

Pikes Peak Area  
Council of Governments  
Communities Working Together

Mr. Dave Watt, P.E.  
Resident Engineer  
Colorado Department of Transportation  
Region Two - North Program Engineering  
1480 Quail Lake Loop, Suite A  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906

March 25, 2008



Dear Mr. Watt,

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Pikes Peak Region, PPACG encourages inter-agency coordination on transportation planning measures. Therefore, our staff was pleased to review the updated (2035) long-range traffic forecasts for US 24 between I-25 and Manitou Avenue that were developed to support the US 24 West Environmental Assessment.

It is our understanding that the 2035 forecasts were updated using the methodologies outlined in your letter dated February 7, 2008, and as presented in greater detail to PPACG staff on January 21, 2008. Your letter appears as Attachment 1 to this letter. It is also our understanding that the adjusted traffic forecasts presented therein are based upon adopted PPACG demographic and socioeconomic projections.

Based upon our review, it appears that the methodology and assumptions that were applied to the PPACG travel demand model volumes to arrive at adjusted traffic volumes are consistent with both industry standards for application of regional travel model results to project-specific analysis and our January 21 discussion. They are therefore suitable for determining future facility needs on US 24. Please be aware that traffic projections are not specifically endorsed or adopted by the PPACG Board of Directors.

We look forward to continuing close coordination with you as the US 24 Corridor Study continues.

Sincerely,



Craig T. Casper  
Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments  
Transportation Director

# STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Region Two – North Program Engineering  
Cheyenne Mountain Complex  
1480 Quail Lake Loop, Suite A  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906  
(719) 634-2323 / Fax (719) 227-3298



February 7, 2008

Craig Casper  
Director of Transportation  
Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments  
15 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Dear Mr. Casper:

We have recently updated our 2030 forecasts for the US 24 West Environmental Assessment project to the year 2035 to reflect the horizon year for your current model. The purpose of this letter is to document and to request your concurrence on the model process, assumptions, and results.

## Model Process

The PPACG 2035 model was used to forecast expected future traffic conditions. Both a No Action and a Build scenario were modeled for 2035. The 2035 No Action scenario does not add capacity to US 24 and includes committed improvements to 8<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Streets. The 2035 Build scenario (a graphic is included with this letter) includes the committed improvements at 8<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Streets and increases capacity on US 24 by adding one lane per direction between 21<sup>st</sup> Street and a point just west of 31<sup>st</sup> Street, converting the existing at-grade intersection at Ridge Road to an overpass, and grade separates 21<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. The grade separation at 8<sup>th</sup> Street is designed to work in conjunction with the grade separation at I-25. The Eastbound US 24 direction has a free flow loop ramp for direct access onto Northbound I-25. The alternative also includes an overpass at 15<sup>th</sup> Street that connects to a proposed local road south of US 24. Ramps parallel to US 24 provide access from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to this overpass.

## Network/Centroid Changes

Minor changes to the model network were made in order to better represent existing and planned development access. The following changes to centroid connector locations were discussed and agreed upon with PPACG transportation staff:

- Moved centroid connector for Zone 145 from the 8<sup>th</sup> Street/ US 24 intersection to connect directly onto 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Continued connection from 14<sup>th</sup> Street past Colorado Avenue to US 24 with only right turns allowed
- Added a centroid connector from Zone 114 to connect with 21<sup>st</sup> Street

- Removed the centroid connectors from Zones 65 and 66 at the 26<sup>th</sup> Street/ US 24 intersection and reconnected directly onto 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

### Daily Volume Forecasts

Daily volumes were determined by using the output of future model volumes and applying the ratio, difference, or average methods presented in the NCHRP 255 procedures. While in conformance with these national procedures, this adjustment process is also consistent with local practices along the Front Range. Both the 2035 No Action and the 2035 Build volumes were adjusted based on the relative difference of link volumes between the 2005 model and the 2005 counts collected. Subsequently the adjusted volumes were examined to check the reasonableness of the assumptions. The daily volumes were adjusted further in the Action scenario to assume a significant percentage of the cut-through traffic along 31<sup>st</sup> Street and Fillmore would be rerouted along US 24 due to the additional capacity and the free flow movements between 31<sup>st</sup> Street and I-25 North. Therefore, a portion of the daily volume on 31<sup>st</sup> was rerouted to US 24. The adjusted daily volumes show the expected trends along US 24 with volume decreasing moving west from I-25. The following table shows a summary of the modeled and forecasted daily traffic volumes for the corridor.

