

I-70 Frontage Road Improvements

Old US 40 / CR 314

Project Leadership Team / Technical Team Meeting #3

December 15, 2011

Jim Bemelen, I-70 Corridor Manager
David Singer, I-70 Corridor Env. Manager
Benjamin Acimovic, Project Manager
Janet Gerak, Project Env. Manager



Agenda

- 1:05 Meeting Goal and Agenda Review**
 - CSS Step 5: confirm alignment and sections
 - Process overview and website reminder
- 1:15 New Introductions**
- 1:30 Input from recent meetings**
- 1:45 Summarize values, screening criteria and variances**
- 2:00 Review alignment and cross sections**
- 2:45 Endorse refined option**
- 3:00 Next Steps**

Step 1
Define Desired Outcomes and Actions

Step 2
Endorse the Process

Step 3
Establish Criteria

Step 4
Develop Alternatives and Options

Step 5
Evaluate, Select, and Refine Alternatives and Options

Step 6
Finalize Documentation and Evaluation Process

Process Overview

- Categorical Exclusion for frontage road improvements east of Idaho Springs to Hidden Valley
- Project Schedule
 - PLT/TT Meeting August 31, 2011
 - Scoping September 7, 2011
 - PLT/TT Meeting #2 October 26, 2011
 - PLT/TT Meeting #2.5 November 1, 2011
 - Greenway ITF November 22, 2011
 - Field Inspection Review December 1, 2011
 - Clear Creek Board meeting review December 12, 2011
 - PLT/TT Meeting #3 December 15, 2011
 - Engineering Coordination meeting December 21, 2011
 - Idaho Springs Planning Commission TBD
 - Greenway ITF#2 TBD
 - Final Office Review April 2012
 - Ad date for Phase I April 2012
 - Construction of Phase I Summer /Fall 2012
- Anticipating \$6.25M project budget - for design and construction



Meeting materials on website

The screenshot shows the Colorado Department of Transportation (DOT) website. The header includes the DOT logo with the slogan "Taking care to get you there" and a search bar. The navigation menu includes Home, Travel Center, News, Business Center, Programs, Projects, About COOT, and Library. The current page is titled "Schedule and Documents" for the project "I-70 frontage road - east of idaho springs".

On the left, there is a "Quick Links" sidebar with various project-related links. The main content area is titled "Schedule and Documents" and contains a table of project milestones and meeting materials. The table has columns for "Project Milestone", "Meeting Materials", and "Date".

Project Milestone	Meeting Materials	Date
Project Leadership and Technical Team (PLT/TT) Kick-off Meeting	Presentation Minutes	Aug 31, 2011
Twin Tunnels EA Open House	Flyer Comment Sheet Comment Summary	Sept 27, 2011
SWEEP Meeting	Meeting Notes	Oct 19, 2011
September Newsletter	Newsletter	Sept 30, 2011
PLT/TT #2	Presentation Minutes	Oct 26, 2011
October Newsletter	Newsletter	Oct 28, 2011
PLT/TT #2.5	Presentation Minutes Handout	Nov 1, 2011
Greenway Issue Task Force Meeting #1	Meeting Notes	Nov 22, 2011
November Newsletter	Newsletter	Nov 23, 2011
Field Inspection Review (Phase I)	Agenda	Dec 1, 2011
Categorical Exclusion (Phase I and II)		Jan 2012
Final Office Review (Phase I)		Mar 2012

On the right side, there is a "Project Contacts" section listing Benjamin Acimovic (DOT Project Manager) and Janet Gerak (DOT Environmental Project Manager) with their phone numbers and email addresses.



New Introductions

- New Project Leadership / Technical Team members: *Larry and Gail Lancaster*



Input from recent meetings

Greenway ITF, FIR, Clear Creek Board, etc

- Avoidance of Gem Power Plant remnants
- Rock wall life span and maintenance requirements
- Utility Coordination Process



Input from recent meetings

Greenway ITF, FIR, Clear Creek Board, etc

- CDOT letter to document Lancaster Bridge protections
- Clear Creek County Board Meeting endorsement
- Clear Creek County, Comments on FIR Documents

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Region 1 – I-70 Mountain Corridor Management Team
18500 East Colfax
Aurora, CO 80011
303-365-7010
303-365-7350 Fax



November 29, 2011

County Commissioners
Clear Creek County
P.O. Box 2000
Georgetown, CO 80444

Dear County Commissioners:

At a recent Clear Creek Greenway Coordination meeting, I was asked to provide a letter to document CDOT's commitments related to the Scott Lancaster Bridge (SLB). Because we are early in the design process for both the Frontage Road project and Twin Tunnels project, we are obviously not 100% certain of what the final configuration and impacts of the projects will be. With that in mind, I am happy to document our intents and commitments on these projects to ensure the visibility, functionality and character of the SLB.

Our intent is to leave the SLB in its current location during and after the construction of the Twin Tunnels project and the Frontage Road project. If the SLB can indeed remain in its existing location, CDOT will ensure the SLB is protected with adequate guardrail during the eastbound detour operations during the Twin Tunnels project.

If, during the Environmental Assessment and further design efforts, it becomes evident that it is not feasible to leave the SLB in its current location during construction, we will temporarily relocate the SLB to a safe location until the detour operations are complete. We would then move the SLB back to its existing location.

These commitments will be documented in the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Twin Tunnels project. The EA and the potential decision document will specifically detail CDOT and FHWA's commitments on this project to preserve and protect the SLB. Since the SLB carries the Scott Lancaster trail, it is a protected property under Section 4(f) of the DOT Act. This means that CDOT must and will ensure that if there is any temporary impact to the SLB, we will institute all possible planning to minimize harm to the SLB.

On a related note, CDOT continues to stand by our previously stated commitment that the Greenway will remain usable and functional during the detouring of eastbound I-70, as long as it can be accommodated in a safe manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Bemelen".

