

Who can I contact if I have questions?

CDOT is available to answer questions about the project and the Record of Decision. Please contact:

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If you no longer wish to receive correspondence about future projects on the I-70 Mountain Corridor, please email cattlin.mccusker@ch2m.com.

Para información en español, por favor contactar a Cattlin McCusker al (720) 286-0484 o escribir al cattlin.mccusker@ch2m.com



I-70 Mountain Corridor Record of Decision Signed

On June 16, 2011, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) signed the Record of Decision approving the Preferred Alternative for the I-70 Mountain Corridor Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). The FHWA approval marks the end of nearly 20 years of study and discussions about improvements for the I-70 Mountain Corridor. Both FHWA and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) (the lead agencies) are indebted to thousands of individuals and organizations that helped us craft a Preferred Alternative that best meets transportation needs while balancing impacts to Corridor communities and natural resources. "Together the agencies and stakeholders have come a long way from where we started," said Clear Creek County Commissioners. "[We] look forward to... moving forward on projects as a cooperative partner."

The recent decision approves a broad (Tier 1) program of transit, highway, safety, and other improvements on the 144-mile route between Glenwood Springs and the western edge of the Denver metropolitan area. Implementing the approved improvements will increase capacity, improve accessibility and mobility, and decrease congestion along the Corridor. The decision provides a framework for implementation of specific projects in the Corridor as funding allows.



CDOT and Stakeholders celebrated the I-70 Corridor decision

"[T]he true test of this document will be how successfully it stands the test of time in guiding projects that are yet to be developed or even conceived. We believe that the PEIS's visionary nature will help to make this possible and again congratulate CDOT on its new approach to planning for major highway projects in our state."

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What Happens Next?

The signing of the Tier 1 decision means that CDOT can move into Tier 2 processes and begin to implement specific projects in the Corridor. Tier 2 processes implement portions of the PEIS Preferred Alternative and reflect the PEIS decision regarding mode, general location, and capacity. They will be required for all projects in the Corridor and may be preceded by feasibility or technical studies when potential solutions or funding scenarios are complex.

The Colorado Department of Transportation will use 4P (Project Priority Programming Process) to program specific Tier 2 processes into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Stakeholders have a role in the process by providing input on project priorities. For the I-70 Mountain Corridor, CDOT has committed to specifically include the Collaborative Effort stakeholder members in discussions of project priorities. As projects are implemented, CDOT has committed to follow the I-70 Mountain Corridor Context Sensitive Solutions process to make Tier 2 decisions in a collaborative manner with stakeholders. The agencies have signed and will follow conditions of other formal agreements developed during the PEIS to protect streams, wildlife, and historic properties in implementing Tier 2 processes.

What comments were received on the Final PEIS, and how were they addressed?

Only a handful of comments were received on the Final PEIS. The Final PEIS included detailed responses to more than 1,100 comments received on the Revised Draft PEIS, which was released in September 2010. Several individuals and organizations that provided comments on the Revised Draft PEIS provided follow-up comments on the Final PEIS, mostly indicating agreement with the way that their comments were addressed. Other comments were similar to comments received on the Revised Draft PEIS and centered on suggestions to develop alternate routes to the I-70 highway, air quality and noise impacts of highway improvements, and impacts to natural, historic, community, and recreation resources. The Record of Decision provides an accounting of all comments received and the agencies' responses to those comments.

Where can I get more information about the project and the decision?

The project website www.i70mtncorridor.com includes the Record of Decision and other related documents from the PEIS. These documents provide a detailed description of the Preferred Alternative, its benefits and impacts, mitigation strategies, and how future for Tier 2 processes and decisions will occur.