



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT **FACT SHEET**

Environmental Analysis on Interstate-25

Incorporating the two years of collaborative development, the New Pueblo Freeway Team is continuing the project with the environmental review of the proposed improvements. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is leading this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

PURPOSE:

Address deteriorating roadway and bridges on this 41 year old portion of I-25. The project seeks to provide better connections for local traffic, correct outdated design elements, improve safety, and better accommodate existing and future traffic demand.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

An environmental document is required by federal law under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because federal funds are proposed for the improvements. Involved in the development of the New Pueblo Freeway EIS are:

- FHWA
- CDOT
- The City of Pueblo
- The County of Pueblo
- The Pueblo Area Council of Governments
- Community residents
- Other federal, state, and local agencies
- Other project stakeholders



PROJECT SCHEDULE	2003	2004
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION	WE ARE HERE	
INTERACTIVE PUBLIC WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS	[Bar]	[Bar]
PLANNING & DATA COLLECTION	[Bar]	
PREPARE DRAFT EIS (DEIS)		[Bar]
CDOT REVIEW OF DEIS		[Bar]
AGENCY REVIEW OF DEIS		[Bar]
PUBLISH DEIS & PUBLIC REVIEW		[Bar]

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www.I25Pueblo.com



THE ALTERNATIVES:

Three alternatives are proposed for analysis along this segment of I-25. The study area extends from just south of the Pueblo Boulevard/Lake Avenue interchange (Milepost 94) to near the Eagleridge interchange (Milepost 102). Alternatives under consideration include:

1. No Action Alternative

Minor improvements, repairs, and other normal maintenance activities are proposed. The existing four-lane highway will remain unchanged. While the No Action Alternative is a viable alternative, it also serves as the baseline for comparison of other alternative's impacts.

2. Existing I-25 Alignment Alternative

Includes reconstructing I-25 to six lanes on its present alignment. Interchanges will be modified or removed to improve safety. Improvements to the local street system will be included to enhance efficient traffic movement.

3. Modified I-25 Alignment Alternative

Includes reconstructing I-25 to six lanes and the improvements identified in Alternative 2. Segments of the interstate will be shifted to a new alignment to accommodate more efficient interchange designs and improve safety. Local street improvements are included.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS:

Through the EIS process, the stakeholders will discuss and evaluate each alternative to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts related to a variety of resources:

- The physical environment (biological resources, noise, water quality, etc.)
- The social environment (present and future land use, neighborhoods, views, etc.)
- Parklands and historical resources
- Transportation system performance

WHERE YOU FIT IN:

The New Pueblo Freeway Project Team will continue an extensive public involvement campaign through the EIS. This campaign is aimed at providing meaningful opportunities for project stakeholders to contribute to the EIS process.

Your input will continue to be critical to the outcome of the plan. Please look for newspaper announcements, invitations to neighborhood meetings and join us if you can.