

Transportation Town Hall (Feb 4 2023) Constituent Questions

Thank you for taking the time to meet with House Speaker Representative Julie McCluskie, Senator Mark Baisley, Transportation Commissioner Lisa Hickey, CDOT Region 2 Regional Transportation Director Shane Ferguson and CDOT Region 2 Traffic Safety and Engineering Program Manager Jason Nelson.

CDOT has provided the questions and associated answers to the best of its ability. Provided below are some additional resources in the event additional information is needed or other topics related to highway concerns can be addressed quickly.

- CDOT Region 2 Customer Service: 719-562-5568
- Planning Group covering Park County :
<https://www.uaacog.com/what-we-do/transportation.htm>
- Central Front Range 2045 Regional Transportation Plan:
cfr-rtp_public-review-draft_052120.pdf (codot.gov)
- US 285 Bailey Safety Project Website:
<https://www.codot.gov/projects/studies/us285-bailey-crow-hill-study>
- CDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) information:
<https://www.codot.gov/programs/planning/transportation-plans-and-studies/stip>
- CDOT Map of all STIP Projects: <https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/prolojs/>
- CDOT Active Construction Map:
<https://www.codot.gov/projects/projects/southeast-colorado-projects>
- CDOT Pavement Asset program will overlay (pave) US285 from Bailey to Pine Junction in Calendar year 2025 or 2026 depending on regional pavement condition.

Name	Sandy Horrocks
Email	sandy.horrocks@ghvalley.net
Question	What is the status of the bridge over the Arkansas River in Chaffee County? This bridge had the same problem as the bridge collapsed in Minneapolis in 2007. It's also rusted underneath. Band-Aids were applied to it, but does it need to be replaced?
Answer	Assume this is the bridge that leads into Granite, CO. The bridge replacement is currently out for bids and CDOT is hopeful to award the project at the end of February, if contractor prices are within CDOT budget for the project.

Name	Erica Gilmore
Email	e.a.gilmore@gotmail.com
Question	I am currently structuring Mountain Highways Safety Coalition, a 501(c)3 non-profit aimed at funneling private-sector funding into public safety projects and educational outreach. We need interested stakeholders to participate, please help me spread the word! Our sister organization is the Permian Road Safety Coalition
Answer	Thanks Erica, CDOT does have Public Private Partnerships (P3) initiatives and branch. More information can be found at https://www.cpdpt.gov/programs/ctio/procurement/resources

Name	No name
Question	I was born and raised in Bailey for over 50 yrs. With the barrier down the itr[?] of Bailey (proposed), what about the pinball effect? China village, Knotty pine, and so on [diagram of an arch with an arrow pointing toward those words]. The speed limit needs to be addressed.
Answer	If an errant vehicle hits the median concrete barrier it will be directed along the path of the barrier. Predicting post crash vehicle paths after impact is impossible, though based on past experience vehicles tend to come to rest a short distance after impact and redirection. As with all highways we commit to continue to monitor this section for safety improvements.

Name	none
Question	Can you prioritize the cheap and easy projects and get going right away—like signage and restriping. Warning sign top of crow hill southbound
Answer	The funding is tied to the project as a whole, and needs to go out as one package. We are hopeful to have a contractor on board in early May 2023, with construction starting soon thereafter and wrapping up in the fall.

Name	None
Question	CHANGE STRIPING at CR 72 grade separated intersection and US 285. CR72 needs an acceleration lane.
Answer	Due to engineering requirements, the striping cannot be changed without the addition of pavement, removal of the turn lane at CR43A or reducing lanes on US 285. CDOT is looking for future funding opportunities to achieve this.

Name	none
Question	What kind of barrier can you put along the river in Bailey that will NOT flip tractor-trailer trucks onto their tops in the river?
Answer	Performance of crash barriers depends on the angle of approach to the barrier along with speed and mass of the vehicle. Adding the concrete median barrier limits the angle that potential crashes can occur along the riverside and CDOT is confident that the metal guardrail, along the river, will perform as expected.

Name	none
Question	Skirted over law enforcement. Good design and investment in infrastructure does not compensate for lack of adherence to the law.
Answer	CDOT has a long history of fruitful partnering with local law enforcement and Colorado State Patrol (CSP). CSP is highly active in the Bailey area given their limited resources. They routinely conduct mobile weight checks and provide speed enforcement. CSP and CDOT will continue to do the best possible to promote adherence to traffic laws. If there are specific concerns please reach out to the project team or CDOT customer service line at 719-562-5568.

Name	none
Question	Is there a plan in place to redo the white lines on the sides of the roads? Is photo radar a possibility for those driving excessive speeds...maybe a ticket would assist in slowing people down
Answer	The project will redo the white edge line markings and we will restripe all other highway segments on a rotating basis. If you have a specific concern please reach out to the project team or CDOT customer service line at 719-562-5568.

