

.....
I-25/Arapahoe Interchange Environmental Assessment

Public Meeting #1

Meeting Overview



I-25/Arapahoe Interchange

Environmental Assessment

.....

I-25/Arapahoe Interchange Environmental Assessment

Public Meeting #1

Meeting Overview

The first public meeting for the I-25/Arapahoe Interchange Environmental Assessment project was held at the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 8545 E. Dry Creek Road, Centennial, Colorado, on Thursday, April 15, 2010. The meeting was advertised in many ways. Over 3,100 hard copies of a postcard advertisement were mailed to property owners and tenants in the interchange area. An electronic newsletter was sent via email to about 400 stakeholders on the project mailing list. A news release was sent to local media and public information officers at involved agencies and jurisdictions. In an effort to notify business tenants closest to the potential improvements, approximately 400 businesses were visited and received a hand-delivered newsletter, special invitation to the public meeting and invitation to attend a separate meeting focused on business concerns.



Approximately 230 people attended the public meeting, and it was covered by many local news outlets. Attendees were asked to identify where they live and/or work on a large graphic of the project study area. This illustrated that the majority of attendees live in the residential neighborhood immediately to the west of the project area, and/or work in businesses along the I-25 and Arapahoe Road corridors.

The meeting was conducted as an open house from 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM, with no formal presentation. Exhibits were posted around the large meeting room with project team members and sponsoring agency representatives available to answer questions, take comments and engage in one-on-one and small group discussions. Wall graphic "stations" included the following:

- Project Background
- Current CDOT Interchange Improvements
- Existing Conditions
- Current NEPA Effort
- Previously Considered Alternatives
- Recently Suggested Alternatives
- Alternatives for Level 2 Evaluation
- Schedule/Next Steps
- Comments



Meeting attendees were invited to provide input on the Draft Purpose & Need and Objectives, Level 1 screening results, Level 2 screening criteria and the proposed Costilla connection. Ideas for reasonably feasible interchange alternatives that had not previously been considered were solicited. Hundreds of comments were received before, during and after the meeting, and these comments will be considered as the project moves forward. Record of these individual comments (in the form of comment sheets distributed by the project team and the Centennial Neighbors Coalition, telephone conversation records, letters, email and website entries), as well as a comment summary, are included in the *Comments Received* sections of the Public Meeting #1 Summary Document. Major comment themes included:

- Questions on alternative interchange configurations (answered during meeting)
- Concurrence that the interchange needs improvement
- Alternative locations for I-25 north of Arapahoe were suggested
- Costilla connection opposition noted due to neighborhood impacts (traffic, noise, safety, property values, etc.)
- Public confusion regarding the location of the Costilla tie-in to Yosemite