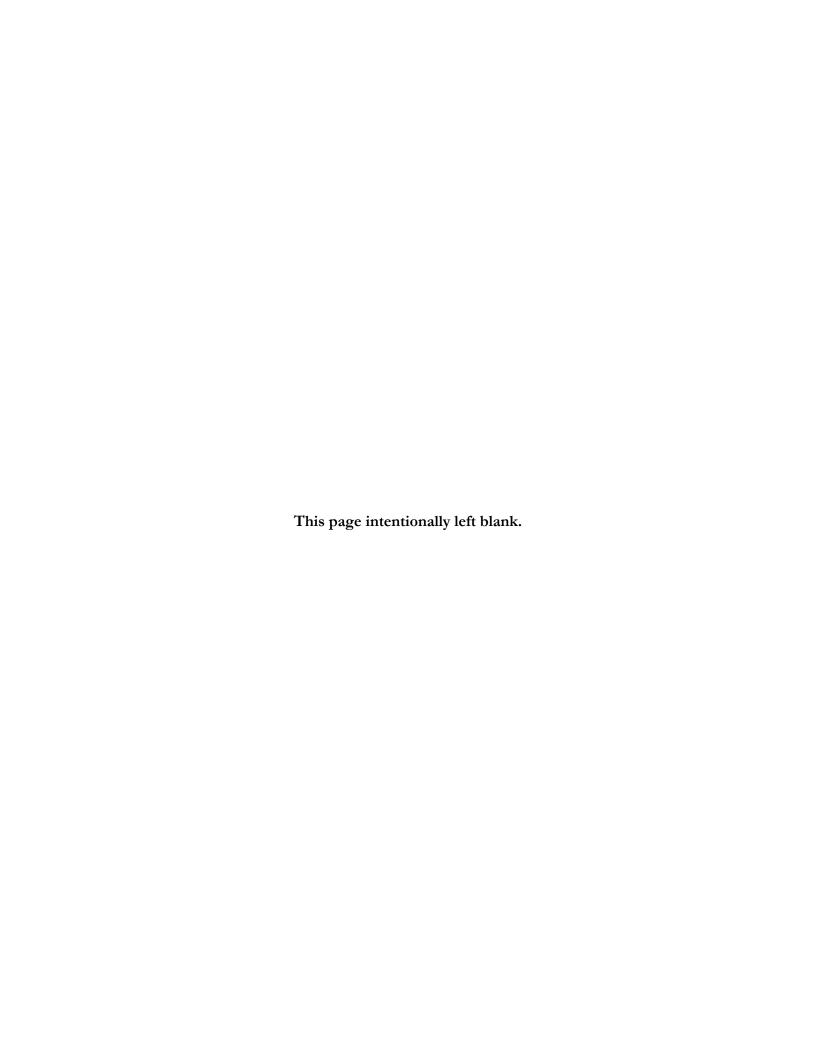
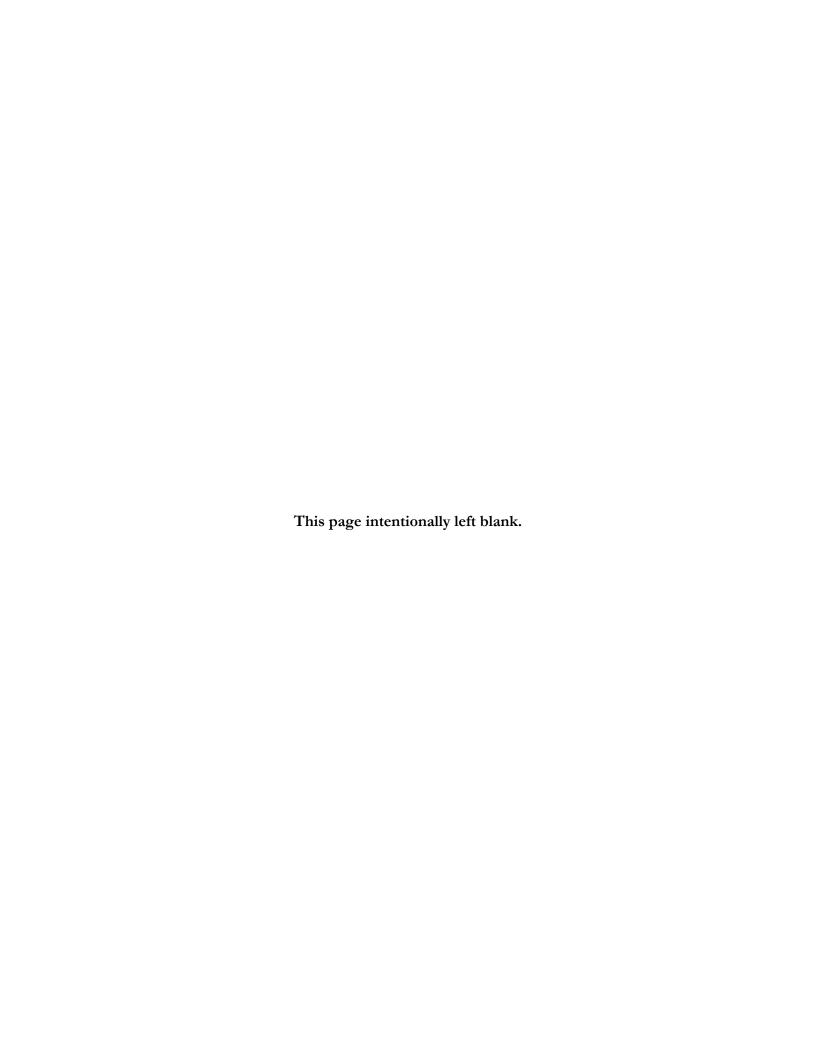
Appendix I Public Involvement