Jim Bemelen, P.E.
I-70 Mountain Corridor Program Manager, CDOT Region 1

cc: Tony DeVito, Region 1 Transportation Director
David Singer, I-70 Mtn Corridor Environmental Manager
Benjamin Acimovic, Project Manager
Janet Gerak, Frontage Road Environmental Manager



Corridor Core Values

- Sustainability
- Collaborative decision making
- Safety
- Healthy environment
- Historic context
- Community respect
- Mobility and accessibility
- Aesthetics



Screening Criteria

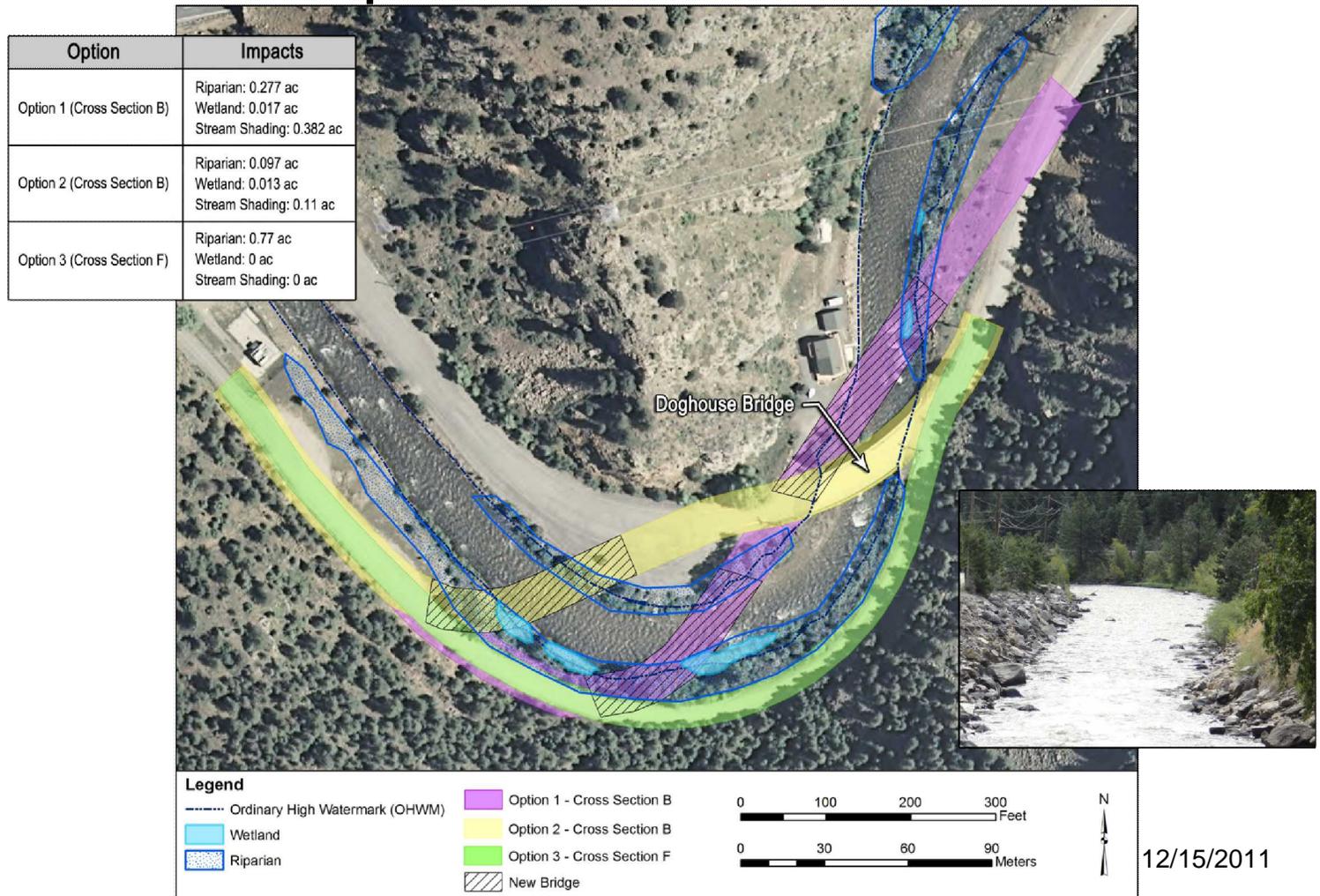
Table 7: Summary of Preferred Alternative

Decision Area	Option	Summary of Benefit/Drawback	Estimated Total Cost* (\$ millions)
Western	Combination of CS A and B	Impact to accesses and private property Consistent separated trail (new and existing) Potential wetland impacts – 0.004 acres	\$5.83
Gravel/Doghouse Bridge	Option 1 or 2 (New bridge(s))	New trail attached to bridge(s) Lower economic/redevelopment Lower utility coordination/extension Medium stream/wetland impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 - riparian: 0.277 ac, wetland: 0.017 ac, and stream shading: 0.382 ac Option 2 - riparian: 0.097 ac, wetland: 0.013 ac, and stream shading: 0.11 ac 	\$4.66
Gravel/Doghouse Bridge	Option 3 (CS F)	Narrowest cross section Trail remains in current location along Doghouse Bridge Lower utility coordination/extension Low stream/wetland impacts	\$3.43