**US 24 Draft Daily Model Volume Comparison**

Segment	2005		2030 Forecast*	No Action		Action		Change No Action to 2035 Forecast
	Count	Modeled		2035 Modeled	2035 Forecast*	2035 Modeled	2035 Forecast*	
Manitou Ave. to Ridge Road	29,600	46,900	44,100	72,300	50,300	73,200	49,500	- 800
Ridge Road to 31st Street	29,600	48,500	46,100	74,900	50,900	73,200	49,500	- 1,400
31st Street to 26th Street	31,500	37,000	43,100	50,000	43,500	50,500	51,400	+ 7,900
26th Street to 21st Street	31,900	36,700	45,000	51,400	45,600	51,600	53,200	+ 7,600
21st Street to 8th Street	38,500	37,600	54,700	49,600	50,600	50,000	58,400	+ 7,800
8th Street to I-25	50,300	44,900	87,000	64,700	71,300	69,400	83,700	+ 12,400

### Peak Hour Forecasts

The evening peak hour turn movement volumes were extracted from the model for each study area intersection. The turning movement counts collected in 2005 at these

intersections and the 2005 base year model were used in the adjustment process as described for the daily volumes. In some cases where the NCHRP 255 adjustment procedures did not present a reasonable volume, the adjustment was based on growing the existing volume based on a parallel growth rate for US 24 or applying knowledge of anticipated local travel patterns and adjacent land uses. The adjusted peak hour turn movement volumes generally represented 8-11% of the adjusted Average Daily Traffic volumes. Once the turn movement volumes were adjusted, they were then balanced between adjacent access points. At locations where counter-intuitive traffic volumes were observed, this set of turn movement volumes was then adjusted to address these issues and arrive at the final set of evening peak hour turn movement volumes used in the operations analysis. This process was performed for both the Build and No Action scenarios.

#### Assumptions

- No modifications to any PPACG model procedures
- Network and TAZ refinements highlighted above
- No changes to PPACG Socio-economic data

#### Results

The refined model was used to forecast expected 2035 traffic conditions for the Build scenario and resulted in approximately 49,500 daily traffic on US 24 west of 31<sup>st</sup> Street and about 83,700 west of I-25. Model turning movements were used to determine a reasonable set of future turning movements at study area intersections.

If you agree with the information provided above, please indicate concurrence with the modeling process, assumptions, and results by signing below.

