

CDOT Project #IM 0251-156  
Project Control No. 12831  
Final Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation  
for Interstate 25 Improvements through Pueblo  
Pueblo County, Colorado  
**Submitted Pursuant to**  
42 USC 4332 (2)(c), 49 USC 303, & 16 USC 460  
**By the**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
and  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**Submitted by:**

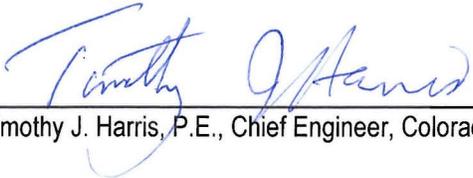


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8/15/2013

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Date

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## Abstract

This Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Section 4(f) evaluation describes the transportation and environmental impacts associated with proposed improvements to Interstate 25 (I-25) through the City of Pueblo, Colorado. The roadway in this section pre-dates the interstate system and is among the oldest segments of the interstate system in Colorado. This segment of I-25 contains structural and operational deficiencies. Two Build Alternatives are considered in the FEIS, including general purpose lanes on the existing alignment and general purpose lanes on a modified alignment. These two alternatives are compared to a No-Action scenario. The Modified I-25 Alternative has been identified as the Preferred Alternative.

Direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the alternatives on social, environmental, and economic resources in the study area have been identified. The areas of analysis include community and cultural conditions, environmental justice, land use, right-of-way and relocations, historic resources, paleontological resources, visual and aesthetic qualities, parklands, trails, air quality, noise, biological resources, floodplains and drainage, wetlands and waters of the U.S., water quality, hazardous materials, utilities, and construction. Mitigation measures are identified to address impacts to these resources.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have conducted an extensive public involvement process using context sensitive design. This FEIS addresses comments heard at the public hearing held on December 8, 2011. Following the public comment period on the FEIS, CDOT and FHWA plan to prepare a Record of Decision to address public comments and select an initial project phase for implementation.

## Comments

The FEIS is available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period from September 13, 2013 to October 15, 2013. Comments on this document may be submitted in writing, through the project website at [www.i25pueblo.com](http://www.i25pueblo.com), or at the public hearing. Written comments should be submitted to Colorado Department of Transportation Region 2, care of Joe DeHeart, P.E., CDOT Project Manager, 905 Erie Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81001. Comments must be received by October 15, 2013.

The public hearing will be held during the review and comment period on **October 3, 2013 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pueblo Rawlings Library, 100 East Abriendo Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado.**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS DOCUMENT, CONTACT: Chris Horn, P.E., Right of Way Program Manager and Operations Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 12300 West Dakota Avenue, Suite 180, Lakewood, CO 80228, 720-963-3017, [chris.horn@dot.gov](mailto:chris.horn@dot.gov), or Joe DeHeart, P.E. at the address above, 719-546-5439, or [joe.deheart@state.co.us](mailto:joe.deheart@state.co.us).

*A federal agency may publish a notice in the Federal Register, pursuant to 23 USC §139(1), indicating that one or more federal agencies have taken final action on permits, licenses, or approvals for a transportation project. If such notice is published, claims seeking judicial review of those federal agency actions will be barred unless such claims are filed within 150 days after the date of publication of the notice, or within such shorter time period as is specified in the federal laws pursuant to which judicial review of the federal agency action is allowed. If no notice is published, then the periods of time that otherwise are provided by federal laws governing such claims will apply.*



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## **CHAPTER 7 LIST OF PREPARERS**

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## **APPENDICES AND TECHNICAL MEMORANDA**

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- Appendix H: Programmatic Agreement Regarding Compliance with Section 106

**Note:** All appendices are provided on the attached CD and Appendix E and Appendix G are included in hard copy for ease of reference.

## LIST OF TECHNICAL MEMORANDA

**Note:** All Technical Memoranda are provided on the attached CD.

### **Air Quality**

*Air Quality Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Revised May 2010.

### **Community Resources**

*Social Resources Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Updated November 2010

*Social Resources Technical Memorandum Addendum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. October 2010.

### **Cultural Resources**

*An Intensive Archaeological Resources Survey and Test Excavations for the I-25 New Pueblo Freeway Improvement Project, Pueblo County, Colorado.* CH2M HILL November 2008.

*Architectural Resources Survey Report, Pueblo County, Colorado.* Colorado Department of Transportation. February 2009  
*Addendum to the Determination of Effects to Historic Properties: I-25 New Pueblo Freeway Improvement Project, Pueblo, Colorado.* CH2M HILL. April 2010.

*Determination of Effects to Historic Properties: I-25 New Pueblo Freeway Improvement Project.* CH2M HILL. March 2010.

*Evaluative Test Excavation of Eleven Historic Sites for the Colorado Department of Transportation I-25 New Pueblo Freeway Improvement Project, Pueblo County, CO.* Centennial Archaeology. 2011.

### **Environmental Justice**

*Environmental Justice Analysis Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Updated April 2011.

### **Floodplain Impacts**

*Floodplain Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. February 2005.

### **Hazardous Materials**

*Hazardous Materials Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. November 2011.

### **Land Use**

*Land Use and Economic Activity Technical Memorandum.* CH2M HILL. July 2010.