Cost being revised based on new survey

Screening Criteria

- wetlands example



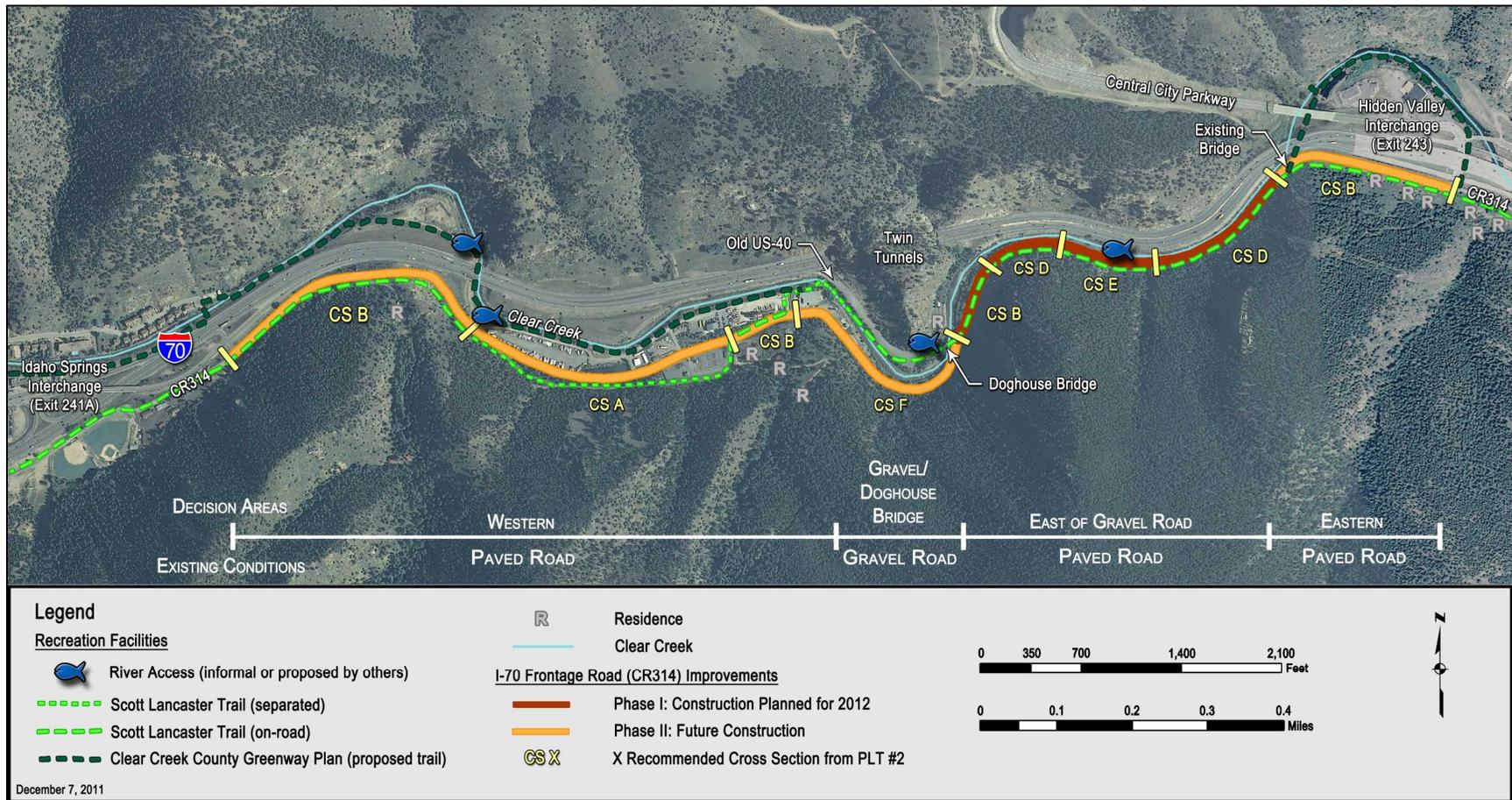
Screening Criteria

Table 7: Summary of Preferred Alternative

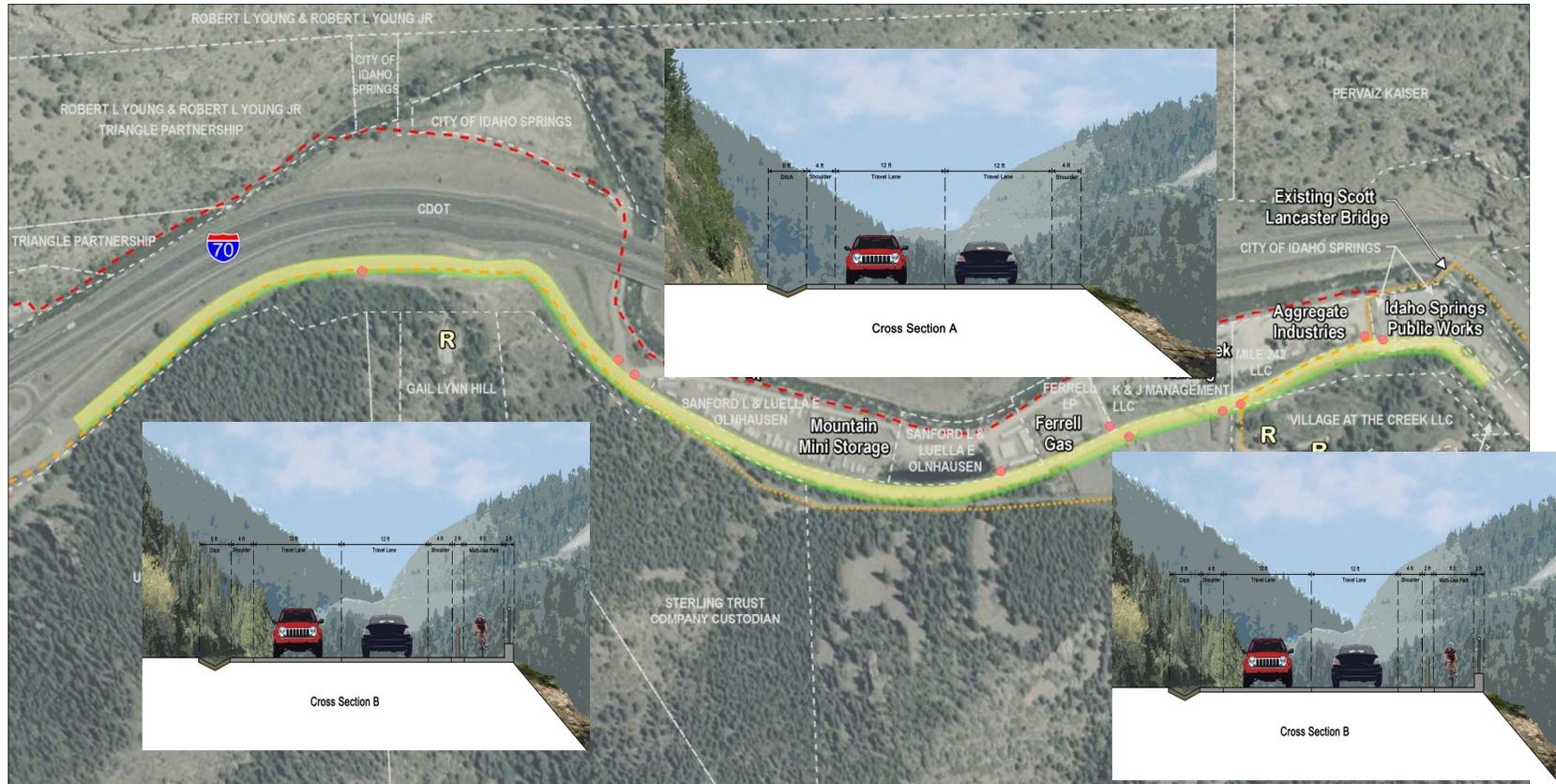
Decision Area	Option	Summary of Benefit/Drawback	Estimated Total Cost* (\$ millions)
Phase I	Combination of CS B, D, E	<p>High flexibility to accommodate trail during detour/construction (vehicle loads on cantilever)</p> <p>High accommodation of other greenway facilities</p> <p>No stream/wetland impacts</p>	\$6.67
	CS C	<p>Low flexibility to accommodate trail during detour/construction (vehicle loads on cantilever)</p> <p>Low accommodation of other greenway facilities</p> <p>Low potential stream/wetland impacts</p>	\$4.85
Eastern	CS B	<p>Impact to accesses and private property</p> <p>Consistent separated trail</p> <p>No stream/wetland impacts</p>	\$3.52