Sincerely,



Dave Watt  
Resident Engineer  
Colorado Department of Transportation

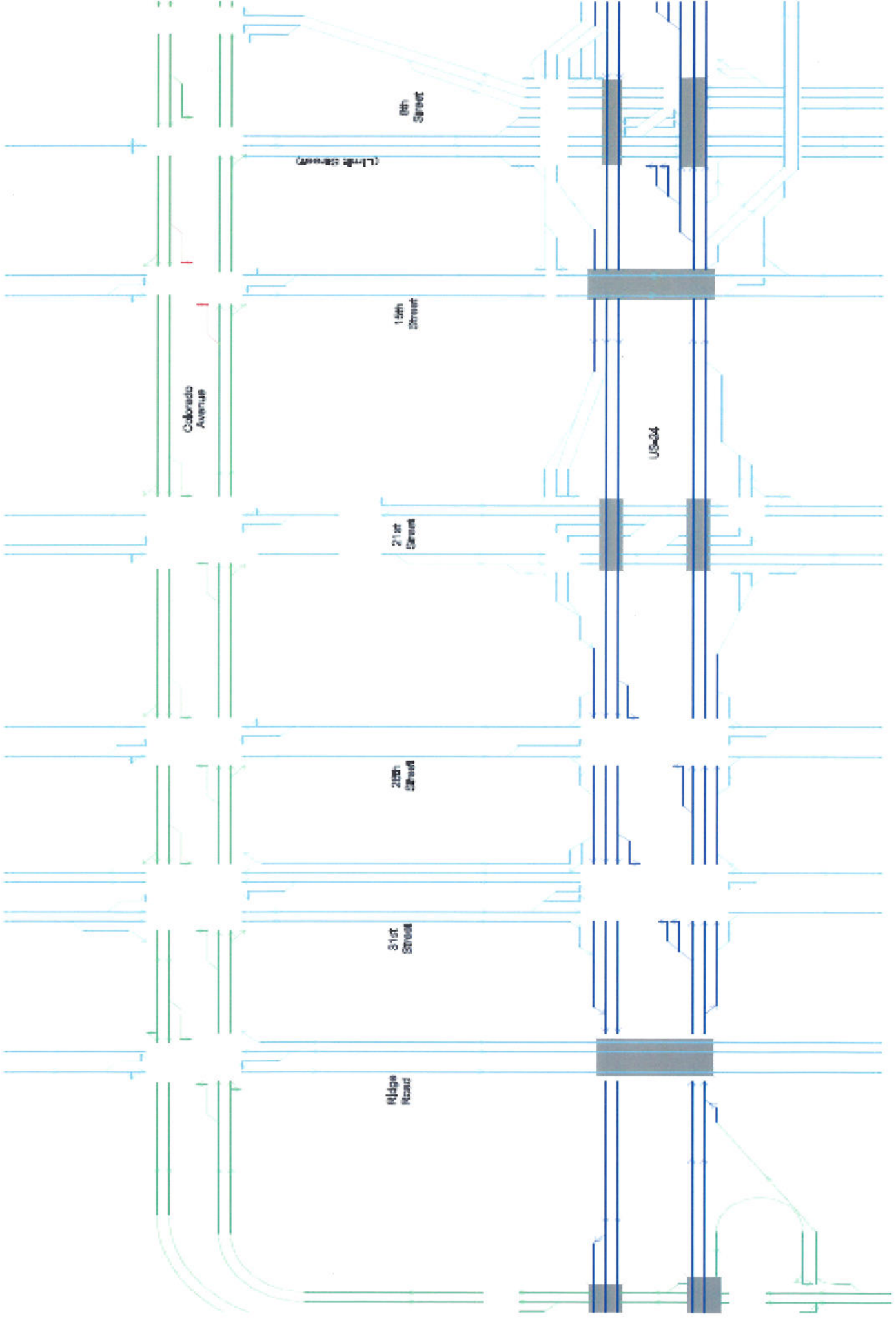


Bob Mora  
Project Manager  
Colorado Department of Transportation

PPACG has reviewed the information provided in the above and concurs with the modeling process, assumptions, and results.

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Craig Casper  
Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments



10th Street

(Linda Street)

California Avenue

15th Street

US-34

21st Street

28th Street

31st Street

Ridge Road



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Colorado Federal Aid Division**

November 20, 2008

12300 W. Dakota Ave.  
Suite 180  
Lakewood, CO 80228

Mr. Alonzo Chalepah, Chairman  
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1220  
Anadarko, OK 73005

**Subject:** Request for Section 106 Consultation; US Highway 24 Corridor Environmental Assessment, El Paso County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Chalepah:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) that will address the effects of proposed improvements to a 4.5-mile segment of US Highway 24 west of Interstate 25 in the Cities of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, Colorado. This corridor is currently congested and is expected to see continued traffic increases over the next 20 years, as it is located in a fast growing section of the Colorado Springs metropolitan area. The proposed EA will explore reasonable and feasible solutions to address current congestion and safety issues as well as the corridor's future transportation needs. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), FHWA and CDOT are documenting the potential social, economic and environmental consequences of this action. Please refer to the enclosed aerial map for a view of the project study area.

FHWA will serve as the lead agency for this undertaking, and CDOT staff will facilitate the tribal consultation process. The agencies are seeking the participation of regional Native American tribal governments in cultural resources consultation for the undertaking, as described in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations 36 CFR 800 et seq. As a consulting party you are offered the opportunity to identify concerns about cultural resources and comment on how the project might affect them. Further, if it is found that the project will impact cultural resources that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and are of religious or cultural significance to your tribe, your role in the consultation process would include participation in resolving how best to avoid, minimize, or mitigate those impacts. It is our hope that by describing the proposed undertaking we can be more effective in protecting areas important to American Indian people. If you have interest in this undertaking and in cultural resources that may be of religious or cultural significance to your tribe, we invite you to be a consulting party.