# Exhibit I-1 Memorandum of Understanding Forming Technical Advisory Team (TAT)



# U.S. 50 Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study (Baltimore Ave. to Swallows Rd.) Key Stakeholder Memorandum of Understanding April 20, 2010

In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, and in agreement with the Planning and Environmental Linkages Partnering Agreement dated June 11, 2009, and acknowledging the critical role that a number of agencies play in achieving the goals of the U.S. 50 project, the following Memorandum of Understanding for the U.S. 50 PEL study was developed in collaboration between the project participants listed below. The MOU was developed during a partnering session held April 1, 2010 as part of the regular Technical Advisory Committee meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments.

#### TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM (TAT) PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

- Colorado Department of Transportation
- City of Pueblo
- Pueblo County
- Pueblo Area Council of Governments
- · Pueblo West Metropolitan District
- JF Sato consultant team

#### PROJECT GOALS

- Forecast and analyze travel demand for U.S. 50 for 2035
- Purpose and need to address mobility, capacity and safety
- Analyze environmental issues and identify potential fatal flaws
- · Definition of the project limit including recommendations for subsets of independent utility
- · Reasonable range of alternatives
- Preferred Alternative resulting from PEL
- · Collaborative public communication approach

#### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- Develop complete and consistent documentation of the PEL study process for the US 50 corridor from Baltimore Ave. to Swallows Rd. to support the identification of a preferred alternative
- Identify/link environmental issues to the planning process that may need to be considered in the National Environmental and Policy Act (NEPA) process
- Identify priority and phasing of potential short-term and long-term multi-modal improvements to US 50 (Baltimore Ave. to Swallows Rd.)
- Identify priority and phasing of potential parallel roads that could take traffic off US 50
- · Identify immediate needs in the context of the 2035 Long-range Transportation Plan

#### AGENCY PRIORITIES, CONCERNS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- West Pueblo Connector to downtown
- Tuxedo Blvd. connection to U.S. 50 (right-in, right-out)
- Pueblo Blvd./SH 45 at U.S. 50
- Consistency with Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program
- · Common set of modeling assumptions we can all support
- Joe Martinez Blvd. extension (Purcell Blvd. to Pueblo Blvd.)