Cost being revised based on new survey

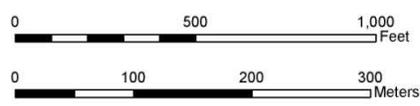
Preferred Option



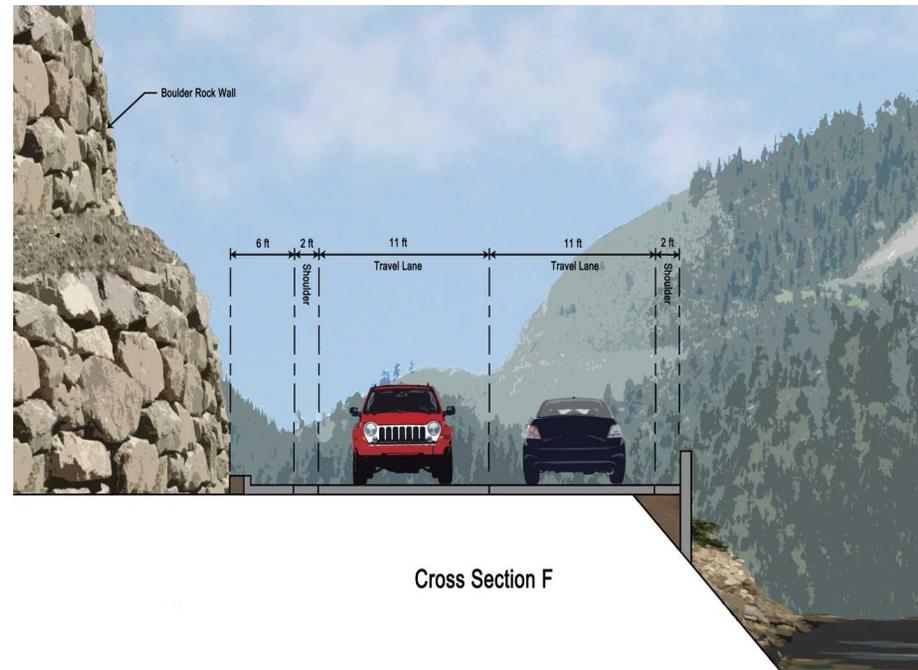
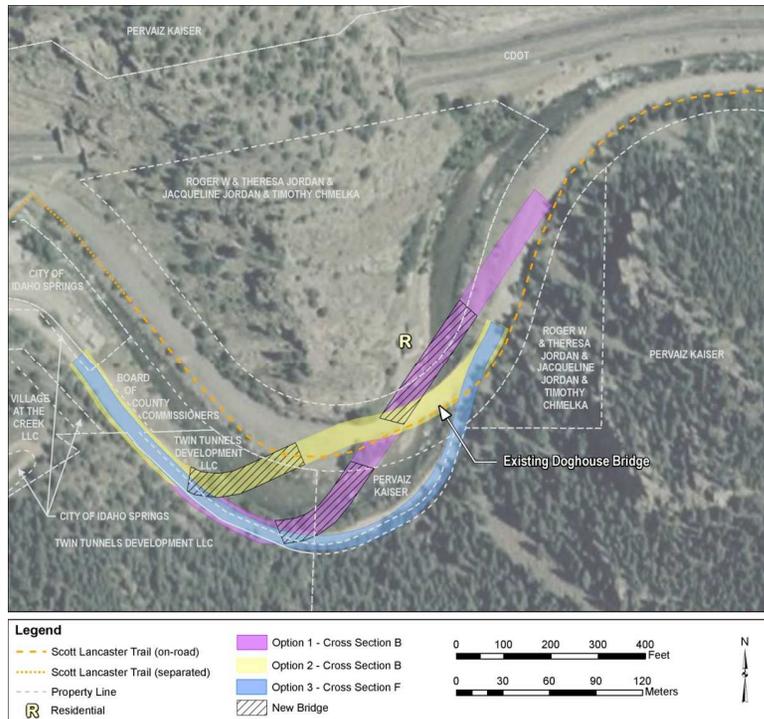
Western Decision Area



