

Visit The Meeting Center or Web site



The Powers Meeting Center, 953 North Powers Boulevard, is your place for current project information.

Meeting Center

The Center has corridor maps and concepts for you to review.
 Address: 953 North Powers Boulevard
 Hours: 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. every Tuesday
 Directions: Turn east off Powers onto Galley Rd., and right off Galley Rd. onto Conrad St. Turn immediately right into the shopping center. The Center is on the west side of the shopping center and faces Powers.

Web site: www.thepowerslink.com

Corridor maps with proposed improvements, history, newsletters

Contact Information

Call: (719) 598-LINK [5465] or E-mail: theLINK@wilsonco.com
 Write: Marcus Kochis, Community Involvement
 c/o Wilson & Company, Inc.
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Capacity Improvements Studied for Powers Boulevard



At the May 2004 Open House, CDOT shared potential solutions for future improvements to Powers.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) along with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is currently performing an Environmental Assessment (EA) on Powers Boulevard from Woodmen Road to its interim connection with I-25 at SH 16 along Mesa Ridge Parkway. The EA process evaluates potential solutions that address current and future mobility issues on Powers. This process also requires a detailed study of the possible impacts to the environment and community that would result from improvements to Powers Boulevard.

At the May 2004 Open House, CDOT shared potential solutions for future improvements to Powers. Since that time, we have incorporated your comments and concerns into the design process and have developed a Proposed Action for this portion of the Powers Boulevard Corridor. The Proposed Action, or plan for future improvements, is that Powers be upgraded to a freeway.

CDOT is examining the impacts of the Proposed Action to both the environment and community. Efforts have been made throughout the development of the conceptual design to avoid and minimize adverse social and environmental impacts.

Environmental analysis of the Proposed Action will include a comparison to the no-action alternative to determine what impacts will occur and what mitigation measures will be implemented.

CDOT Recommends a Powers Boulevard Freeway with interchanges at:

- Dublin Boulevard
- Stetson Hills Boulevard
- Barnes Road
- North Carefree Circle
- Constitution Avenue
- Palmer Park Boulevard
- Galley Road
- Airport Road
- Fountain Boulevard
- Hancock Expressway
- Drennan Road
- Grinnell Avenue
- Proposed southern access to the Colorado Springs Airport
- Bradley Road
- Fontaine Boulevard

CDOT Recommends a Powers Boulevard Freeway

What Happens Now?

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the recommended capacity improvements must be subjected to a rigorous environmental analysis. We are in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine what the potential impacts would be from the Proposed Action.

The following is a partial list of issues we are examining in order to understand the environmental effects of the proposed improvements:

- Right-of-way impacts
- Effects on local traffic and access
- Air quality
- Traffic noise analysis
- Neighborhoods
- Wildlife/vegetation
- Water resources (water quality wetlands, floodplains)
- Historic/archaeological resources
- Park lands/open space
- Visual/aesthetic conditions
- Hazardous materials

The EA will summarize the results of all technical studies and will identify measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and in some cases, enhance impacted areas. The EA process will also provide the public an opportunity to review and make comments regarding the proposed future improvements to Powers Boulevard. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will then evaluate all public and agency comments received and will determine whether proposed improvements to Powers Boulevard should proceed.



North Powers Improvements

Work continues on Powers Boulevard north of Woodmen Road. We anticipate the completion of Powers Boulevard from Briargate to SH 83 by summer of 2005. This will also include improvements to SH 83; the Shoup Road/SH 83 intersection (including intersection

signalization); and a new bridge over Black Squirrel Creek just north of Shoup Road. The section from Research to Briargate is also currently under construction and is expected to be complete by late spring 2005.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q What is the difference between a freeway and an expressway?**
A An expressway is typically a lower speed facility (40-55 mph), access points are generally separated at one mile intervals and intersections are at-grade and controlled by traffic signals. A freeway is a higher speed facility (55-75 mph), access points are typically spaced one to two miles apart and the mainline freeway traffic does not stop at intersections.
- Q Why was a limited-access freeway the chosen recommendation?**
A Due to the expected increases in traffic on Powers Boulevard and the intersecting roadways over the next 20 years, the current configuration of Powers Boulevard will no longer operate efficiently between Woodmen and Drennan Roads. In order to maintain mobility and reduce congestion throughout the Powers Corridor, these intersections need to be grade-separated with interchanges. Also, as it operates today, Powers Boulevard can already be considered a limited access facility in that a majority of the access points are separated by approximately one mile.
- Q What is an EA?**
A An Environmental Assessment is a report that summarizes the social, economic, and environmental consequences of a Proposed Action, such as adding capacity to Powers Boulevard. The EA is based upon scientific, technical, and engineering studies with findings compiled in a report that is open to the public and subject to public review and comment. It is part of a decision-making process that considers the positive and negative aspects of an action to ensure that an informed decision is made.
- Get Involved**
 We will be sharing the results of the technical studies including social and environmental impacts and mitigation measures at an Open House to be held in the spring of 2005. We look forward to meeting with you and will be announcing the date and location of the Open House soon.