- · Spaulding Ave. extension from Purcell to Pueblo Boulevards
- · Extend Industrial Blvd. to Wildhorse Rd.
- Improve Platteville Blvd. from McCulloch Blvd. to I-25
- And, other considerations as discovery continues

#### **CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS**

- · Clearly defined set of goals and objectives for the project
- Effective identification and communication with and from all key stakeholders, along with a supporting public process led by the respective agency stakeholders
- · Meet schedule within allocated budget
- · Provide opportunities for cooperation and participation among key stakeholders
- · Identify feasible alternatives
- · Identify U.S. 50 sequencing priorities
- Identify a Preferred Alternative with actionable recommendations

#### SCHEDULE GROUND RULES

- · The meetings will be facilitated
- Team representatives are asked to stay actively involved throughout the duration of the study period and commit to attend each meeting
- Team representatives are individuals who speak on behalf of their organization/agency and who will commit to keep their constituents informed and share their constituents opinions during the Technical Advisory Team (TAT) meetings
- Project team will provide information and meeting agendas in sufficient time for representatives to discuss it with their respective agencies
- Stakeholders and project team are expected to provide subject matter expertise and information to TAT meetings
- · All meetings will begin and end on time
- Participants will stay on track with the goals/objectives and timeline. If an item is not within the goals/objectives, the group will be asked to first all agree to:
  - discuss it at the end of the meeting, if time allows;
  - · extend the meeting beyond the end time; or
  - · add an additional meeting

#### PARTNERING GROUND RULES

- Everyone's input is important and will be heard and considered
- Each member will have an opportunity, and an expectation, to voice their thoughts and opinions
- Participants are encouraged to be respectful of each other's input and ideas, not interrupt or dominate discussions
- We are working together to create an informed plan for US 50 that will benefit the community as a whole; therefore, we are committed to:
  - · resolving conflicts directly, openly and honestly, without personal attack;
  - · consider the interests of the community-at-large beyond only our own agency's interests; and
  - · achieve group informed consent of the plan, while we may not agree on every point
- All meetings will be open to the public. Citizens will be given an opportunity to give comments at the end of each meeting

#### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

. Goal: Informed consent by key stakeholders leading to an acceptable IGA/MOU for all

- Citizen input and technical expertise are both important to all discussions and in developing the final plan; therefore,
  - CDOT and the <u>consultant team</u> will lead a collaborate agency stakeholder process and will
    provide on-going study updates and progress reports to each of the agencies; and
  - the <u>agencies</u> will act as a liaison, communicating with and representing their stakeholders, by conducting their own public involvement processes consistent with the PACOG Public Involvement Plan, and with input provided upon request from CDOT and the consultant team

#### **OVERALL SCHEDULE**

- Alternative Analysis by Spring 2010
- Formation of Technical and Policy Advisory Teams by Spring 2010
- Purpose and Need by early Summer 2010
- Compiling of Environmental Analysis at PEL level by Summer 2010
- Preferred Alternative by Fall 2010 with identification of early action or safety projects

We the undersigned members of the Technical Advisory Team, representing our various
stakeholders and constituencies, endorse this U.S. 50 Project Memorandum of Understanding
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Bollo Liea Streight Agin Hu
All and all
Pueblo County
Pueblo Area Council of Governments
Pueblo West Metropolitan District
JF Sato Consultant Team  Bisa Backmon Mit Whensey  From Bound of Nies  The State Consult of Nies  The State Consultant Team  The Bisa Backmon Matt Whensey  The Bisa Backmon Matt Whensey