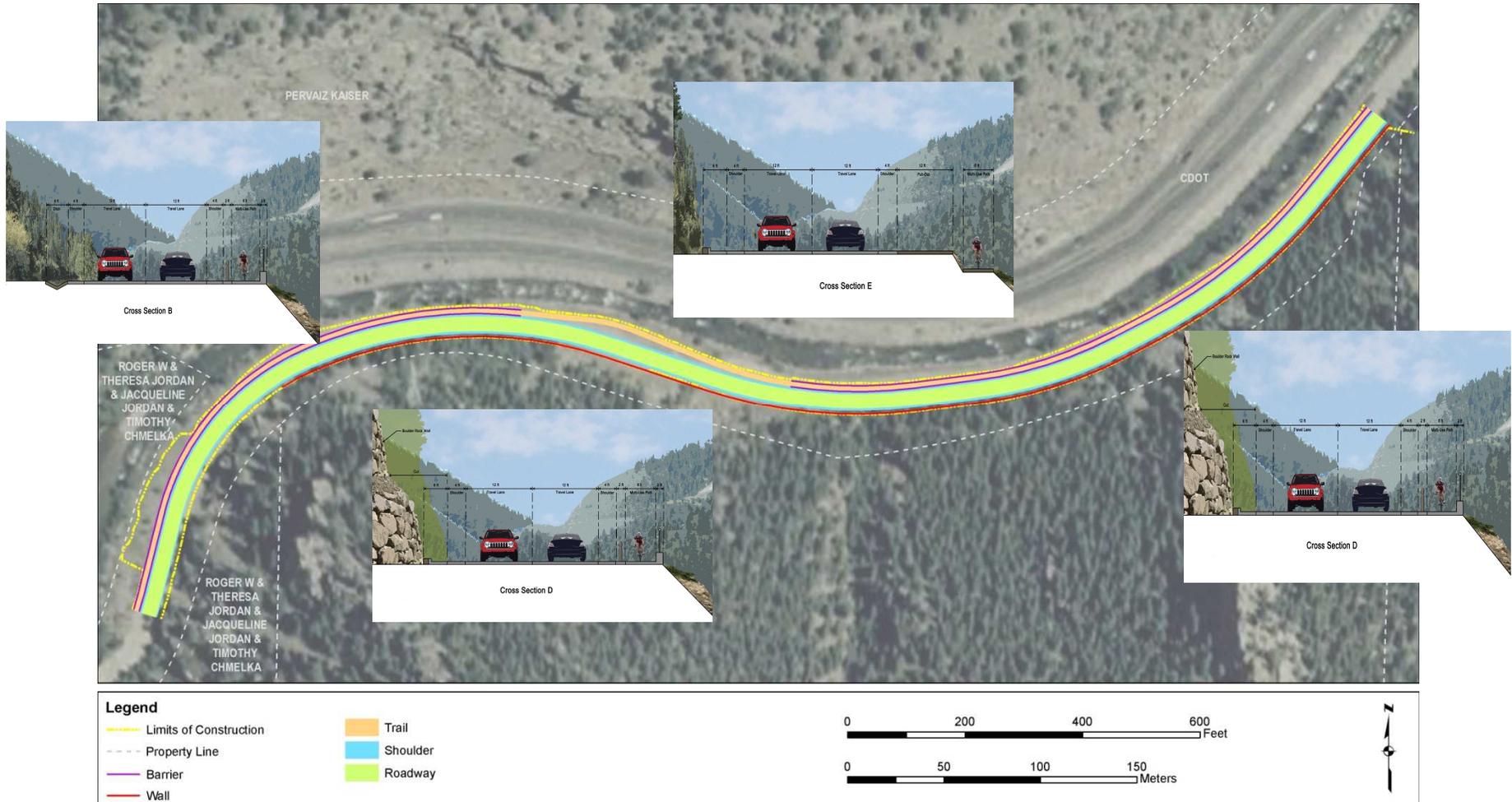
- Legend**
- Business/Residential Access
 - Scott Lancaster Trail (on-road)
 - Scott Lancaster Trail (separated)
 - - - Proposed Greenway Trail
 - - - Property Line
 - R Residential
 - Cross Section A
 - Cross Section B



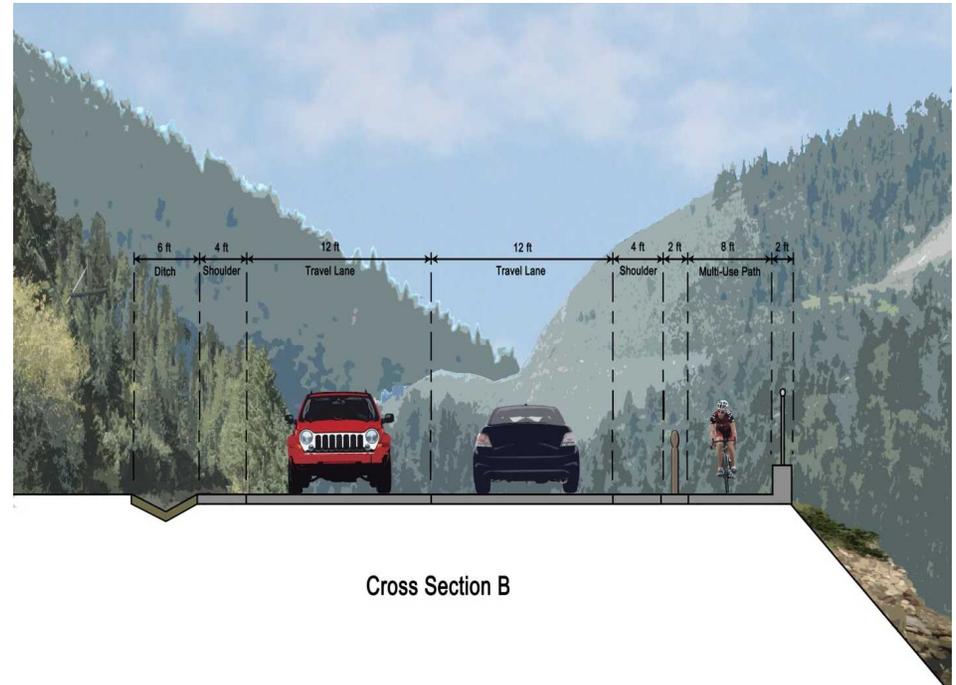
Gravel / Doghouse Rail Bridge Decision Area



