US 36 CORRIDOR NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2008



US 36 EIS

PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD & PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE TO BE IDENTIFIED

US 36 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS) RELEASE



In August 2007, the US 36 DEIS was released for public review and followed by a series of Public Hearings and a 45-day comment period. Public comments were submitted evaluating the two "build" packages and a "no action" alternative included in the DEIS. The two "build" alternatives are Package 2: Express lanes/Bus Rapid Transit and Package 4: General Purpose Lanes/

High Occupancy Vehicle/Bus Rapid Transit.

IDENTIFYING A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR THE US 36 FEIS

The next task in the US 36 EIS is to incorporate the public comments received and identify a Preferred Alternative for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The FEIS will conclude with a Record of Decision (ROD) made by the lead federal agencies. The Preferred Alternative will address the purpose and need of the project while seeking to minimize impacts and cost. A Preferred Alternative Committee comprised of US 36 corridor elected and appointed officials will be meeting to collaboratively develop a preferred alternative. These meetings will be open to the public. Additionally, large-scale public meetings will be held after a preliminary Preferred Alternative is identified in the Fall of 2008.

WHAT WAS HEARD DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Comments about the DEIS were received from government agencies, stakeholder organizations, property owners, and the general public through the website, by mail, and at the Public Hearings. Public Hearings were held in Westminster, Broomfield and Boulder with over 230 members of the public attending and more the 170 comments received. Comments expressed support for a package of improvements that would incorporate

a combination of elements from the different build alternatives. Please visit the website www.us36eis.com, for a more detailed summary of public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE US 36 COMMENT PERIOD COVERED THE FOLLOWING ISSUES

Package I - No Action: Support was expressed for Package I on the view that both 'build' alternatives have unacceptable levels of impact.

Package 2 - Express Lanes/Bus Rapid Transit: Support for use of tolled express lanes to help manage future congestion and provide reliable travel times was expressed.

Package 4 - General Purpose Lanes/High Occupancy Vehicle/Bus Rapid Transit: Support was expressed for added general purpose & HOV lanes to improve mobility, access and transit.

Combined Alternative: Numerous comments supported developing an alternative using a combination of elements from both build packages.

Design & Operations: Comments addressed different aspects including access points and transportation demand management strategies.

Noise Impacts & Mitigation: Comments requested increased noise mitigation, such as sound walls and other strategies to reduce noise impacts of the highway.

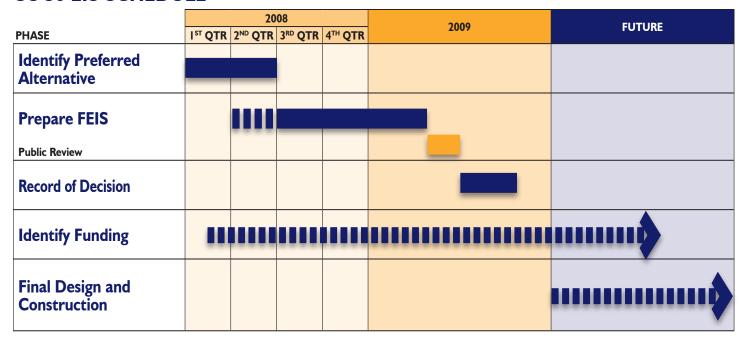
Property Impacts & Acquisition: Numerous requests were made for more project information and an implementation timeline regarding property acquisitions.

Environmental Impacts: Support was expressed for the alternative with the least impact upon the environment and that minimizes pollution.

Bikeway Comments: Substantial support was expressed for the Boulder to Denver Bikeway as an early implementation action. Bikeway alignment preferences were expressed.

Funding Comments: Recognizing funding constraints, comments suggested identifying and implementing transportation improvements in phases.

US 36 EIS SCHEDULE



For more information please visit the US 36 EIS website at: www.US36EIS.com

If you have any questions about the US 36 EIS please call 303-442-7367 x221

Para recibir esta carta noticiosa en español, o para información adicional en español sobre este proyecto, por favor llamar al 720-936-1769.



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Llame este numero de telefono para aprender más de reuniones, información del proyecto, y como participar. (720) 936-1769

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