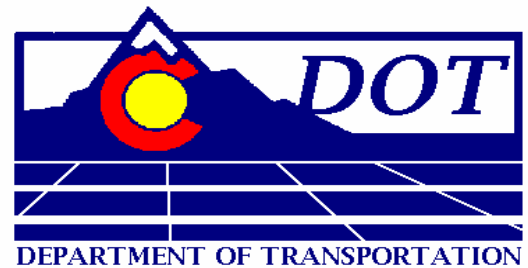


News From
**The Colorado Department
of Transportation**



www.dot.state.co.us

July 20, 2007

Contact: Bob Wilson, CDOT Public Relations, (303) 757-9431

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE I-25/
SH 16 EAST ENTRANCE TO FORT CARSON, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with Fort Carson and the Bureau of Reclamation, announce the availability of the State Highway 16 Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment. An EA was prepared to evaluate improvements on State Highway (SH) 16 from Gate 20 at Fort Carson to Syracuse Street.

The proposed improvements, or Proposed Action, would provide four lanes on SH 16 to alleviate current and future traffic congestion, and would reconstruct interchanges at I-25 and US 85.

The EA is now available for public review through a website (<https://www.thepowerslink.com>), at libraries and public offices listed below. The public may provide written comments in one of four ways: by fax, by e-mail, through the U.S. mail, or at the Public Hearing by completing a comment form or speaking to a court reporter.

The SH 16 EA has been completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA evaluated the impacts and proposed mitigation measures for the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. Once the public comment period is completed and all comments have been addressed, FHWA will issue a decision whether the improvements may proceed or additional environmental analysis will be needed. If the decision is to go forward with the Proposed Action, the final design plans will be prepared and construction may proceed.

The Proposed Action for SH 16 improvements includes widening of SH 16 to four lanes from Fort Carson Gate 20 to Syracuse Street, replacing the interchange with Interstate 25, and reconstructing the interchange with US 85. Proposed improvements are mostly on the existing SH 16 alignment with a shift to the north as SH 16 approaches the I-25 interchange. The existing diamond interchange at I-25 would be replaced with a partial cloverleaf interchange with a large loop ramp in the southwest quadrant. At US 85, the existing interchange would be reconstructed to improve the on- and off-ramps and provide additional spacing with the adjacent frontage roads.

It is expected that construction of these improvements will occur in at least two phases. The first phase from Gate 20 to US 85 would take approximately 18 months to complete.

The public is encouraged to review the EA and provide comments. The document is available for review on the web at: <https://www.thepowerslink.com>.

Additionally, the EA can be reviewed at the following locations:

CDOT Region 2
905 Erie Avenue
P. O. Box 536
Pueblo, CO 81001
719- 546-5400

City of Fountain
116 South Main Street
Fountain, CO 80817
719-322-2000

Pikes Peak Area Library - Penrose Library
20 N. Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
719-531-6333

FHWA Colorado Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228
720-963-3000

El Paso County Offices
27 East Vermijo Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO
719-520-6536

University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
Kraemer Family Library
1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80933
719-262-3295

CDOT Region 2
1480 Quail Lake Loop, Suite A
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-634-2323

Pikes Peak Area Library—Fountain Branch
230 South Main Street
Fountain, CO 80817
719-382-5347

Pikes Peak Community College
Centennial Campus Library
5675 S. Academy Boulevard, Room A201
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-502-2400

The public may provide comments by:

By Mail: I-25/SH 16 Project Team
c/o Carter-Burgess
707 17th Street, Suite 2300
Denver, CO 80202

By Fax at: (303) 820-2402
By e-mail at: Robert.Quinlan@c-b.com
At the Open Forum Public Hearing

A 30-day public comment period on this EA begins on July 20, 2007 and will end on August 20, 2007.

An Open Forum Public Hearing will be held on August 7th to receive comments. Comments will be received at the Hearing in writing or by a court reporter. There will be no formal presentation.

What: An Open Forum Public Hearing.

The public is invited to make written or oral comments on the EA. All comments received will be addressed.

When: Tuesday, August 7, 2007

4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Where: Mesa Ridge High School (cafeteria)

6070 Mesa Ridge Parkway

Colorado Springs, Colorado

If anyone requires special Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations to participate in the meeting, they may call (303) 820-5240.