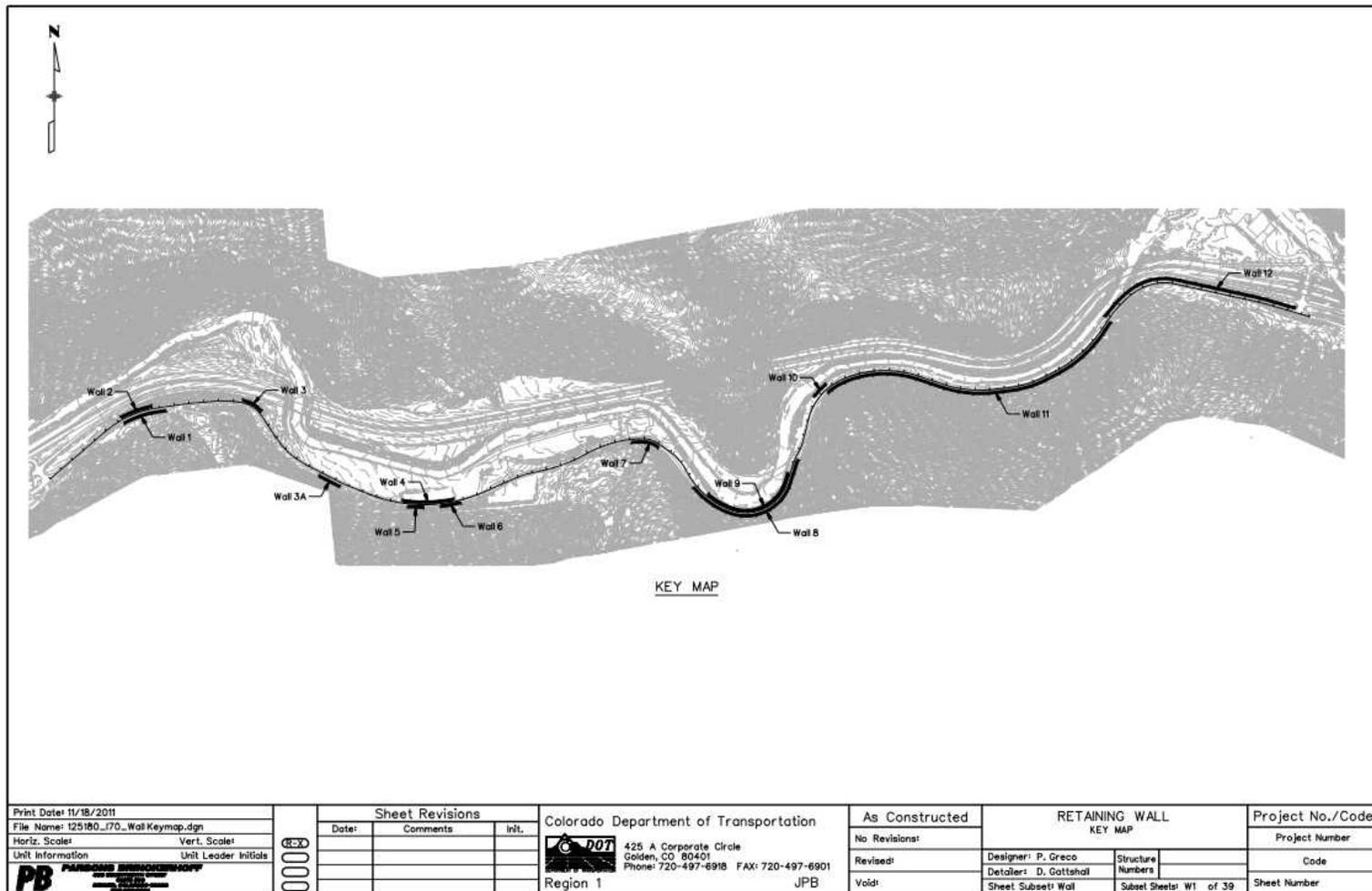
East of Gravel Road Decision Area



Eastern Decision Area

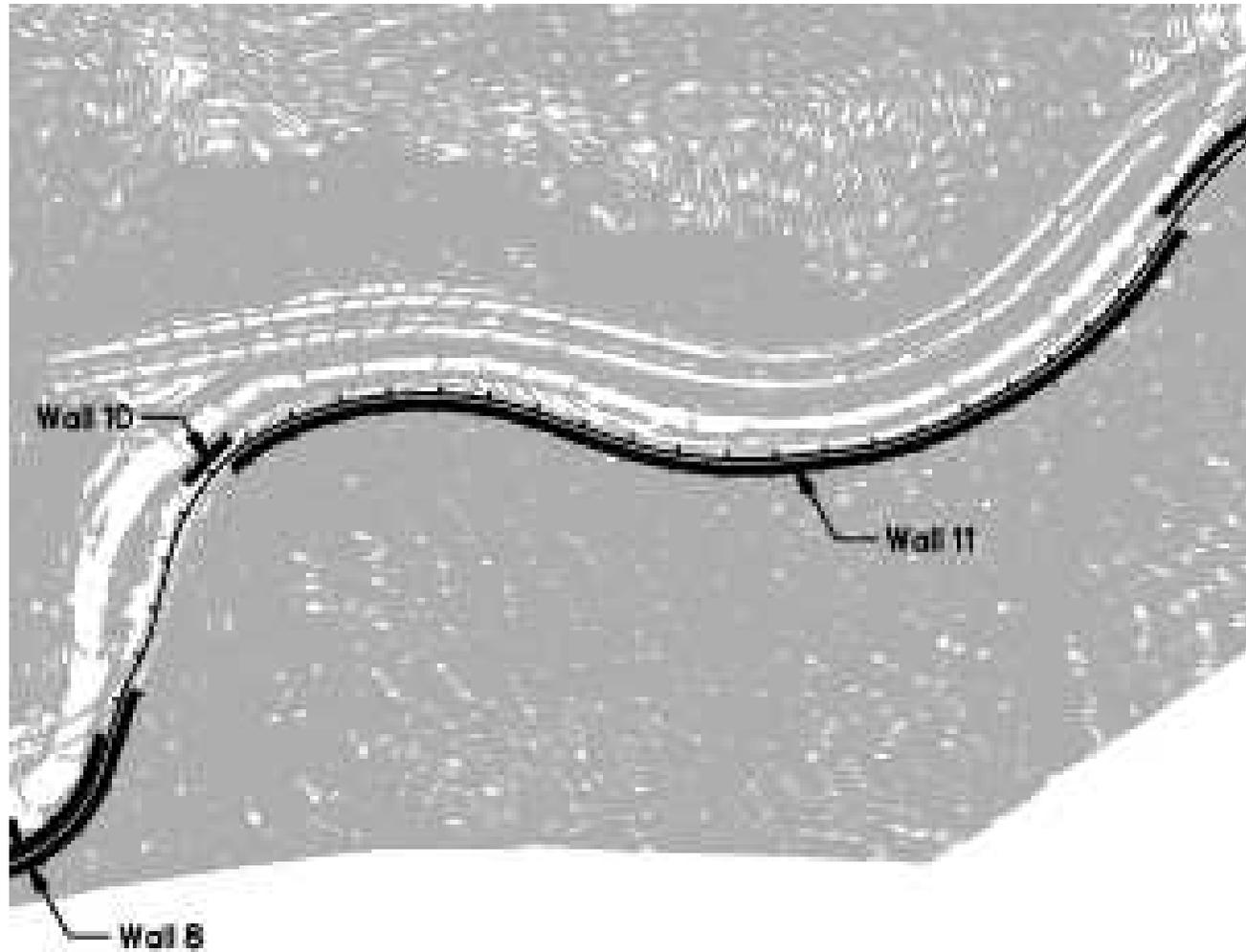