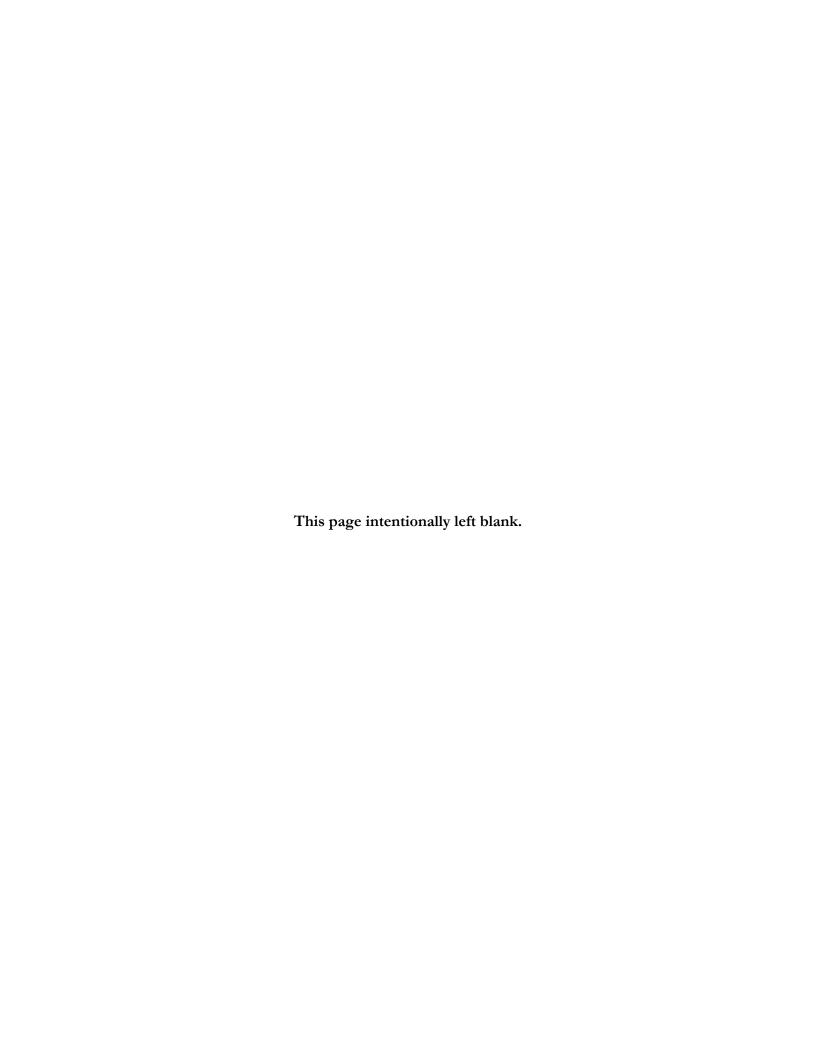
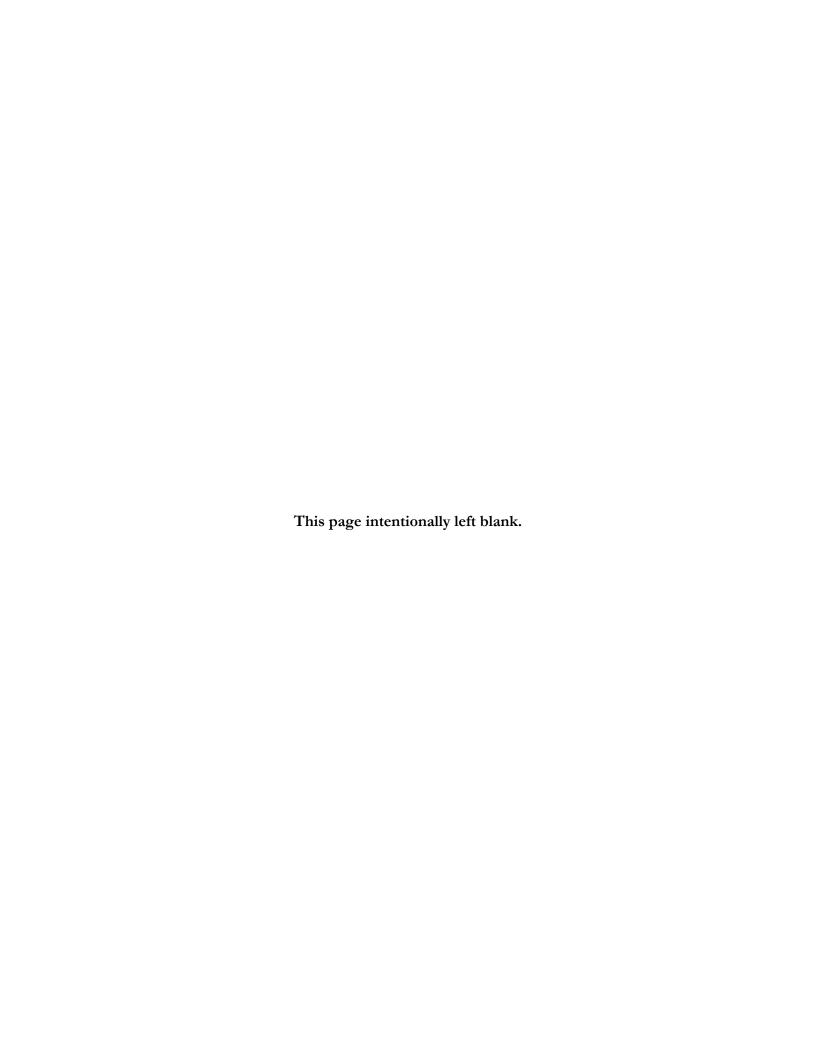


