

Meeting Notes



I-70 Floyd Hill to Veterans Memorial Tunnels

Date: October 11, 2017

Location: CDOT – Golden

Technical Team

Meeting #1

[Ctrl +Click HERE](#) or paste link below into your browser for Shared Floyd Hill Project GDrive

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B5g5iHKBVK6OR2tpb1J0OUNkNU0>

Introductions and Overview

Taber Ward, CDR Associates, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda. Self-introductions followed. No changes were made to the agenda and the meeting proceeded.

Target Dates

- Data Collection and Alternatives Development – begin Fall of 2017
- NEPA / Design - Winter of 2017 through Spring of 2020
- Complete design followed by construction - Summer of 2020**

**Subject to funding

ACTION - THK/HDR: 1041 needs to fit within the target dates; we need to determine when a 1041 process is necessary. Add to Target Dates

Project Updates

WB I-70 PPSL – Working through the design process with the Technical Team. The fifth WB I-70 PPSL Technical Team Meeting was held this morning (October 11, 2017) to gather input on roadway striping and alternatives development.

- **INFRA Grant** – Applying for a federal INFRA Grant (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America) to receive transportation funding. CDOT is drafting a grant application with HDR.

- Scope (if funding is awarded)
 - Elements of Greenway
 - Phase II CR 314
 - Rockfall Mitigation
 - Fall River Road Bridge
 - WB PPSL
 - SH 103 Intersection, Drainage, Sight Distance and Ramp Improvements
 - Due - November 2, 2017
 - Notification of Award – March 2018
 - Local Contributions and Private Contributions will be important factors in winning the grant.

Greenway

- \$4 million has been awarded in the last few weeks to Clear Creek County (\$2 million) and Idaho Springs (\$2 million)
- Recent fundraiser to share funds between Greenway, Argo Mine redevelopment and Mountain Bike Area 28 – raised \$50,000.

Region 3 Vail Pass

- PLT #2 postponed
- An executive PLT was formed

Idaho Springs Transit Center

- Exit 241 closed – paving will take about 2 weeks.

Fall River Road Bridge

- Vehicular bridge seems preferred based on feedback to date

Geohazard Mitigation Program

- Bids came in really high; split project in half. Will work on first sites this winter/spring and then shut it down in the fall. Some closures expected and the project team will reach out to those impacted ahead of time to discuss when the closures will occur and getting the information out to the traveling public.

Soda Creek

- Ad for work in January. Night construction in summer 2018

ACTION: THK - Add Recreation Management Symposium to Project Updates

CSS Process

Kevin Shanks, THK Associates, presents an overview of the CSS Process.

As part of the Record of Decision, the CSS Process is used as a foundation of the various teams (Project Leadership Team, Technical Team, Project Staff).

Flow Chart

Kevin reviewed the CSS process flow chart from the previous Concept Development Process (CDP), and revised by the Floyd Hill Project Leadership Team, outlining the Context Statement, Core Values, Critical Issues and Evaluation Criteria. The Floyd Hill PLT and TT can use this as starting point as they tailor and modify the different components to Floyd Hill's needs.

TT Membership

TT members confirmed that Steve Cook, DRCOG, was part of the TT. There is a request that Project Staff reach out to Steve Cook again to try and get him more involved with the Floyd Hill TT. DRCOG input will be important for long-range plan and TIP.

ACTION: CDR - Follow-up with Steve Cook

Core Values and Evaluation

The TT discussed "Recreation" as a Core Value.

Jo Ann Sorensen notes that Colorado Recreation Lands and Facilities are being "Loved to Death." We need to think about how the burden of population growth influences recreation facilities. There is a carrying capacity issue and we are destroying the very thing that people love about Colorado. There are indirect and cumulative impacts that need to be assessed.

Suggestion to add an Evaluation Criteria for Recreation around prevention of overuse or over-recreation.

ACTION: THK – modify Recreation Evaluation Criteria to say "Supports/Enhances **quality** recreational access and facilities" to reflect the deterioration of quality of recreation experiences due to overuse.

ACTION: CDR- post updated Flow Chart on [GDrive](#).

Jo Ann Sorensen: suggested that local agreements/studies be included in the analysis/evaluation of alternatives at the beginning of the process to avoid backtracking. There are more agreements and studies than just the ROD that apply to this process.