FIR Plan Wall Locations

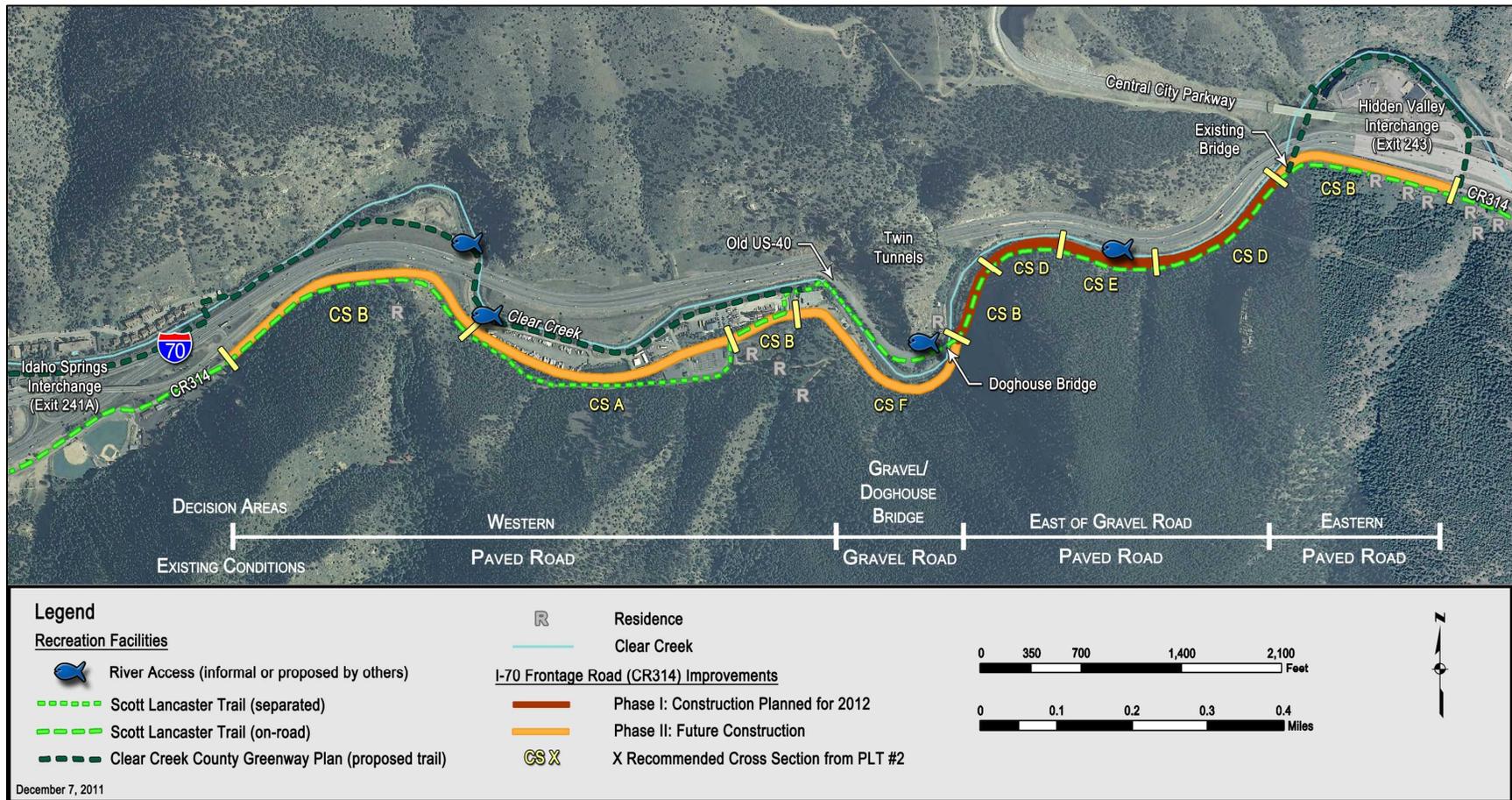


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FIR Plan Phase I Wall Locations