Exhibit I-2
Press Release Announcing
Community Work Sessions



#### NEWS RELEASE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Joe Garcia, US 50 PEL Project Mgr. Colorado Department of Transportation 719-546-5727

Or/ Barry Grossman 720-232-4314 (cell)



## Public Input Sought on US 50 West Improvement Options

### Planning and Environment Study Alternatives to be Presented During April Open Houses

**PUEBLO (March 18, 2011)** – The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is hosting two public meetings to present recommendations for current and growing transportation safety and capacity needs on US 50 West.

"Traffic congestion and accident rates are expected to increase along US 50 West between Swallows Road and Baltimore Avenue in the future," said CDOT Project Manager Joe Garcia.

"In anticipation of future community growth, CDOT is conducting a Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study to better position the state to design and construct transportation improvement projects," said Garcia. "Potentially this section of US 50 and some of the intersections could be improved through added lanes, grade separations or better signal timing. Accident analysis will help determine problem areas that could be addressed should money become available for safety improvements."

The collaborative study is being guided with input from a Technical Advisory Team (TAT) of staff members from CDOT, the City of Pueblo, Pueblo County, Pueblo West Metropolitan District, and the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG). During the study process, the TAT has been developing and evaluating corridor and intersection improvement alternatives. The advisory team is now soliciting public input and opinions regarding each of the proposed improvement alternatives by holding two, open-house public meetings.

#### CDOT US 50 West Open Houses, Page 2 of 2

Open Houses are scheduled from 5 to 7:30 p.m. with a presentation at 6 p.m.:

- Tuesday, April 5, at the Pueblo West Public Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., Meeting Rooms A and B
- o Thursday, April 7, at Centennial High School (enter by flag poll), 2525 Mountview Dr. The same information will be presented during both open houses.

For more information or specific accommodations to participate, call (719) 546-5727 or email Joe.Garcia@dot.state.co.us

Para obtener más información o servicios especificos para participar, llame al (719) 546-5727 o por correo electrónico Joe.Garcia@dot.state.co.us

"People are frustrated with the accident rates and congestion, and would like to see traffic flowing more smoothly," Garcia said. "During the open houses, we will present many improvement options under consideration. It's important that citizens weigh in on these options to let us know not only which ones they prefer, but also if they have any concerns," said Garcia.

