Project Background

1973: Vail Pass Environmental Impact Statement
- Original environmental document for the design and construction of I-70 over Vail Pass
- Goals were established to help develop alternatives:
  - Locate the roadway in favorable geologic conditions
  - Minimize scarring of the terrain
  - Reduce or eliminate stream impacts
  - Better fit the roadway into the landscape
  - Avoid the necessity of long, expensive structures
  - Avoid necessity of acquiring private property

“Diligent efforts will be made to minimize any harmful environmental impacts. Therefore, the importance of an extremely sensitive design, carefully reviewed by an interdisciplinary review team cannot be overemphasized.”

1973 Final Environmental Impact Statement

2000-2011: I-70 Mountain Corridor Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision
- Extended from C-470 to Glenwood Springs
- High-level analysis of alternatives included careful consideration of all identified social, economic, and environmental impacts and input received from agencies, organizations and the public
- Selected the Preferred Alternative, a long-term 2050 vision for the Corridor that includes:
  - Non-infrastructure components,
  - an Advanced Guideway System (train),
  - and highway improvements, including eastbound and westbound auxiliary lanes from mileposts 180-190

2007: West Vail Pass Environmental Assessment
- Started in 2006
- Intended to analyze the addition of auxiliary lanes from MP 180-190
- Began environmental existing conditions analysis
- Halted in 2007 pending completion of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Current Project — I-70 West Vail Pass Auxiliary Lanes
- Started in 2017
- Intended to analyze the addition of auxiliary lanes and other safety and operational improvements from mileposts 180-190
- Preparing an Environmental Assessment for the project
  - Final design and construction will follow as funding becomes available