

Physical Environment



Air Quality

Air quality is examined relative to four major categories of air pollutants: carbon monoxide, ozone, particulate matter, and mobile source air toxics. These pollutants are present in the air in varying amounts due to pollution sources including heavy industry, gasoline and diesel exhaust.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

No-Action

- Carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter levels within EPA-approved emission budgets

General Purpose Lanes

- Carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter levels within EPA-approved emission budgets

Tolled Express Lanes (Preferred)

- Carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter levels within EPA-approved emission budgets

MITIGATION

None required



Noise

Noise arising from highway traffic includes sources from vehicle engines, exhaust, and tire/pavement interaction.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

No-Action

- 21 locations would exceed CDOT noise abatement criteria

General Purpose Lanes

- 43 locations would exceed CDOT noise abatement criteria

Tolled Express Lanes (Preferred)

- 42 locations would exceed CDOT noise abatement criteria

MITIGATION

- Noise barriers are recommended at 11 residential locations for the general purpose lanes alternative & 12 residential locations for the tolled express lanes alternative
- Noise mitigation recommendations will be reviewed during final design to determine final feasibility, reasonableness and dimensions for each location