As shown on the enclosed map, the project is located in a largely developed part of Colorado Springs and adjacent Manitou Springs. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) developed for cultural resource studies, as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(d), is within the area outlined in blue on

**MOVING THE**  
**AMERICAN**  
**ECONOMY**



the enclosed map and encompasses the entire area subject to direct and indirect impacts from the project. A comprehensive survey and assessment of historic properties in the APE will be conducted as part of the environmental documentation. Tribes that elect to become consulting parties for the undertaking will be notified of the results of the survey and asked to comment on our eligibility and effects determinations. Any information you may have regarding places or sites important to your tribe that are located within or near the project area would assist us in our efforts to comprehensively identify and evaluate cultural resources.

The Colorado Springs area is home to a number of American Indian residents. If you are aware of members of your tribe living in proximity to the study area who would be interested in participating in the NEPA consultation process on some level, please notify us so that we may facilitate that interaction.

We are committed to ensuring that tribal governments are informed of and involved in decisions that may impact places with cultural significance. If you are interested in becoming a consulting party for the US Highway 24 Corridor EA, please complete and return the enclosed Consultation Interest Response Form to CDOT Native American consultation liaison Dan Jepson within 60 days at the address or facsimile number listed at the bottom of that sheet. Mr. Jepson can also be reached via Email at [daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us](mailto:daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us), or by telephone at (303)757-9631. The 60-day period has been established to encourage your participation at this early stage in project development. Failure to respond within this time frame will not prevent your tribe from becoming a consulting party at a later date. However, studies and decision making will proceed and it may become difficult to reconsider previous determinations or findings, unless significant new information is introduced.

Thank you for considering this request for consultation.

Sincerely yours,



for Karla S. Petty, P.E.  
Division Administrator

#### Enclosures

cc: D. Harmelink, FHWA  
J. DeHaven, CDOT Region 2  
D. Jepson, CDOT Env. Programs  
M. Whorton, CH2M Hill  
A. Bullcoming, Director, Apache Tribe Environmental Program

**TRIBAL MAILING LIST  
US Highway 24 Corridor EA**

**Mr. Alonzo Chalepah, Chairman  
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1220  
Anadarko, OK 73005**

Copy to:

Ms. Angela Bullcoming, Director  
Environmental Program  
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1220  
Anadarko, OK 73005

**Mr. Darrell Flyingman, Governor  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 38  
Concho, OK 73022**

Separate copies to:

Mr. Richard Williams, NAGPRA Representative  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 38  
Concho, OK 73022

Mr. Gordon Yellowman, NAGPRA Representative  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 38  
Concho, OK 73022

**Mr. Richard Brannan, Chairman  
Northern Arapaho Business Council  
P.O. Box 396  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514**

Copy to:

Ms. Jo Ann White  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Northern Arapaho Tribe  
P.O. Box 396  
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514



**Mr. Eugene Little Coyote, Chairman**  
**Northern Cheyenne Tribe**  
**P.O. Box 128**  
**Lame Deer, MT 59043**

Copy to:

Mr. Conrad Fisher  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Northern Cheyenne Tribe  
P.O. Box 128  
Lame Deer, MT 59043

**Mr. George Howell, President**  
**Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma**  
**881 Little Dee Drive**  
**Pawnee, OK 74058**

Copy to:

Mr. Francis Morris, Repatriation Coordinator  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 470  
Pawnee, OK 74058

**Mr. Billy Evans Horse, Chairman**  
**Kiowa Business Committee**  
**Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma**  
**P.O. Box 369**  
**Carnegie, OK 73015**

Copy to:

Mr. Dewey Tsonetokoy, NAGPRA Representative  
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma  
118 N. Stephens  
Hobart, OK 73015

**Mr. Wallace Coffey, Chairman**  
**Comanche Tribal Business Committee**  
**Comanche Nation of Oklahoma**  
**P.O. Box 908**  
**Lawton, OK 73502**

Copy to:

Ms. Ruth Toahty, NAGPRA Coordinator  
Comanche Nation of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, OK 73502

**Mr. Curtis Cesspooch, Chairman**  
**Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee**  
**P.O. Box 190**  
**Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026**

Copy to:

Ms. Betsy Chapoose, Director  
Cultural Rights and Protection Office  
Ute Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Agency  
P.O. Box 190  
Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026

**Mr. Clement Frost, Chairman**  
**Southern Ute Indian Tribe**  
**P.O. Box 737**  
**Ignacio, CO 81137**

Copy to:

