



**COLORADO**

Department of  
Transportation



**SH 9 Iron Springs Alignment  
Public Hearing July 29, 2014**



# Welcome!

Thank you for attending  
Your interest and comments  
are important to us





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# Agenda

- Corridor background
- Proposed Action
- Project status and next steps
- Comments



## SH 9 Corridor Background

### SH 9 Frisco to Breckenridge EIS and ROD - 2004

- Established Purpose and Need for Corridor
  - Safety
  - Congestion
  - Transit
- Evaluated broad range of alternatives
- Selected widening of existing SH 9 to 4 lanes
- Construction has progressed as funds became available
- Current phase will complete SH 9 south of Summit HS



# SH 9 Iron Springs Alignment EA

## Request to Evaluate Realignment of SH 9

- Summit County made initial request to CDOT
  - Changed conditions noted
  - Mountain pine beetle epidemic
  - Heightened water quality concerns
  - Renewed safety concerns
- Discussion began with agencies and stakeholders
- CDOT/FHWA prepared Environmental Assessment
- Iron Springs Alignment is the “Proposed Action”



## “No Action Alternative”

- EA compares Proposed Action to “No Action Alternative”
- “No Action Alternative” is 4 lane widening per 2004 ROD
- This will be built if Proposed Action is not selected
- Widen to 4 lanes on the existing SH 9 alignment
- Leslie’s Curve would remain with center safety barrier
- USFS Dickey parking lot would remain, limited access
- Portion of Bikeway on the south end would be realigned
- Large rock cuts and retaining walls required



## Proposed Action

- Presented in the EA and Display Boards
- Construct 4 lane SH 9 on new “Iron Springs Alignment”
- SH 9 would be shortened by 0.4 mile
- Tight compound curve (Leslie’s Curve) removed
- Bikeway moved to current SH 9 alignment
- Bikeway would be 0.4 mile longer with gentler grade
- USFS Dickey lot replaced with new lot on Recreation Way
- Trail connection added to new parking lot
- Construction could occur mostly off-line



## Benefits of the Proposed Action

- Easier to construct, less traffic disruption
- Improve safety by eliminating dangerous curve
- Reduced wetland impacts
- Bikeway at gentler grade with reservoir overlook
- Water quality protection
- Improved recreation experience at shoreline
- Reduced barrier to wildlife
- Shorter highway would reduce maintenance
- Less extensive retaining walls needed



# Project Status and Next Steps

## Public Comments and NEPA Decision

- Public comments through August 8, 2014
- CDOT and FHWA will carefully consider all comments
- CDOT and FHWA decisions to be made:
  - Proposed Action or No Action Alternative
  - Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding for recreation sites
  - NEPA decision document



## Project Status and Next Steps (cont.)

### Final Design and Construction

- Following decision proceed with final design
- Continue agency and stakeholder involvement
- Right-of-Way process to be initiated in 2015
- RAMP Program funding available for construction
- Construction could occur in 2016 and 2017



## Ways to Comment

- At this hearing:
  - Open comments - please sign up
  - Verbal comments to court reporter
  - Written comments in comment box
- Through August 8, 2014
  - Mail, fax or e-mail
  - Project website:  
[www.coloradodot.info/projects/hwy9f2b](http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/hwy9f2b)



## Open Comment Time

- To present your comments:
  - Please sign up to comment at the table
  - Speakers will be called in order of sign up
  - Please state your name and affiliation, if any
  - Please be concise and respect others time (3 min. limit)
- CDOT and FHWA will:
  - Carefully consider all comments
  - Respond in writing in the NEPA decision document
- Thank you!