

To:	PLT Members & Alternates CDOT Staff	Date:	May 15, 2012
		Subject:	Endorsed Context Statement, Core Values, Critical Success Factors and Desired Outcomes & Actions
From:	Mike Riggs	Project No:	AZE1208

At our PLT Meeting of May 9, we finalized and endorsed the Context Statement, Core Values, Critical Success Factors and Desired Outcomes and Actions. This memo is intended to document those items endorsed.

Context Statement

The I-70 Mountain Corridor is a magnificent scenic place. Human elements are woven through breathtaking natural features and ecosystems. The integration of these diverse elements has occurred over the course of time.

This corridor is a recreational and heritage tourism destination for the world and a unique place to live. It is a route of national, regional and local economic importance as both an interstate highway and an intercommunity connection.

Corridor communities are active participants in transportation considerations. A historic collaborative agreement exists for solutions in the I-70 Mountain Corridor.

The I-70 Mountain Corridor has unique engineering, operational, and aesthetic challenges, including:

- ▶ Challenging horizontal and vertical curvature of highway and steep and lengthy grades
- ▶ Sensitive environmental and cultural areas
- ▶ Areas of potential geotechnical challenges such as rock slides, mines, faults, etc.
- ▶ Weather conditions unique to high mountain elevations, including periods of severe winter conditions and potential avalanches
- ▶ Substantial congestion variation, both weekly and seasonally
- ▶ Significant variation in trip purposes and party sizes; ranging from individual work trips to recreational activity trips made by families and groups
- ▶ Large volumes of freight transport
- ▶ Connecting to and through existing communities

Core Values

- ▶ **Sustainability** is an overarching value that creates solutions for today without diminishing resources for future generations. Industry solutions proposed for the AGS should endeavor to generate long-term benefits to economic strength, scenic character, community vitality, ecosystem integrity, and both energy conservation and production.
- ▶ **Openness, honesty, collaboration and transparency** are critically important to the credibility and ultimate endorsement of the AGS Feasibility Study's process and results.
- ▶ **Safety** for passengers, motorists and the public must be built into the AGS.
- ▶ A **healthy environment** requires taking responsibility to preserve, restore and enhance community, cultural and natural resources.

- ▶ The corridor's broad **historic context** is foundational to its identity. As industry develops proposed AGS solutions for the corridor, it should always respect and protect what the past has contributed to the sense of place.
- ▶ The individuality of **communities** must be respected in a manner that promotes their livability. The character of the corridor is realized in the differences and commonalities of its communities.
- ▶ **Mobility and accessibility** must address local, regional and national travel by providing reliability, efficiency and interconnectivity between systems and communities.
- ▶ **Aesthetics** of a successful AGS system should be inspired by the surroundings and incorporate the context of place. The system should protect viewsheds and scenic character while exhibiting timeless design that continues the corridor's legacy.
- ▶ The AGS System will serve as a **global model** for innovation and excellence.

Critical Success Factors

- ▶ Assess the economic, environmental, technological and financial feasibility of an AGS.
- ▶ Investigate all pertinent AGS technologies that meet the criteria.
- ▶ Receive responsive proposals
- ▶ PLT members understand and build on past work and accomplishments.
- ▶ Insuring close coordination and collaboration with ICS and Co-development project.
- ▶ Insure that Context Sensitive Solution is included in all aspects of the PLT process.
- ▶ Insuring the PLT continues to support and champion the study process.
- ▶ Insuring the process is consistent with Collaborative Effort criteria.
- ▶ Keeping local governments and representatives informed on project, sooner rather than later.
- ▶ Insuring the I-70 Coalition Technical Committee is properly and effectively engaged.
- ▶ Insure a successful public outreach program.

Desired Outcomes & Actions

- ▶ Identify technologies that can meet the system performance & operational criteria.
- ▶ Complete AGS Feasibility Study & gain consensus on questions of feasibility, cost, ridership, land use & governance.
- ▶ Identify technological & financial feasibility of AGS in relationship to I-70 Mountain Corridor Record of Decision.
- ▶ Consistent and close coordination between AGS, ICS and Co-Development, including but not limited to a transfer-free connection to Denver International Airport.
- ▶ Endorsement from the local, state and federal levels for conclusions of the study document.

AGS Feasibility Study
Project Memo
May 15, 2012

Please note that the endorsed Chartering Agreement will come under a separate cover by the end of the week.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at 602.803.3557 or mriggs@aztec.us.