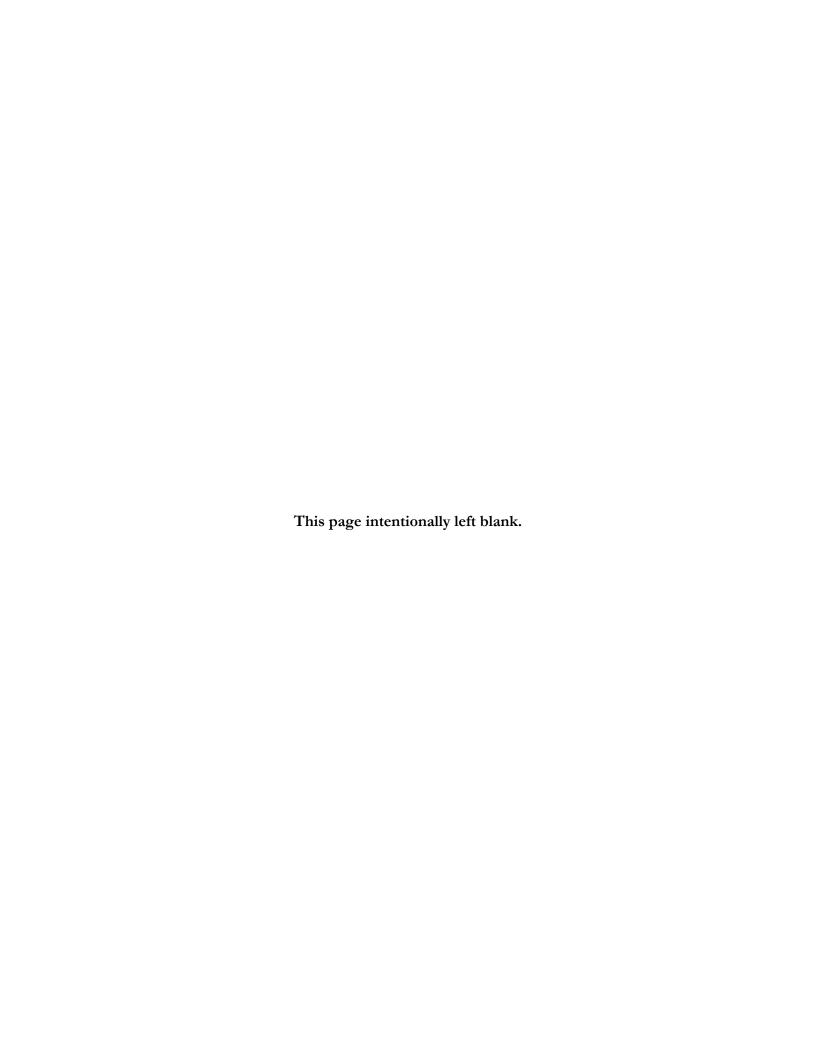
Both short- and long-term improvements are being examined to determine any potential environmental impacts and to address the safety and mobility shortfalls identified in the corridor.

#### What is a Planning and Environmental Linkage Study?

A Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study is an integrated approach to transportation decision-making that considers environmental issues early in the transportation planning process. It takes into account environmental, community, and economic goals throughout the project life cycle, from the planning stage through development, design, construction, and maintenance. It links long-range transportation plans and to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process.

Along with long term planning that incorporates the environmental discussion, as a result of the PEL, CDOT will also look at potential safety projects that could be implemented along US 50 as short-term improvements, yet are compatible with the long-term solutions presented with the PEL.

Exhibit I-3
Newspaper Advertisement of
Community Work Sessions



### **Seeking Public Input**

In anticipation of future community growth, officials are seeking public input on potential US 50 West safety and capacity transportation improvements

Open Houses will be from 5 to 7:30 p.m. (presentation at 6 p.m.)

