



I-70 Floyd Hill

Floyd Hill – Project Leadership Team

Meeting Summary

October 20, 2023, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Kraemer Floyd Hill Office: 35715 US-40 Building B, Ste 220, Evergreen, CO 90439

1. Introductions, Agenda Review, General Updates

Agenda

1. Project Updates (Construction & Design)
2. Project Financial Update & Strategy
3. Wrap Up & Next Steps

Construction Updates

- Early Projects
 - Genesee Wildlife Crossing is in the last phase of construction for the EB structure and tracking toward finishing the project in spring 2024.
 - US 40 Roundabouts is cleaning up the project site to ensure no issues arise over the winter months. The next steps are finalizing a strategy to complete the project efficiently in the spring.
- Main Project
 - Wall work and drainage work are ongoing for the East Section.
 - Construction TT members reviewed the sculpted shotcrete for the East Section walls. Mesh is also being put in place on the East Section.
 - The team is currently moving signs out of the West Section for the MEXL entrance update. Signs should be moved by the end of next week.
 - Utility companies are continuing their work from either end of the Greenway trail. The Project Team is working on grading in the middle section.
- **TT Question** (Andy Marsh, Idaho Springs): Will there be a courtesy patrol for the project during the winter months?
 - **Response** (Kurt Kionka, CDOT): We are looking at ways to keep traffic moving during the winter months. Trucks are the main issue, but having a heavy tow on standby is not feasible at this point from a cost perspective.



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Design Updates

- The Design Team won an international award from Bentley for the 3D models that have been used throughout the CSS process to present project design elements.
- Tyler Brady, CDOT, shared the following slide with the design status and anticipated schedule:

East Section

- Greenway Trail: ADA grading underway
- Utilities: relocation underway along US 6 and Greenway Trail
- WB MEXL sign relocation: underway, lane closures complete prior to Veterans Day

West Section

- Final plans & specifications: -10/27/2023
- CAP meeting 1: 12/5/2023
- CAP meeting 2: 12/7/2023

Central Section

- DOR 60%: December 2023
- FOR 90%: May 2024
- CAP plans & specs.: June 2024

Other Updates - N/A

2. Project Financial Update & Strategy

Kurt Kionka, CDOT, presented the following financial update to the PLT. The Project Team's initial budget was set in 2021 at roughly \$700 million. Due to a variety of factors, including macroeconomic factors such as inflation, the estimated cost to deliver the project as of this PLT meeting is now above \$700 million. This latest estimate came following the Central Section of the project reaching 30% design. The Project Team has been working to develop a range of options to address this budget shortfall, including design refinements, scope changes, and other strategies. At present, no decisions have been made regarding changes to the project, but due to the East Section already being under construction and the West Section nearing CAP, any major design changes would likely need to occur in the Central Section.

- **Question** (Cindy Neely, Clear Creek County): What is CDOT doing to address the budget shortfall?
 - **Response** (Kurt Kionka): Several specific items being considered include pausing the Empire Wildlife Crossing, maximizing the toll loan with CTIO, and looking at every possible design refinement.



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The Project Team requested the PLT to support the strategy development and process for advancing the project while still meeting the following project goals established at the onset of the CMGC effort:

- Improve Safety, Mobility, Operations, and Maintenance
- Stakeholder Commitment and Partnership
- Enhance Environmental Stewardship
- Minimize Construction and Economic Impacts Through Innovation
- Optimize Scope, Schedule, and Budget

Following this presentation of the issue, Jonathan Bartsch, CDR Associates, opened the floor for discussion.

- Cindy Neely, Clear Creek County: The Central Section is of extreme importance to Clear Creek County due its connection to the Greenway, recreation, and historical interests. The Project should include a serious exploration of additional funding opportunities as part of the strategy to address the budget shortfall, instead of looking to make design modifications or scope changes.
- Andy Marsh, Idaho Springs: Idaho Springs shared a similar sentiment to Clear Creek County. Major design changes in the Central Section at this point would be a mistake. This is a nationally significant project and the project should pursue additional federal funding opportunities including the Colorado delegation, Governor and others who were present at the groundbreaking for the project.
- Liz Cramer, FHWA: FHWA is here to support the process. Unfortunately, there is a solidified process to receiving additional funding through grants. But FHWA can provide the options that exist.
- Lynnette Hailey, City of Black Hawk: In agreement about the need to explore federal funding opportunities.

5. Wrap Up & Next Steps

Jonathan Bartsch, CDR Associates, reviewed the next steps based on the group discussion and asked for PLT confirmation. The next steps outlined include:

- *Initiate a three-prong strategy of exploring design refinements, scope changes, and additional funding opportunities.* Design refinements that are “smaller” (e.g. girder types, wall types, etc.) can be brought to the Technical Team for deliberation. Major design refinements (e.g. alignment changes) should be brought to the PLT. Scope changes (e.g. removing project elements) should be brought to the PLT. Additional funding opportunities are to be brought to the PLT.



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- *CDOT Staff will provide PLT input to Executive Management.* Following this report and direction from Executive Management, a PLT meeting will be scheduled to clarify viable options and advance the strategy.
- *After the subsequent PLT, the TT will begin to review and deliberate applicable design refinements.*

Jonathan Bartsch asked for final thoughts.

- Several PLT members noted that given the statewide and national significance of the Floyd Hill project, elevating the budget shortfall to political leadership may be necessary. However, prior to this happening, CDOT Staff will convene and discuss with CDOT Executive Management.
- PLT members also suggested reaching out to individuals who had dealt with similar issues in the past for guidance.

Attendees

Wendy Koch (Town of Empire); Joe Behm (Central City); Lindsey Daniels (CIG Public Relations); Cindy Neely (Clear Creek County); Julian Gonzalez, Liz Cramer (FHWA); Vanessa Hallady (Peak Consulting); Andy Marsh (Idaho Springs); Lynnette Hailey (City of Black Hawk); Kevin Shanks (THK); Emily Wilfong, Matt Hogan (Kraemer); Abbie Modafferi, Kurt Kionka, Jeff Hampton, Tamara Rollison, Presley Fowler (CDOT); Matt Aguirre, Anthony Pisano (Atkins); Jonathan Bartsch, Daniel Estes (CDR Associates)