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Open houses allow comment on rail relocation study

Residents can comment on a draft study that examines the feasibility of moving through-freight rail traffic from the Front Range to Colorado's Eastern Plains at two upcoming open houses.

The Colorado Department of Transportation is hosting a series of open houses on the Rail Relocation for Colorado Communities study. BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railroad and the Regional Transportation District are participants in the study.

At the open houses, residents can develop a further understanding of the benefits, costs and issues associated with implementing a rail bypass project.

Open houses are scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 8, at the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, 14 S. Chestnut St. in Colorado Springs, and Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the Wolf Creek Pass Room at the Denver Regional Council of Governments, 1290 Broadway St. in Denver.

Both open houses will run from 4:30 to 6 p.m., with a formal presentation at 5 p.m.

Those wishing to obtain more information should visit www.dot.state.co.us/railroadstudy/default.asp or may call Tammy Lang with CDOT, 303-757-9811 or Randy Grauberger with consultant Parsons Brinckerhoff, 303-390-5927.

Residents also may contact Rocky Mountain Rail Authority Vice Chairman and Castle Rock Mayor Pro Tem Doug Lehnen, 303-660-1371 or dlehnen@CRgov.com.

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