Name	none
Question	Have you looked at having a slower speed for trucks (semi) going southbound going down crow hill?
Answer	Comment received and under investigation.

Name	none
Question	How does an 80,000 lb vehicle come to a COMPLETE stop on a 7% downgrade? "National guideline" is 6% per NTSB
Answer	Currently, no project is identified to reduce the grade at this location.

Name	none
Question	Can speed limits be lowered from top of Crowhill, down the hill also? What is the amount of time for the light and can a sign letting people know that the light is changing?
Answer	We will review the current posted speed along with current average running speed for the possibility of reducing the posted speed limit per Federal guidelines. On US 285 at CR43A, flashing beacons do exist to let drivers know when the signal is changing by beginning to flash before the signal changes to yellow and then red. Currently we run several different signal timing plans for CR43A. The longest wait period on the side street is roughly two minutes during the summer peak periods. Off peak wait times are slightly longer than a minute. This intersection is coming up on our retiming list and should be completed after summer weekend data can be collected.

Name	none
Question	How about a weigh station heading south on 285 before crow hill? Truckers are running <u>too heavy</u> . This could also help with “jake brake” noise on Crow Hill.
Answer	Colorado State Patrol (CSP) does perform mobile weigh station activities in the area on a rotating basis. CSP would need to request a new weigh station.

Name	none
Question	You should consider J turners tp the Meadow as posted to cross our traffic
Answer	CDOT refers to these movements as jug handles. Alternative intersection designs are evaluated for all intersection improvements. When this intersection is prioritized for improvements, this will definitely be considered and evaluated.

Name	Laura Crews, PPACG (lcrews@ppacg.org)
Question	Suggestions: since it is a bigger lift to change federal programs. The match requirements & deadhead mile issues with providing transit in places like Park county need to be addressed at the state level with additional funding to offset the costs of providing rural transit
Answer	Comment received and under advisement.

Name	none
Question	285 needs big improvement on passive lighting. Most of the roadside reflectors are busted/twisted & filthy. We need many more new reflectors put in. In addition, can center lane embedded reflectors be put in? It's so dark on the 285–Especially in <u>Park County</u>
Answer	Maintenance has been advised of this concern and will investigate delineator conditions. Lighting is used to mitigate nighttime crash patterns and we will review the corridor for opportunities. CDOT has tried the center lane reflectors and with current technology found that they cannot resist snow plowing efforts. We are actively monitoring the industry for additional technology along with communicating with other DOT's for product information and performance for opportunities here in Colorado.

Name	none
Question	What are you doing to slow down traffic on 285 before Bailey, up & down 285?
Answer	We are hopeful that the additional warning signs and new overhead sign, that will be installed with the project, will help with this issue. CDOT will continue to monitor speeds, volumes and accidents for additional mitigation.

Name	none
Question	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Runaway truck ramp 2) Reduce speed limit in Bailey 3) Bailey bypass per 2002 vision statement
Answer	<p>Comments received. Speed is being reviewed currently, the truck runaway ramp is not a viable option given the length and restraints of Crow Hill. The bypass is a community led decision that can be communicated through the planning process. Central Fronta Range is this area planning organization: https://www.uaacog.com/what-we-do/transportation.html</p>

Name	none
Question	Bailey Bypass Status?
Answer	The long range Central Front Range Plane does not currently have the bypass listed as a potential project. cfr-rtp_public-review-draft_052120.pdf (codot.gov)

Name	none
Question	<p>Can special mountain training for truck drivers be required? Is it possible to create weigh stations on 285? (Heavy truck traffic is ruining the road) How to better curb excessive speed all along the 285 Hwy? Most accidents are caused by speed!</p>
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	none
Question	What can CDOT do to improve safety? Eg. driver education, road improvements

Answer	<p>CDOT's primary goal is to provide a safe and efficient highway system. All project and planning efforts have safety at the center of each and every activity. Increasing safety takes education, enforcement, engineering along with cultural change. CDOT partners with agencies for enforcement and education and complete vigorous safety analysis for each project along with having a Traffic Safety and Engineering Program in each Region that continuously monitors and collaborates with numerous communities and entities attempting to answer this question with results. We need to do better and are trying numerous efforts to attempt to fulfill our Vision of ZERO fatalities.</p>
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Name	none
Question	Are there any plans for barriers between N & S bound 285 in the 2&3 lane section from Conifer to Bailey? And beyond.
Answer	No identified projects exist to date. If you have specific concerns on specific segments in regard to safety performance please contact CDOT Customer Service at 719-562-5568.

