



23982-23929 I-70 West Vail Pass Safety and Operations Improvements Meeting Notes

Date: October 23, 2023

Purpose:

Combined Project Leadership Team (PLT) and Technical Team (TT) Meeting #39

Location:

Online Google Meet Meeting

Attending:

Attendance list:

- John Kronholm, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Region 3
- Sarah Navarro, CDOT Region 3
- Lisa Schoch, CDOT Historian
- Kristin Salamack, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Liaison
- Michelle Cowardin, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
- Marcus Dreux, U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
- Heidi Helling, USFS
- Jeff Bellen, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Dick Cleveland, Town of Vail
- Kevin Sharkey, Eagle County ECO Trails
- Shannon Anderson, Bicycle Colorado
- Larissa Read, Eagle River Water & Sanitation District (ERWSD)
- Adam Geis, Kiewit
- Randal Lapsley, RS&H
- Sam Stavish, CIG
- Rhegan Fernandes, CIG
- Mary Jo Vobejda, Jacobs
- Amy Hopkins, Jacobs
- Loretta LaRiviere, Jacobs

Summary of Discussion:

The following is a summary of the subjects discussed during the meeting.

1) Introductions & Meeting Purpose

Mary Jo said today we will hear updates on Construction Package (CP) #4 and CP #5 design; have a construction season update with winter shutdown activities; and hear highlights of public involvement this past season and the plan going forward into next spring.

2) CP 4 & CP 5 Update

a) Randal said CP #4 final revisions are in progress and are expected to be readvertised again on November 2. Bids are due about 6 weeks after that and they hope to have the low bidder determined in mid-December and move forward with contracting.

b) CP #5 design is also nearing completion and final documents are due November 13. This is a CMGC package and there will be negotiations with Kiewit's independent cost estimator to agree on the price.

Construction on both CP #4 and CP #5 will begin next spring.

c) Comments:

- Comment #1: Larissa asked if there is a lengthy Federal government shutdown in November will there be any impacts to project funding?
- Reply #1: Jeff said the FHWA is funded by the Highway Trust Fund and there should be no impact to project funding.

3) Construction Update

a) Adam gave an update on the CAP 3 Bridge, soil nail wall and rec trail progress:

- The bridge rail has been completed and concrete sealing will be done the week of October 23. The bridge deck asphalt paving, bridge staining, painting, and water proofing membrane have been completed. The bridge conduit installation is complete and fiber installation is still ongoing.
- The soil nail wall installation and structural/architectural shotcrete and staining and sealing were completed in September. A Type 9 CA barrier is being installed along the base of Wall 3-1. Final seeding and stabilization are taking place now.
- For the CAP 3 trail and roadway subgrade: Class 1 and 6 milling placement has been completed. The mainline asphalt paving is completed, and traffic was moved onto the new bridge. The rec trail asphalt paving has been

completed and the new trail is open. Final grading, seeding, and stabilization of the roadway and trail is in progress along with the fiber optic cable installation and cutovers.

- The remaining items to be completed this month are:
 - o 10/25/23 - Complete CAP 5 demo pad and armoring
 - o 10/23/23 - Start punchlist activities on rec trail and mainline
 - o 10/25/23 - Complete mainline final grading
 - o 10/24/23 - Start slope and ditch paving
 - o 10/31/23 - Complete mainline seeding and stabilization
 - o 10/31/23 - Complete bridge rail waterproofing
 - o 10/24/23 - Finish CAP 3 Rec Trail final grading and seeding
 - o 10/23/23 - Start I-70 westbound left shoulder CA/CG barrier
 - o 10/30/23 - Zayo to start microfiber cable installation

b) Comments

- Comment #1: Mary Jo asked if there will be any further construction activities after October.
- Reply #1: Adam said CP #3 will be done by mid-November and construction on CP #4 and CP #5 will start in the spring.
- Comment #2: Shannon asked when the rec trail will be closed for the winter.
- Reply #2: John said the trail never officially closes but the maintenance sweeping and plowing by CDOT and the USFS will stop in mid-November or sooner if there is substantial snowfall before then.

4) Public Outreach Update

- a) Sam said they consider the public outreach a success. During this year's construction season, we sent 14 emails regarding blasting activities in April and May to 854 interested parties, which is an increase of 182 subscribers from the previous year. We had ongoing trail communications with the three organized legacy bike events and coordinated with dozens of bicycle stakeholders throughout summer construction. Kiewit maintained safe trail conditions in the condensed trail footprint which was appreciated by all users.
- b) Lately we have been averaging an email open rate of 50%. We have averaged about one hotline call per week which are mainly questions about signage or noise wall requests from east Vail residents.
- c) We are planning a winter shutdown press release in the next few weeks. We will continue to maintain our communication channels with an updated winter



recording and will monitor and respond to email and hotline calls in a timely manner.

5) Schedule and Next Steps

- a) Mary Jo said with the design nearly complete and the construction season ending soon, we won't have anything to share with you until things start up again in the spring. We are planning our next meeting to be in March or April. If anything important comes up between now and then, we will send out email updates.
- b) Comments
 - Comment #1: Michelle requested the schedule for the wildlife crossings be updated to be in the CP #4 2024 package.
 - Comment #2: Dick requested that CDOT keeps the PLT/TT informed on the bidding results for both CP #4 and CP #5.
 - Reply #2: John said we will send updates on the progress of CP #4 and CP #5 bids to the PLT/TT.