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 5**

Pueblo West Public Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd.

#### **THURSDAY APRIL 7**

Centennial High School (Commons area), 2525 Mountview Dr.

The same information will be presented during both open houses. For more information or special ADA accommodations, please call (719) 546-5727

Para obtener más información o servicios especificos para participar, llame al (719) 546-5727 o por correo electrónico Joe.Garcia@dot.state.co.us

The Planning and Environment Linkages study is a collaborative effort involving:

- Colorado Department of Transportation
  - City of Pueblo •
  - Pueblo County •
  - Pueblo West Metropolitan District •
  - Pueblo Area Council of Governments •



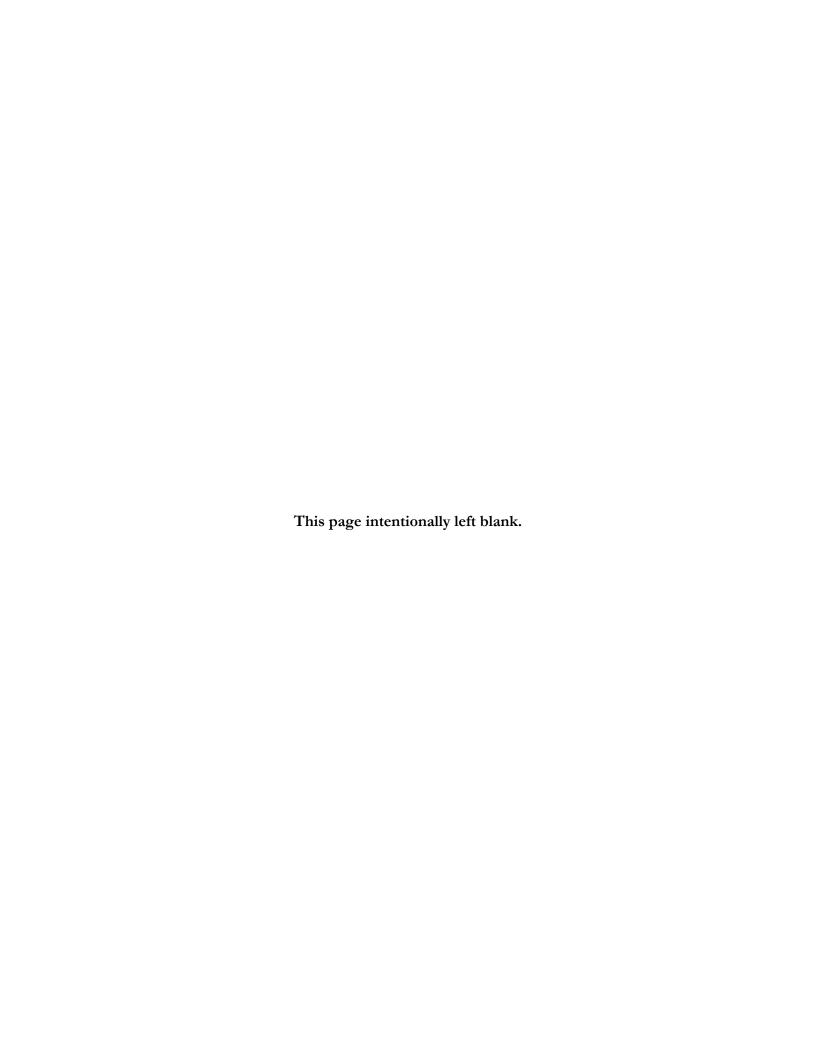
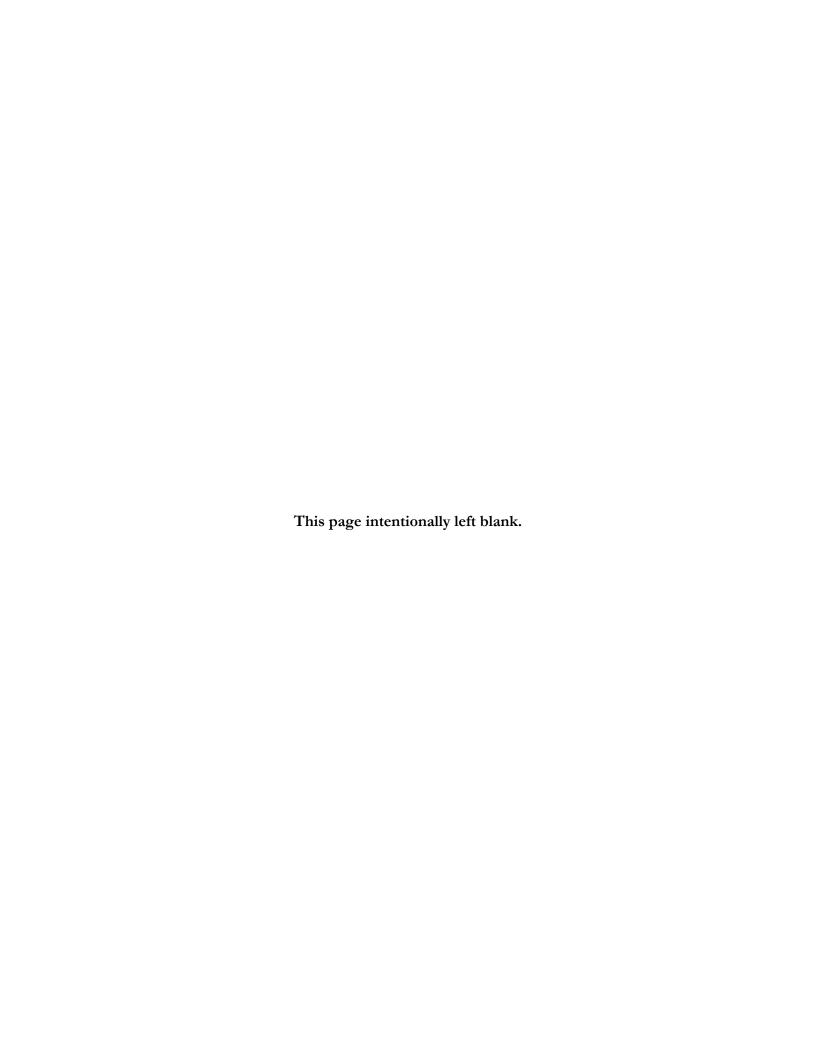


