News From The Colorado Department of Transportation



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CDOT VISITS MORE COMMUNITIES FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE NORTH I-25 EIS

Larimer and Weld Counties – The North I-25 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project team and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) are taking a new approach to public meetings in order to enhance and encourage public participation in the EIS process.

Since the study area spans a vast area that includes seven counties and more than 30 cities, CDOT and its partners have scheduled 12 town hall public meetings in January and February 2006, marking the fifth round of public meetings since the EIS inception in 2003.

"Public involvement at this stage of the study is very important, and we hope that by holding numerous meetings at convenient locations, more community members will be able to attend," said CDOT Project Manager Dave Martinez. "The project team will offer new findings in the North I-25 EIS, and we encourage the public to voice their opinions and needs of their communities."

In this fifth round of public meetings, information will be shared regarding the results of the third level of screening. In this third level, eight alternative transportation packages were developed and evaluated and the packages that performed best will advance into the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The results will be discussed at the town hall meetings, scheduled for the following dates and locations:

January 23 Fort Collins Aztlan Center 112 E. Willow 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

January 24 Windsor Community Center 250 11th St. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

January 25 Frederick Town Hall 401 Locust St. 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. *"Taking Care To Get You There"* January 26 Thornton City Hall 9500 Civic Center Dr. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. January 30 Gilcrest Valley High School 1001 Birch Street 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

January 31 Mead Town Hall 441 Third St. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

February 1 Longmont Museum 400 Quail Rd. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **February 2** Loveland Public Library 300 N. Adams 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

February 6 Greeley Recreation Center 651 10th Ave. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

February 7 Fort Collins Harmony Library 4616 S. Shields 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

February 15 Southwest Weld County Building 4209 Weld County Rd. 24 ¹⁄₂ 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

February 16 Milliken Town Hall 1101 Broad St. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

ABOUT THE NORTH I-25 EIS

The north I-25 corridor has become the focus of a substantial portion of statewide growth over the years, with I-25 serving as the primary north-south spine of the transportation system. Traffic volumes and accidents have increased on I-25 and parallel roadways; therefore, awareness of the need to plan for transportation improvements within this corridor has significantly increased over the years.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), initiated the North I-25 EIS in 2003 to identify and evaluate multimodal transportation improvements along the I-25 corridor from the Fort Collins-Wellington area to Denver.

As one of the state's largest EIS studies, the North I-25 EIS study area spans seven counties and more than 30 communities. In order to include consideration of multimodal transportation alternatives, the study area extends from US 287 in the west to US 85 in the east. For more information on the North I-25 EIS, visit the project Web site at <u>www.cdot.info/northi25eis/</u>, or contact CDOT Public Relations Coordinator Mindy Crane at (303) 757-9469.

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