Mr. Nei Cloud, NAGPRA Representative  
Culture Preservation Office  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
P.O. Box 737  
Ignacio, CO 81137

**Mr. Ernest House, Sr., Chairman**  
**Ute Mountain Ute Tribe**  
**P.O. Box 348**  
**Towaoc, CO 81334**

Copy to:

Mr. Terry Knight, NAGPRA Representative  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P.O. Box 468  
Towaoc, CO 81334

**CDOT REGION AND CONSULTANT**  
**(Send copy of letter/packet to the following individuals)**

Ms. Judy DeHaven  
CDOT Region 2 Environmental Office

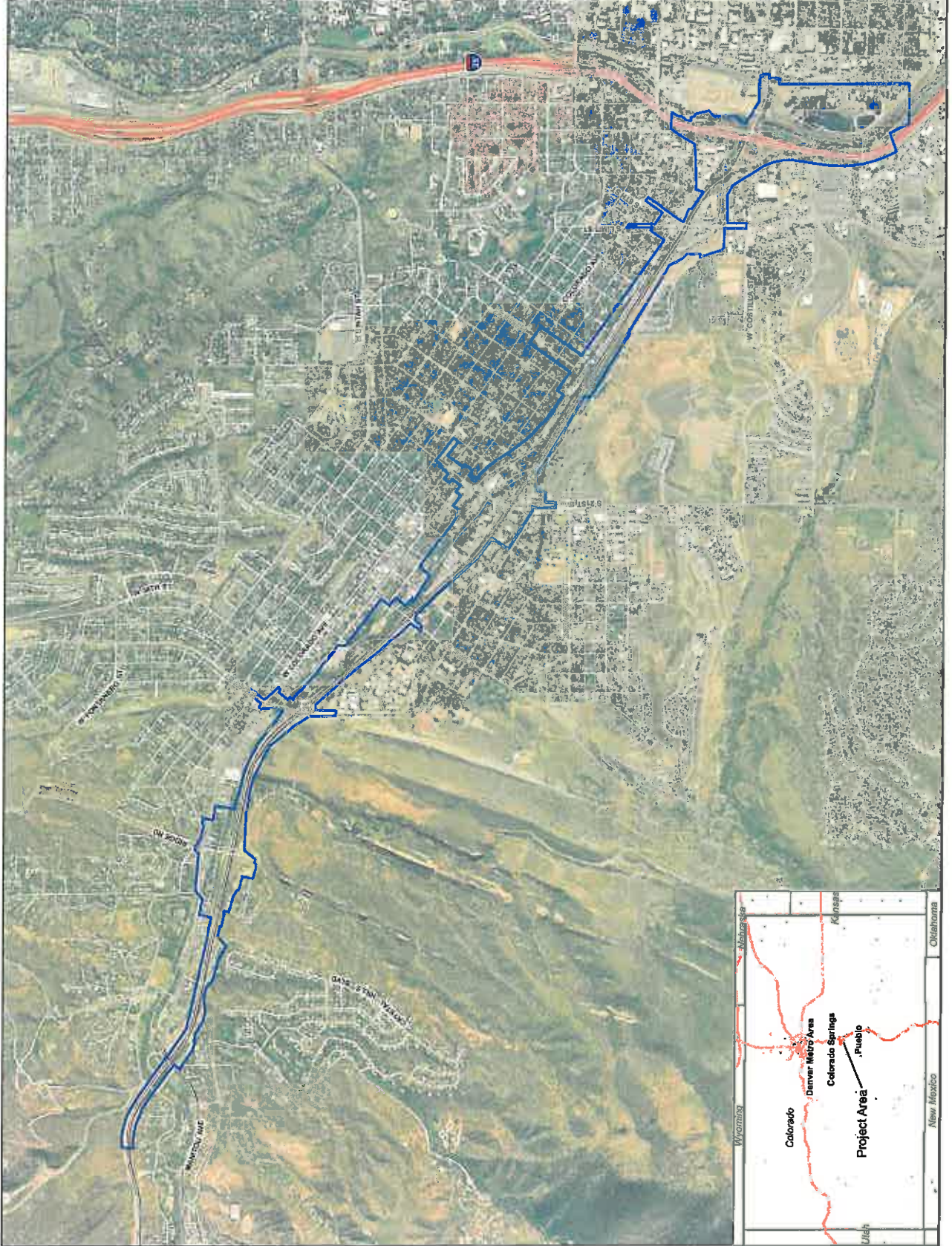
Ms. Mandy Whorton, Senior Environmental Planner  
CH2M Hill  
9191 S. Jamaica St.  
Englewood, CO 80112