### **Noise**

*Noise Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* Hankard Environmental, Inc. 2012.

### **Noxious Weeds**

*Noxious Weeds Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. September 2005.

### **Paleontology**

*Paleontological Resources Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Revised June 2004.

### **Parks and Recreation**

*Parks Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. April 2010.

**Right-of-Way and Relocations**

*Right-of-Way and Relocation Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. May 2010.

**Social Resources and Economic Conditions**

*Socioeconomics Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Updated November 2010.

**Threatened and Endangered Species**

*Threatened and Endangered Species Assessment Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Updated October 2010.

**Transportation**

*Traffic Report Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. February 2005.

*Addendum to the Traffic Report Technical Memorandum, September 2004 I-25 New Pueblo Freeway – 2025 vs. 2035 Traffic Assessment.* CH2M HILL. December 2010.

*Accident Analysis Addendum to the Traffic Report Technical Memorandum.* CH2M HILL. July 2011.

*I-25: The New Pueblo Freeway Project, Stem Beach to 29th Street, Evaluation of Existing Conditions.* CH2M HILL. March 2002.

*I-25: The New Pueblo Freeway Project, Conceptual Structures Report.* CH2M HILL. January 2007.

*Existing Conditions Technical Memorandum Addendum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. March 2013.

**Utilities**

*Utilities Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. February 2005.

**Visual**

*Visual Impacts Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. January 2008.

**Water Quality**

*Water Quality Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. September 2005. Revised April 2012

*Water Quality Technical Memorandum Addendum, New Pueblo Freeway Phase 1.* CH2M HILL. March 2012.

**Wetlands**

*Wetland Finding Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. July 2010.

**Wildlife**

*Fish and Wildlife Habitat Technical Memorandum, New Pueblo Freeway.* CH2M HILL. Updated October 2010.

## ACRONYM LIST

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µg/L	micrograms per liter
µg/m <sup>3</sup>	micrograms per cubic meter
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
AADT	average annual daily traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ACHP	Advisory Council for Historic Preservation
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AOPC	area of potential concern
APCD	Air Pollution Control Division
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AST	aboveground storage tank
ASTM	American Society of Testing and Materials
BFE	base flood elevation
BMP	Best Management Practice
BOD	biological oxygen demand
BTEX	benzene, toluene, ethylene, and total xylenes
Btu	British thermal unit
C&W	Colorado and Wyoming
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAC	Citizen Advisory Committee
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CCR	Code of Colorado Regulations
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CDPS	Colorado Discharge Permit System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System
CESQG	Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CF&I	Colorado Fuel & Iron
cfs	cubic feet per second
CH <sub>4</sub>	City of Pueblo
City	City of Pueblo
CLOMR	Conditional Letter of Map Revision
CNHP	Colorado Natural Heritage Program
CO	carbon monoxide
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
CPW	Colorado Parks and Wildlife
CRS	Colorado Revised Statute
CSS	context sensitive solutions
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWG	Community Working Groups
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DOLA	Colorado Department of Local Affairs
DOPS	Division of Oil & Public Safety (Colorado)
ECSQG	Erosion Control and Stormwater Quality Guide
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FC	federal candidate (for endangered or threatened species listing)
FCWS	Fountain Creek Watershed Study
FE	federal endangered species
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FIS	Flood Insurance Study
FT	federal threatened species
ft/s	feet per second
GHG	greenhouse gases

ha	hectare
HARP	Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo
HOV	high-occupancy vehicle
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
I-25	Interstate 25
ISA	Initial Site Assessment
ITS	intelligent transportation system
kg/yr	kilograms per year
L <sub>eq</sub>	equivalent sound level
LEDPA	Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative
LOMR	Letter of Map Revision
LOS	level of service
L RTP	Long Range Transportation Plan
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
mg/L	milligrams per liter
mL	milliliters
MMT	million metric tons
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
mp	mile post
mph	miles per hour
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MTBE	Methyl tertiary butyl ether
NA	not applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NCHRP	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NFRAP	No Further Remedial Action Planned
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen oxide

NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priority List
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
O <sub>3</sub>	ozone
OAHP	Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PAC	Park Advisory Committee
PACOG	Pueblo Area Council of Governments
PEM	palustrine emergent
PFO	palustrine forested
PIP	Public Involvement Plan
PLT	Project Leadership Team
PM	particulate matter
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter of 2.5 microns in diameter or smaller
PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter of 10 microns in diameter or smaller
PSS	palustrine scrub/shrub
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	recognized environmental condition
ROW	right-of-way
RTD	Regional Transportation District
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SB	Senate Bill
SC	state species of concern
SE	state endangered species
SH	State Highway
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office/Officer
SPF	Safety Performance Function
SQG	small quantity generator
ST	state threatened species
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWMU	solid waste management units
TDM	travel demand management
T&E	threatened and endangered
TLT	Technical Leadership Team
TMDL	total maximum daily load

TNM	Traffic Noise Model
TTC	Transportation Technical Committee
UPRR	Union Pacific Railroad Company
U.S.	United States
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
US 50	United States Highway 50
US 50B	United States Highway 50B
USC	United States Code
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program (Colorado)
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
WPA	Works Progress Administration
WQCC	Water Quality Control Commission