Name	none
Question	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do we have a maintenance schedule for Park Co. and 285? 2. What improvements are scheduled for 285?
Answer	<p>There are maintenance barns located near 285 at multiple locations, localized concerns can be communicated through the CDOT customer service line at 719-562-5568.</p> <p>Near term Region 2 projects can be found here: cfr-rtp_public-review-draft_052120.pdf (codot.gov)</p> <p>This map does not show asset management projects such as pavement markings, roadway overlays, sign replacement, etc. There is an overlay planned in 2025, possibly 2026 from Bailey to Pine Junction.</p>

Name	none
Question	Can we get a pedestrian bridge in downtown Bailey?
Answer	This effort is not identified within current planned projects or long range plans.

Name	none
Question	Why isn't the 7% downgrade (currently permitted) prohibited for 80,000 GVW vehicles? Why are "jake brakes" not restricted south of crow hill?
Answer	All State Highway are considered truck routes; prohibiting certain classes of vehicles is not permitted. Prohibiting Jake Brakes must be requested through Colorado State Patrol as they perform enforcement.

Name	none
Question	Are there any assurances from C.S.P or Park County so that the new proposed 35 mph speed limit will be enforced? Especially on large and heavy commercial truck rigs?
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	none
Question	The Bailey curve project looks to prevent vehicles going into the river. Does not appear to help prevent accidents.
Answer	Comment received.

Name	none
Question	Can you please <u>extend the entrance</u> ramp from 43 to US285 at the bridge. Currently nonexistent
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	none
Question	When you place the barriers at the bottom of crow hill will that be closed down? If so for how long?
Answer	The project has developed pay items based on closing the center of US 285 to construct the barrier and then closing a single lane for NB US 285 for the guardrail construction. Based on estimated production rates, this took 45 working days or a

	little more than two months. One lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained at all times on US285.
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Name	none
Question	What's the timeline when our project will be completed?
Answer	We are hopeful to have a contractor on board in early May 2023, with construction starting soon thereafter and wrapping up in the Fall.

Name	none
Question	What kind of signage? Not a fan of huge sign destroying ambiance & views. -G
Answer	Project information, including plan sheets can be viewed at: https://www.codot.gov/projects/studies/us285-bailey-crow-hill-study There is also the ability to email project team leads with questions, recommendations, or other needed information.

Name	none
Question	Is there a website where we can stay up-to-date on 285 plans?
Answer	https://www.codot.gov/projects/studies/us285-bailey-crow-hill-study

Name	none
Question	We need a chain-up station on 285 just after 470. Too many semis slide out going up the canyon
Answer	Thank you for the comment, it is under consideration.

Name	none
Question	Median concrete barrier vs Riverside???
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	none
Question	Could a "smart" light be installed at Hwy 285 & CtRd 43?
Answer	By smart light, the assumption is a light that detects traffic and immediately cycles to serve demand. The accident pattern at this location are rear end crashes, and operating the signal in this fashion would increase the number of rear end crashes and degrade safety of the intersection. CDOT asks for your patience in waiting at the light, the wait time will not exceed two and half minutes.

Name	none
Question	The mileage going north[?] on 285 from the top of the hill to 40 mph is 1.7 miles. Why 40 mph??
Answer	Currently, CDOT sets speed limits following Federal Guidelines and posts speed limits for this type of corridor using the 85th percentile speed, meaning the posted speed limit is set for the speed in which 85 percent of drivers are traveling.

Name	none
Question	When are you going to pave up Schaggers crossing & richmond hill, expand shoulder work.
Answer	Shaffers Crossing construction is looking to be constructed in 2028; the project is on a possible extra funding list in the event of excess funding or new funding becomes available.

Name	none
Question	Emphasis must be put on safety as being mostly the responsibility of <u>drivers</u> . Obeying speed limits, traffic signals, paying attention to the road and other drivers. Safety starts with personal responsibility.
Answer	Comment received.

Name	none
Question	Re: Senior Transportation. Many rural counties cannot afford a 50/50 split for funding transit options. Is there any plan for helping these counties with additional funding for rural counties?

Answer	Answered in other Q & A's
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Name	none
Question	What plans are there for maintenance on Hwy 285–no shoulders, boulders nearly on road.
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	Barb Pilcher
Question	Hi I am Barb Pilcher with the Knotty Pine. My question is if there is a cable barrier put up in the median in downtown Bailey what will keep the cars & trucks from bouncing off and coming into my store? I am only 20 feet away from 285. We also need a left Hand turn lane northbound 285 & main st.
Answer	Answered in other Q & A's

Name	Irene Merrifield - irene.merrifield@state.co.us
Question	Whatever is decided for the intersection of U.S. 285 and Park County Road 43, please ensure it allows for efficient movement in the case of an evacuation.
Answer	Comment received