

**I 70 Mountain Corridor PEIS
Collaborative Effort, Meeting 1
November 8, 2007
The Keystone Center, Keystone, Colorado**

Meeting Minutes

Welcoming the Collaborative Effort Members

- Russell George of CDOT and Doug Bennett of FHWA welcomed the group and thanked them for their participation
- A challenge was issued to keep hearts and minds open during these deliberations.
- The importance of completing this study, moving forward, and working together for durable solutions was highlighted.
- FHWA and CDOT expressed their commitment to listen, participate as active members in the Collaborative Effort and to work towards consensus agreement.

Establishing the Collaborative Effort

- The group reviewed the first draft of Operating Protocols for the Collaborative Effort, edits were suggested which will be made by the facilitators. Protocols will be circulated for review.
- City and County of Denver and Eagle County were affirmed as members of the Collaborative Effort. This completes the convening of the Collaborative Effort.
- The important role of the facilitator is acknowledged, members empower the facilitators to keep the discussions on track and intervene as appropriate.
- A larger perspective of “sustainability” was highlighted as important for CE discussions.
- Subcommittees or small working groups may be developed to discuss specific issues within the context of the Collaborative Effort.

Duties and Expectation of Collaborative Effort Members

- Members will make every effort possible to attend meetings in person
- In the event that members can not attend a meeting, the group has chosen not to plan or allow for alternates. Instead, members will have to find ways to catch up with proceedings.
- Conference call attendance is not desirable.
- Meetings are open to all. Public comment period will be provided during meetings.
- Members are expected to communicate with their constituents about Collaborative Effort deliberations.
- All members will represent their constituencies as decision makers, and each member has inherent limitations to their authority which must be acknowledged.

Review of Documents

- Two meeting summaries will be prepared:

- Short “Summary Notes” will be prepared and approved in the meeting of that day and will be available for circulation shortly after the meeting.
- Longer “Meeting Minutes” will be prepared and circulated.
- Rather than a document review team, the group decided that all Collaborative Effort members will receive materials at the same time.

Expectations of the Working Group

- A strong consensus among members about a recommended alternative is the goal and will be a critical part of any durable, realistic solution.
- Collaborative Effort members have a duty to keep their constituencies abreast of deliberations. Consensus “beyond the room” including support statewide, will be necessary to eventually implement a solution.
- It is important that Collaborative Effort discussions are expeditious while also thorough. It is a realistic goal to conduct Collaborative Effort discussions within 6-8 months.
- The Collaborative Effort will address both substantive and procedural issues:
 - Substantive deliberations will focus on questions relevant to the Tier 1 PEIS, such as mode choices, alignments and environmental protection and any mitigation.
 - Procedural agreements will address how analysis, design and decision making continues for transportation improvements through and beyond the PEIS.
- The Collaborative Effort should consider, and where appropriate, offer guidance regarding near-term projects that may be initiated or completed before the PEIS or CSS efforts are completed.
- Collaborative Effort discussions should be cognizant of larger regional, state, national and global issues. For example, fossil fuel availability and costs and carbon emissions are some of the larger sustainability issues that should help frame Collaborative Effort discussions.

Key Issues for Discussion by the Working Group

The following were recognized as some of the important issues for discussion by the Collaborative Effort:

- How to incorporate a 50 year vision in transportation planning in the corridor:
 - How to develop accurate or confident assumptions about costs, travel, demand, modes, technology
- How to consider Peak Oil, changing fuel prices, developing transportation technologies and global climate change.
- Cost considerations both long term and short term by-alternative
- Review of existing analysis and data in the PEIS
- Avoidance versus mitigation of environmental impacts
- Historic Impacts of different alternatives
- Cumulative, secondary and indirect impacts.
- Possible and realistic funding scenarios for any solution
- The amount of traffic volume and congestion that is desirable and/or acceptable

- The preparation and initiation of a “full” transit feasibility study
- The cooperation and coordination with lead, participating and review agencies
- The development and relative importance of different evaluation criteria

Scheduling and Next Steps

- The next two meeting of the Collaborative Effort will be and **November 26th** and **December 19th**
- The schedule of remaining Collaborative Effort meetings for **2008** was established as the **fourth Thursday of every month.**
- The general meeting location for Collaborative Effort will be in The Keystone Center. The **meeting location for November 26th will be at the USDOT Building**, 12300 W. Dakota Ave, Lakewood, CO 80228.