ACTION - TT members: Send relevant local studies to Taber Ward, CDR Associates, to be included in the alternatives development and evaluation process.

Technical Team Schedule

The Technical Team reviewed the schedule. There were no comments or changes made. This schedule will be updated as new issues come up during the alternatives development process. The schedule will be update and posted on the Shared [GDrive](#).

Glossary of Terms

No Additions. We will update the Glossary as needed to ensure we are all speaking the same language. Words matter.

Charter

Taber Ward, CDR Associates, reviewed the Charter. Changes to the Context Statement and Desired TT Outcomes were made. There was a request that Project Staff be included in the Charter text.

ACTION: CDR to update Charter based on TT Feedback.

Desired Outcomes that the TT articulated (in addition to the PLT Desired Outcomes):

- Address preservation of habitat and environmental values
- Conservation of the eco-system and habitat.
- Enhancement of existing environment and functionality.
- All impacts need to be considered
- Air quality improvements. There may be an ozone issue bumping up against Floyd Hill.
- Design a fundable, realistic and sustainable alignment
- Consideration of indirect and cumulative impacts

It was also noted that community members need a contact for the project at CDOT, since no contact is currently listed on the website.

Agreement: CDOT will determine whose contact information will be listed and ensure that it's included on the project website.

ACTION: CDOT - Update website with project materials and contact information.

Community Considerations

The TT reviewed the Community Considerations derived from the Concept Development Process (CDP), public input, and with Floyd Hill PLT modifications and additions.

Jonathan Bartsch, CDR Associates, asked the group:

1. What do we need to add? What is missing?
2. What do we do with these? How do we use these?
 - Some are critical issues (community concerns and issues) – These are used to develop evaluation criteria.
 - Some of them are design concepts (some are solutions) – These solutions assist with the project design and these will be evaluated in the evaluation matrix.

The TT asked how community considerations will be tied to the decisions we are making?

Answer: Ensuring that these community considerations have been addressed in the alternatives development and evaluation process is, in part, a TT responsibility. The TT, PLT, and Project Staff will use the list of Community Considerations to validate and verify that the alternatives developed are context sensitive and take into account community concerns and opportunities and ensure that nothing is missed.

The community considerations speak to what is here today – we are not looking into the future based on different alternative alignments.

This list will continue to grow from input at public meetings and as we go through this process.

Community Considerations suggestions from the TT

1. Safety: The bottleneck where three lanes becomes two lanes is a safety hazard
2. Mobility and Accessibility: Consider operational needs first, before moving into the design process
3. Environment: Minimize impact to wetlands and avoid fens
4. Decision Making: Address compatibility with new Clear Creek County Community Master Plan and its resolutions

Agreement – Project Staff and TT will work together to track community considerations and report out on what we did with each and every one of these.

ACTION: HDR/THK – Update Community Considerations – underlining new additions.

Land Use

These opportunities and issues will take collaboration between agencies and the community.

- Local and regional mobility; local access, commercial development, greenway, rafting access, truck parking.

Outreach Summary

Vanessa Henderson, CDOT presented a DRAFT Outreach Summary

- STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS – TWO IN-PERSON MEETINGS
- SMALL GROUP MEETINGS – LOCAL AGENCIES, PROPERTY/BUSINESS OWNERS, ETC.
- OTHER TOOLS – NEWSLETTERS, PROJECT HOTLINE, PROJECT EMAIL ADDRESS, PROJECT WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND ONLINE SURVEYS

The group discussed the outreach plan and techniques:

- Project hotline will be set up when the project gets started. E-mail that is received is automatically documented and there is hotline documentation as well.
- We will go out to the public when alternatives are more defined.
- Telephone Town Hall is another potential meeting format – these can be very valuable and should consider using this meeting format as well.
- An online meeting similar to what was used for the EB PPSL project was also suggested.
- We have emails from the public meetings and will do outreach to these folks with an initial email that lets them know the project development process has started and where to go for more information (website). This will get sent out after the website has been updated.
- Part of what we put together is what we will need for NEPA. We will take this basic plan to see what else needs to be augmented.
- Public meetings - called Stakeholder meetings.
- Should consider holding at least one of the public meetings in Jefferson County so that more people can participate.

Proposed Solutions

Anthony Pisano, Atkins, presented Alignment and Interchange concepts from the CDP. Atkins is currently modifying and refining these concepts and advancing the level of design for TT discussions.

