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Rail relocation meetings scheduled

The Colorado Department of Transportation will hold another series of open houses for the R2C2 (Rail Relocation for Colorado's Communities) study.

The open houses will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m., with a formal presentation at 5 p.m.

One of the meetings will be held Oct. 14 at the "old" 4-H exhibit hall at the Morgan County Fairgrounds, 750 Ellsworth St. in Brush.

Other meetings are:

- Oct. 7, Limon Community Center, 477 D Avenue, Limon.
- Oct. 8, Pike's Peak Area Council of Governments, 14 S. Chestnut St., Colorado Springs.
- Oct 9, Las Animas Elementary School, 530 Poplar Ave., Las Animas.
- Oct. 30, Pueblo, location to be determined.

CDOT is examining the economic feasibility of moving through-freight rail traffic from the Front Range to Colorado's Eastern Plains. Participants in the study are BNSF Railway, the Union Pacific Railroad, the Regional Transportation District as well as regional and local stakeholders.

Open houses initially were held in the spring of 2008. R2C2 will host a second round of open houses this fall, allowing the public to comment on the draft findings of the study and to develop a further understanding of the benefits, costs and issues associated with implementing such a rail bypass project.

For more information, contact CDOT's Tammy Lang at (303) 757-9811 or the Consultant Team's Project Manager, Randy Grauberger of Parsons Brinckerhoff, at (303) 390-5927, or visit the study Web site at www.dot.state.co.us/railroadstudy/default.asp.