



NEWS RELEASE

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North I-25 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Announces Second Round of Open Houses *Planning for future transportation improvements in Northern Colorado continues*

LOVELAND, Colo., June 9, 2004 – The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, announces the second round of the North I-25 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public open house meetings. The events are scheduled for late-June and early-July and are critical opportunities for residents to take an active role in transportation planning in their communities.

Four public open houses have been scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- June 22, 2004 – 4-7 p.m., presentation 5:30 p.m. – Evans Recreation Center Multipurpose Room, 1100 37th Street, Evans
- June 24, 2004 – 4-7 p.m., presentation 5:30 p.m. – Loveland Museum and Gallery Auditorium, Fifth Street and Lincoln Avenue, Loveland
- June 29, 2004 – 4-7 p.m., presentation 5:30 p.m. – Thornton Recreation Center Room A, 11151 Colorado Blvd., Thornton
- July 1, 2004 – 4-7 p.m., presentation 5:30 p.m. – Lincoln Center Columbine Room, 417 Magnolia, Fort Collins

The first round of open houses, in February 2004, focused on gaining input into which alternatives or solutions the study should evaluate. The second round of meetings represents an opportunity for citizens to review a draft statement outlining the purpose of and need for the EIS. The draft list of alternatives that will be carried forward to the second level of screening will also be available for public comment.

“The first round of meetings were tremendously valuable to us in that we received fantastic input from the public on topics that concern them when it comes to transportation,” said David M. Martinez, CDOT Project Manager for the North I-25 EIS. “We want to check back in with the public now that the list of alternatives has begun the first round of screening.”

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NORTH I-25 EIS
SECOND ROUND OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES



One of the more important aspects of any EIS is the collection of public comments. Members of the public who are unable to attend any of these events are encouraged to submit comments via the project Web site at www.cdot.info/northi25eis/, phone the project office at (970) 352-5455 or (303) 779-3384 or send a letter to: CDOT Engineering Office, Attn: Dave Martinez, 2207 E. Highway 402, Loveland, CO 80537.

About the North I-25 EIS

The north I-25 corridor has become the focus of a substantial portion of statewide growth over the years, with I-25 serving as the primary north-south spine of the transportation system. These growth pressures have brought substantial increases to transportation demand in the corridor. Adding to the pressure, the corridor is a major link in the nationwide interstate highway system serving long distance travel and the transport of goods via truck. As traffic volumes and accidents have increased on I-25 and parallel roadways, there has become a growing awareness of the need to plan for transportation improvements within this corridor.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), have initiated the North I-25 EIS to identify and evaluate multimodal transportation improvements along the I-25 corridor from the Fort Collins-Wellington area to Denver. In order to include consideration of multimodal transportation alternatives, the study area extends from US 287 in the west to US 85 in the east. The study area spans portions of seven counties, includes more than 30 communities, two metropolitan planning organizations as well as the Upper Front Range Regional Planning Commission.

The North I-25 EIS will address regional and inter-regional movement of people, goods and services and represents the next step in evaluating and planning for implementation of transportation improvements in this corridor.

For more information on the North I-25 EIS, visit the project Web site at www.cdot.info/northi25eis/ or contact CDOT Public Relations Coordinator Mindy Crane at (303) 757-9469 or North I-25 EIS Public Involvement Manager Kim Podobnik at (303) 779-3392.

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