# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Document

Date

## Project Name

## NEPA Document

Lead Agencies:

Federal Highway Administration

Colorado Department of Transportation



Cooperating Agencies: <if any, add below or delete>

## Findings

The Federal Highway Association (FHWA) has determined that the Proposed Action described in this report will have no significant impact on the human or natural environment. FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the report.

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

<Insert RTD Name> Date Signed

Region <number> Transportation Director

Colorado Department of Transportation

Concurred by:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Insert Chief Engineer Name Date Signed

Chief Engineer

Colorado Department of Transportation FHWA Representative

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Insert Division Administrator Name Date Signed

Division Administrator, Colorado Division

Federal Highway Administration

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

## Table of Contents

Page Number

[1.0 Introduction and Background 1](#_Toc98840178)

[2.0 Purpose and Need 2](#_Toc98840179)

[2.1 What is the Purpose of the Project? 2](#_Toc98840180)

[2.2 What are the Needs for the Project? 2](#_Toc98840181)

[3.0 Alternatives Evaluation 3](#_Toc98840182)

[3.1 What is the No Action? 3](#_Toc98840183)

[3.2 What is the Proposed Action? 3](#_Toc98840184)

[4.0 Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Commitments 4](#_Toc98840185)

[4.1 Resource #1 4](#_Toc98840186)

[4.1.1 Affected Environment 4](#_Toc98840187)

[4.1.2 No Action 4](#_Toc98840188)

[4.1.3 Proposed Action 4](#_Toc98840189)

[4.2 Resource #2 4](#_Toc98840190)

[4.3 Resource #3, etc. 4](#_Toc98840191)

[5.0 Public and Agency Involvement 5](#_Toc98840192)

[5.1 What Outreach and Opportunities for Public Involvement Were Provided? 5](#_Toc98840193)

[5.1.1 Outreach to Environmental Justice and Underserved Populations 5](#_Toc98840194)

[5.2 What Outreach and Opportunities for Agency Involvement Were Provided? 5](#_Toc98840195)

[5.3 What Additional Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement Will Be Provided? 5](#_Toc98840196)

[6.0 References 6](#_Toc98840197)

Appendices

[Appendix A. Mitigation Table](#_Toc98323038)

[Appendix B. Purpose and Need Memorandum](#_Toc98323039)

[Appendix C. Alternative Analysis Reports](#_Toc98323040)

[Appendix D. Technical Reports for Resources](#_Toc98323041)

[Appendix E. Public and Agency Involvement](#_Toc98323042)

Figures

[Figure 1. Project Location Map(s) 1](#_Toc98840095)

[Figure 2. Project Limits/Study Area 1](#_Toc98840096)

[Figure 3. Needs Figure 2](#_Toc98840097)

[Figure 4. Alternatives Analysis Process Graphic 3](#_Toc98840098)

[Figure 5. No Action 3](#_Toc98840099)

[Figure 6. Plan View of Proposed Action 3](#_Toc98840100)

## 1.0 Introduction and Background

Provide a brief description of the project background, context within prior planning efforts such as a PEL study, project location, project limits/study area, existing conditions of project (interchange, number of lanes, etc.) project sponsors, etc.

Figure 1. Project Location Map(s)

Include insert for location within Colorado.

Note: If you’re using images, be sure to include a caption and alt text for your images.

Figure 2. Project Limits/Study Area

Include insert for project limits information here.

Note: If you’re using images, be sure to include a caption and alt text for your images.

## 2.0 Purpose and Need

### 2.1 What is the Purpose of the Project?

Provide a brief statement of the purpose of the project.

### 2.2 What are the Needs for the Project?

Provide a brief statement of the Needs for the project and supporting data for each. Reference an Appendix for additional details (memo or report), if applicable.

Figure 3. Needs Figure

Use as needed to illustrate needs.

## 3.0 Alternatives Evaluation

Provide a brief description of the alternative’s development and evaluation process, the PEL study (if applicable), and the transition to NEPA. Incorporate the PEL study by reference and cite the regulation and documentation that support the justification for planning studies to be used for NEPA. Reference the Alternatives Analysis Report and attach as an Appendix.

Figure 4. Alternatives Analysis Process Graphic

### 3.1 What is the No Action?

Provide a brief description of the No Action. Include a statement that the No Action does not meet the Purpose and Need and it is a baseline used to measure the Proposed Action against.

Figure 5. No Action

If applicable

### 3.2 What is the Proposed Action?

Provide a brief description of Proposed Action and why it best meets the Purpose and Need.

Figure 6. Plan View of Proposed Action

Include a figure that illustrates the main elements of the Proposed Action. Include additional figures, as needed, such as illustrations of bridges, cross sections, and other elements.

## 4.0 Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Commitments

List the environmental resources not evaluated because they are not present within the study area or would not be affected by the Proposed Action. **Briefly** describe the process taken to identify the environmental resources and impacts to those resources.

Refer to the Appendix with the mitigation table. Explain that the mitigation numbers included under each resource correspond to the mitigation numbers in the mitigation table.

### 4.1 Resource 1

Provide a brief narrative summary of the affected environment for the Resource, impacts from the No Action Alternative, and impacts and mitigation for the Proposed Action. Each Resource should be limited to 1 page (2 pages maximum if figures or summary tables are required). Reference applicable technical documentation in an Appendix for the resource, including a methodology report if included.

The following are the subsections that would be the same for each Resource evaluated:

#### 4.1.1 Affected Environment

Provide a summary of the existing conditions related to the Resource.

#### 4.1.2 No Action

Provide a summary of the potential impacts of the No Action (indirect and direct).

#### 4.1.3 Proposed Action

#### 4.1.4 Impacts

Describe the potential impacts of the Proposed Action (permanent, temporary, and cumulative, as appropriate). It’s assumed that CEQ regulations will revert to using the cumulative effects terminology and definition.

#### 4.1.5 Mitigation

Summarize the mitigation commitments for the Resource. Reference mitigation number from the mitigation table for each mitigation. Include additional clearances or permits required in the mitigation table.

### 4.2 Resource #2

See Section 4.1.

### 4.3 Resource #3, etc.

See Section 4.1.

## 5.0 Public and Agency Involvement

### 5.1 What Outreach and Opportunities for Public Involvement Were Provided?

Provide a summary of the public involvement activities that took place and what input was provided. Refer to the Appendix that has the detailed documentation for public involvement.

#### 5.1.1 Outreach to Environmental Justice and Underserved Populations

Describe what specific outreach was conducted to environmental justice and underserved populations and what input was provided.

### 5.2 What Outreach and Opportunities for Agency Involvement Were Provided?

Provide a summary of what agencies were contacted (local, state, and federal), when they were contacted, why they were contacted, and what input was provided. Refer to the Appendix that has the detailed documentation for agency involvement.

### 5.3 What Additional Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement Will Be Provided?

Describe how coordination and consultation with agencies and the public will continue through completion of the NEPA process, final design, and construction/project implementation, as appropriate.

Provide details about a public comment period and public meeting or hearing, as appropriate. Also include information about how to comment (written or verbal at meeting/hearing; written by mail, fax, email, or project website; etc.). If the project requires a public comment period, include text about reviewing and considering all comments received and that responses will be included in the decision document.

## 6.0 References

References from main text.

1. Mitigation Table
2. Purpose and Need Memorandum
3. Alternative Analysis Reports
4. Technical Reports for Resources
5. Public and Agency Involvement