordination Meeting
September 5, 2014	PLT Meeting
September 8, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
September 10, 2014	Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2

September 11, 2014 Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
September 12, 2014 PLT Meeting
September 19, 2014 PMT Meeting
September 26, 2014 EOC Meeting
September 26, 2014 PLT Meeting
October 3, 2014 PLT Meeting
October 8, 2014 PPACG Meeting
October 10, 2014 PLT Meeting
October 16, 2014 PLT Meeting
October 17, 2014 PMT Meeting
October 20, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
October 21, 2014 Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 1
October 22, 2014 Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 2
October 23, 2014 Industry Review Meeting: Contractor Team 3
October 24, 2014 PLT Meeting
October 29, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
October 31, 2014 PLT Meeting
November 7, 2014 PLT Meeting
November 7, 2014 EOC Meeting
November 10, 2014 CDOT Coordination Meeting
November 12, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
November 17, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
November 18, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting
November 21, 2014 Design Coordination Meeting