



Purpose

The purpose of transportation improvements recommended by this study is to reduce recurring congestion, improve existing and future corridor and intersection operations, and enhance safety for all users along US 24 from Powers Boulevard (SH 21) to Ramah Road.

Need

Transportation improvements are needed to address:

- » **Recurring Congestion:** Drivers along the US 24 corridor between Powers Boulevard (SH 21) and Marksheffel Road and surrounding the Meridian Road intersection experience substantial delays and queues during commuter peak periods today. Congestion along the corridor is expected to worsen by 2040 with longer delays, slower speeds, and extended queues, as well as new areas of congestion east of Meridian Road to Stapleton Road and between Elbert Road and Calhan, as traffic volumes increase with local and regional population and employment growth.
- » **Traffic Operational Issues:** Traffic operations along the US 24 corridor are inadequate with frequent interruptions in traffic flow due to intersection operations along the four-lane highway segments west of Garrett Road and turning traffic maneuvers with limited passing opportunities along the two-lane highway segments east of Falcon.
- » **Safety Concerns:** There are higher than expected number of crashes along the US 24 corridor, particularly between Colorado Springs and Peyton. Predominant crash types are related to traffic congestion, intersection conflicts, and lack of recovery area.

Project Goals

Additional goals of the transportation improvements for the US 24 study corridor are to:

- » Support local and regional plans
- » Avoid and minimize environmental impacts
- » Balance mobility and access for existing and future land and economic development
- » Complement local community surroundings
- » Accommodate multimodal connections and freight mobility