# Area of Potential Effect

Legend  
□ Area of Potential Effect



Last Revised May 2008  
Aerial Date March 2004



**Project NH 0242-040, US 24, I-25 to Manitou Environmental Assessment**

**Telephone conversation between Mr. Jimmy Arterberry, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, and Dan Jepson, Section 106 Native American Consultation Liaison, Colorado Department of Transportation, Denver, Colorado, Wednesday, December 17, 2008**

- Mr. Arterberry contacted Mr. Jepson in response to the November 20, 2008 letter sent to the Comanche Nation by FHWA regarding potential cultural resources consultation for the project. Mr. Arterberry indicated that the tribe desires to be a consulting party under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Mr. Arterberry stated that the Comanche Nation generally does not complete and submit the Consultation Interest Response Forms that CDOT and other agencies periodically send. The tribe prefers to send its own letters in response to consultation requests or otherwise contact agencies/entities by telephone, as in this case. As such, no written documentation of the tribe's consultation request will be forthcoming.



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
SOUTHERN COLORADO REGULATORY OFFICE  
200 S. SANTA FE, SUITE 301  
PUEBLO, COLORADO 81003**

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

August 22, 2011

Regulatory Division  
Colorado Branch

Brian Lee  
CH2M Hill  
9193 South Jamaica St.  
Englewood, CO 80112

Dear Mr. Lee:

This replies to your June 14, 2011 e-mail regarding the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) Highway 24 improvement project from I-25 west to Manitou Springs, in Colorado Springs, El Paso County Colorado. We have assigned Action No. SPA-2011-00393-SCO to this activity.

We have studied the project description, other records, and documents available to us. I visited the site on June 15, 2011. We concur with your findings that waters of the United States, including wetlands are located within the project site. This includes the wetlands as delineated by you. The proposed work, as described, includes discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. Therefore, the proposed project is regulated under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and a Department of the Army Permit will be required for the project.

The CDOT should submit a permit application as soon as possible to insure that construction plans are not delayed by the permit processing. An application form and information about the Corps' regulatory program are available on our web page at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/reg>. Also, please submit with the application a copy of any environmental analysis that may have been prepared for the project.

This jurisdictional determination will be valid for 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision of the determination within that time.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please feel free to write or call me at 719-543-6915 or e-mail at [van.a.truan@usace.army.mil](mailto:van.a.truan@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Van A. Truan", written in black ink.

Van Truan  
Chief, Southern Colorado  
Regulatory Branch

**Lee, Brian/DEN**

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**From:** Lee, Brian/DEN  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2011 3:10 PM  
**To:** van.a.truan@usace.army.mil  
**Subject:** US 24 wetland delineation report  
**Attachments:** US 24-TM\_WetlandsReport-FINAL\_110107.pdf; US24\_TMSupplement-Wetlands-FINAL\_110605.pdf

Hello Van,

Thank you for offering to review the wetland report for the US 24 West Project. The report was updated in January 2011 to include an additional survey along Fountain Creek near the confluence with Monument Creek, as these areas had not previously been surveyed in the earlier versions of the report. A functional assessment was also performed for Wetland 1, the small 0.02 acre wetland to be impacted. Impacts to Waters of the U.S. (Fountain Creek) were updated and consolidated into this report. Maps, datasheets, and field photos are attached as appendices. Exhibit 2 has been replaced with a new figure, which I have attached separately.

Please let me know if you concur with the findings presented in the report, and let me know if you have any comments or suggestions. We are currently under the assumption that an individual permit would be needed for many of the crossings, but that it might still be possible to permit a few of them with a nationwide permit, if necessary. Any recommendations about which permitting avenue you would suggest would be appreciated as well.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at my office number at 720-286-0334, or via email.

Thank you,

Brian

Brian Lee  
Staff Scientist  
CH2M Hill  
9193 South Jamaica St.  
Englewood, CO 80112  
Direct: 720.286.0334  
Fax: 720.286.8050  
[brian.lee2@ch2m.com](mailto:brian.lee2@ch2m.com)