Exhibit I-4
Media Advisory Regarding
Community Work Sessions



## Media Advisory Public Input Sought on US 50 West Improvement Options



**Contacts:** Joe Garcia, CDOT US 50 PEL Project Mgr.,

719-546-5727; or/Lisa Bachman, 719-272-1833

Who: Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)

What: Two public meetings in Pueblo to present recommendations and obtain input on options

for improving safety and capacity on US 50 West (Baltimore Ave. to Swallows Rd.)

When/Where: Today (Tuesday, April 5), from 5 to 7:30 p.m. with a presentation at 6 p.m.

Pueblo West Public Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., Meeting Rooms A and B

<u>Thursday, April 7, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.</u> with a presentation at 6 p.m. Centennial High School (enter by flag poll), 2525 Mountview Dr.

Why: To plan for projects designed to address current and growing transportation needs. Short-

and long-term improvements are being examined to determine any potential

environmental impacts and to address the safety and mobility shortfalls identified in the corridor. It's important that citizens weigh in on the various improvement options to let

CDOT know which options they prefer and if they have any concerns.

**Technical Advisory Team (TAT):** CDOT, the City of Pueblo, Pueblo County, Pueblo West Metropolitan District, and the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG).

For more information or specific accommodations to participate: Call (719) 546-5727 or email Joe.Garcia@dot.state.co.us

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