

# STATE OF COLORADO

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Region 6  
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June 18, 2009

Dear Stakeholder:

**RE: Local Access to Broadway from I-25, I-270/US 36**

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is completing the U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of the U.S. 36 corridor project is to improve mobility along the U.S. 36 corridor from I-25 in Adams County to Foothills Parkway/Table Mesa Drive in Boulder, and among intermediate destinations.

One aspect of the project is a 1990 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) decision to close access to Broadway from southbound I-25 and westbound I-270/US 36. This closure was deemed necessary to facilitate the freeway-to-freeway connections between interstates. During the Draft EIS, Adams County, and local stakeholders expressed concern about this closure. During the April 2009 public meetings for this environmental study, the Department heard intense opposition to the closure of the Broadway access and committed to work with the Save Your Neighborhood Access (SYNA) Committee and Adams County to find a solution that balanced community access concerns with federal requirements.

***Successful Outcome***

I am pleased to inform you that this collaboration was successful. The Final EIS, scheduled to be released this summer, will include the information below, which was agreed to by representatives of the SYNA Committee, Adams County, CDOT, and FHWA. I believe that this language provides a clear path forward that discloses information required by the National Environmental Policy Act and identifies how decisions will be made in the future, with local stakeholder involvement.

The Final EIS will depict the I-25/Broadway interchange with a system-to-system ramp from southbound I-25 to westbound I-270/US 36. This would eliminate the existing ramps that currently exist based on the interchange configuration that was cleared by the 1984 Environmental Assessment (updated in 1998), Finding of No Significant Impact (1985) and an Interstate Access Request for the I-25/US 36/I-270/I-76 interchange, which was prepared in 1990. Impacts associated with this proposed closure will be presented in Chapter 4, Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences.

Based on public comments, potential impacts, and the length of time that has elapsed between the Finding of No Significant Impact and Interstate Access Request for this action, CDOT and FHWA commit that prior to any change to local access from the highway system to Broadway occurring at the I-25/Broadway interchange, a separate study be undertaken.

This separate study will evaluate local access in the area and re-evaluate the proposed federal action prior to a final determination on local access to the interstate(s) for this area. A map reference addressing this issue can be found in the Final EIS Appendix A, Combined Alternative (Preferred Alternative) Map #10.

## Broadway Access

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The scope of the separate study will include, but is not limited to the following:

- Local outreach and coordination with Adams County and the Broadway area community will include, but is not limited to:
  - Local Governments
  - Local Businesses
  - Local School Districts
  - Public Safety Services and Emergency Responders
- Analysis of the impacts to the Broadway area community will include, but is not limited to:
  - Residential and Community Impacts
  - Business and Economic Impacts
  - School District Impacts
  - Public Safety Impacts and Emergency Services Impacts
  - Traffic Impacts

The separate study will reference the SYNA Committee's presentation made at the April 9, 2009 US 36 Public Meeting as a starting point in scoping the separate study.

### *Next Steps*

Following the release of the U.S. 36 Final EIS this summer, corridor-wide public hearings will be held during a 45-day comment period. The comment period will provide you with another opportunity to comment on the proposed improvements and the proposed timing of construction of those improvements. The overall approach to implementing the preferred alternative will be outlined in the Final EIS along with a first phase of implementation (Phase 1) including impacts and mitigation treatments.

After the Final EIS comments are reviewed and responded to, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be signed for Phase 1 of the project. A ROD is the federal decision document that describes the transportation project portions that have identified funding in the 2035 long range transportation plan, explains the rationale for those project decisions, and makes commitments as to how the project will mitigate impacts such as impacts to property, noise and air and water quality. The ROD is expected to occur in late 2009. CDOT has made a commitment to Adams County and the other stakeholders that any improvements which will affect local access at Broadway from I-25 and I-270/US-36 will not be included in Phase 1.

Thank you again for participating in the US 36 EIS process. Your input and comments were critical to implementing the collaborative solution that will be identified in the Final EIS. For **more information** about the project, please visit [www.us36eis.com](http://www.us36eis.com) or call the project team at 720-407-4713.

Sincerely,



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Randy L. Jensen  
Region 6 Transportation Director