The following Alignment and Interchange concepts were presented to the TT:

North Alignment Concept

South Alignment Concept

Off Alignment

Move Interchange East

Full Movements at Current locations

Shift other movements to the East

Hidden Valley

Some interchanges work better with different alignments.

John Muscatell suggested that we talk about how the road should operate before we talk about how to design it. This operations discussion should include parking and open space. Operational issues will drive the design. Some of this includes issues that are not within CDOT's jurisdiction, i.e. trucks off road during closure or how the fire department gets to the high school. These should be on the table early. This is an opportunity for the community and for CDOT.

Agreement: At the next TT meeting we will brainstorm operational issues and opportunities and decide how to proceed (ITFs, Individual Meetings, etc). These might include school bus operations, trucking, open space, residential impacts, emergency, greenway.

NEPA

Study area: Mile Post 248 East of CR 65 Ramps to Mile Post 242 West of the Veterans Memorial Tunnels

INITIAL CLASS OF ACTION – Environmental Assessment (EA) by FHWA/CDOT.

We will not know the level of environmental impacts until we start developing alternatives and can assess their impacts. If we see that there is a potential for significant impacts, we can reconsider this class of action.

CSS Training

Purpose – all participants will have a common understanding of the CSS process as agreed upon by corridor stakeholders for use on the I-70 Mountain Corridor.

October 26, 2017 CDOT R1 Golden - 9am to 12pm – Current attendees include CDOT R1 and R3 staff as well as current project consultant staff.

25 people signed up

Next Steps

Future TT Meetings:

- **2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAYS from 1pm -4pm at CDOT.**

Scheduling Section 106, SWEEP and ALIVE MEETINGS late 2017/early 2018

Data Collection Atkins is looking at the past data and technical reports, e.g. windshield surveys, OTIS tool.

Vanessa Henderson, CDOT discussed collecting data and resources, existing conditions and methodologies. Gary Frey requested to review the data collection methodologies. Vanessa agreed to provide this information.

ACTION: CDOT to share the methodology information when available.

Parking Lot

Recreation Management

- Clear Creek County is working on symposium in early Spring - Feb-May- meeting of 20-30 discussing; CCC/USFS/CDOT/CPW - align effort to address issues.
- Clear Creek County will be convening
- Core group of policy makers or issue oriented stakeholders - CCD, Denver Chamber.

ACTION: THK - Move to Project Updates

Actions and Agreements

ACTION - TT members: Send relevant local studies to Taber Ward, CDR Associates, to be included in the alternatives development and evaluation process.

ACTION - THK/HDR: 1041 needs to fit within the target dates; we need to determine when a 1041 process is necessary. Add to Target Dates

ACTION: THK/HDR – Update Community Considerations – underlining new additions.

ACTION: THK - Add Recreation Management Symposium to Project Updates

ACTION: THK – modify Recreation Evaluation Criteria to say “Supports/Enhances **quality** recreational access and facilities” to reflect the deterioration of quality of recreation experiences due to overuse.

ACTION: THK - Move to Recreation Management from Parking Lot to Project Updates

ACTION: CDR- post updated Flow Chart on [GDrive](#).

ACTION: CDR – Follow up with Steve Cook

ACTION: CDR to update Charter based on TT Feedback.

ACTION: CDOT - Update website with project materials and contact information.

ACTION: CDOT to share the methodology information when available.

Agreement: CDOT will determine whose contact information will be listed and ensure that it's included on the project website.

Agreement – Project Staff and TT will work together to track community considerations and report out on what we did with each and every one of these

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Attendees

Carol -FS Kruse (USFS), Holly Huyck (Clear Creek Watershed Foundation); Jo Ann Sorensen, Tim Mauck, Randy Wheelock (Clear Creek County); Bill Coffin, John Muscatell (Community Reps from Floyd Hill); Lynette Hailey (I-70 Coalition); Martha Tableman (Clear Creek Open Space); Wendy Koch (Town of Empire); Joseph Walter (CPW); Yelena Onnen (Jefferson County); Kelly Larson (FHWA); Anthony Pisano (Atkins); Gina McAfee (HDR Inc.); Kevin Shanks, Julie Gamec (THK Associates); Vanessa Henderson, Neil Ogden, Stephen Harelson, Kevin Brown (CDOT); Taber Ward, Jonathan Bartsch (CDR Associates)