Preferred Option

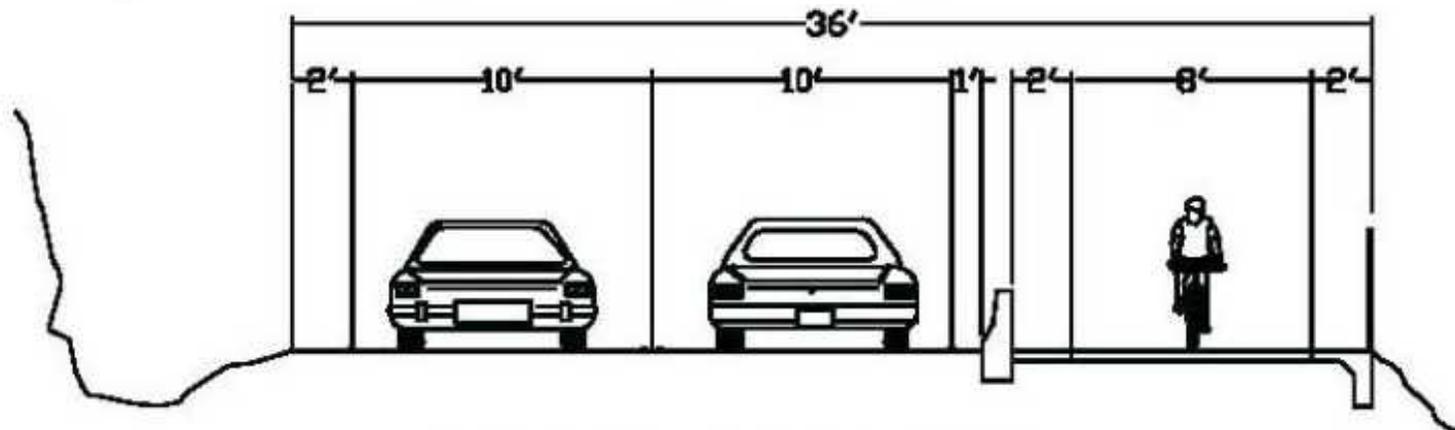


I-70 Mountain Corridor Design Criteria

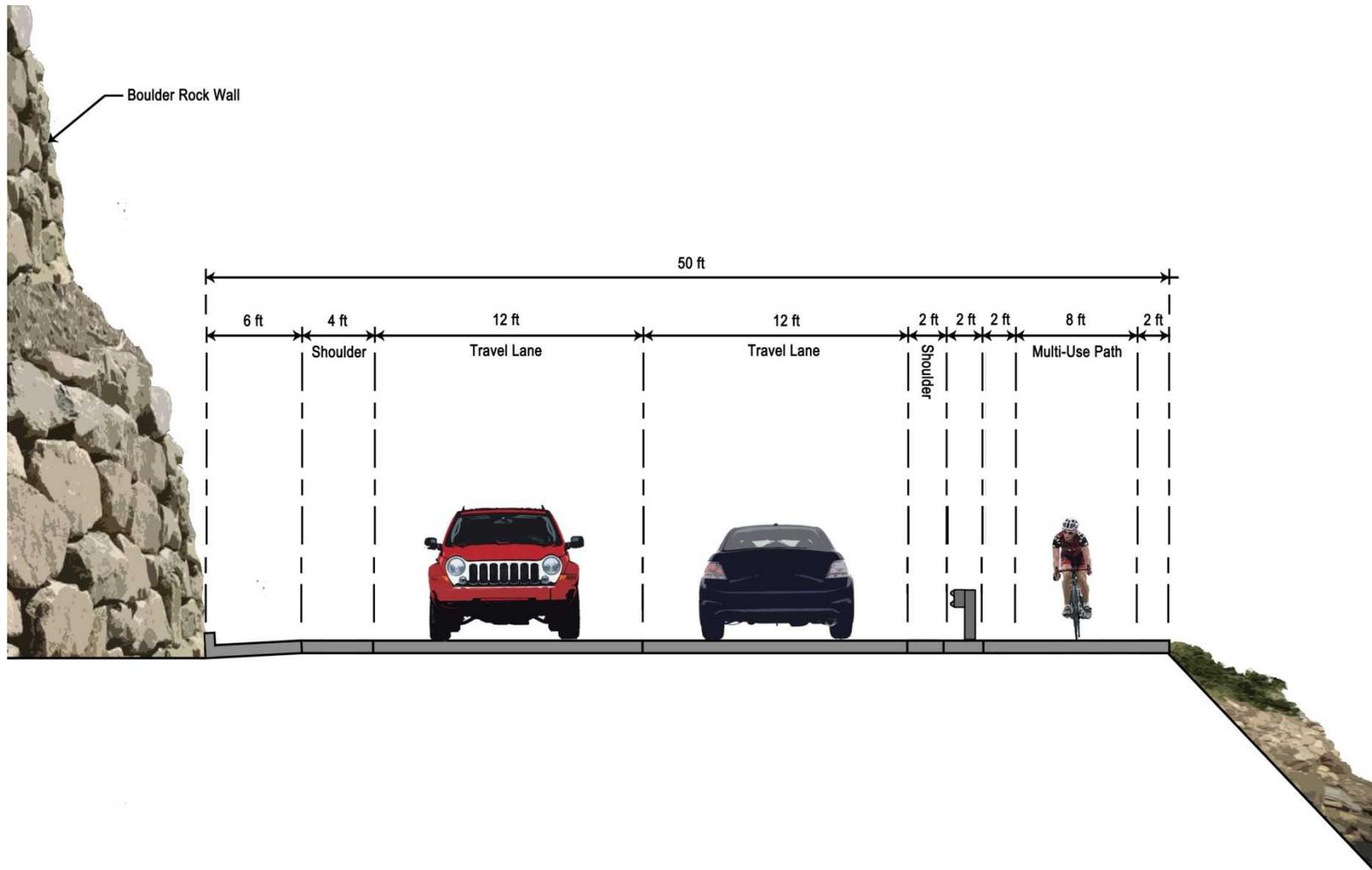
Design Criteria	Design Criteria Description	Frontage Road Conceptual Design	Frontage Road Consistency with Design Criteria
Design Speed	Not specified for Frontage Road, maintain existing speeds (posted for 30 – 35 MPH) per PLT and Clear Creek County	Existing design speeds maintained	Consistent
Alignment	Eastbound and westbound I-70 and AGS - design as independent alignments (not applicable to Frontage Road). Applicable elements: Recovery zone, snow removal, alignments will adapt to topographical conditions.	Existing alignment is maintained	Existing alignment follows topographical conditions. Limited right of way to reduce glare or provide separation (i.e. no room for media separation between lanes).
Slope Cut and Fill	Physical disturbance less than 40' from pavement to farthest edge of cut and fill Slopes shall not exceed 2.5:1 (H:V) Roadway retaining walls over 12' in height will be installed below the elevation of the roadway	Disturbance and walls being revised based on new topographical data in survey. Total of 12 walls anticipated in conceptual design Walls above road greater than 12': 7, 8, 11	Wall 7—across from IS public works - no option to place below road at grade) Wall 8—upslope of gravel section already splitting height with (wall 9) Wall 11—upslope of Phase I—consolidate wall on upslope to limit disturbance on Clear Creek, floodplain, and wildlife crossing.
Disturbance	Construction maintained within historic or current disturbance	Construction is not maintained within historic or current disturbance	Existing road condition (pavement width and available bench) meet current roadway standards—especially in gravel section.
Rock Cut	Geotechnical report will be completed Naturalized custom cut methods are required (scatter blasting)	Geotechnical report to be developed, will evaluate natural cut methods	TBD
Bridge Structures	Bridge structures will not utilize slope paving and will utilize closed-end abutment Bridge embankments shall be 2.5:1 maximum	NA—no bridge structures	NA
Sound Attenuation	Sound buffering and attenuation Mitigation, if required will use landforms	NA—low traffic volumes from Frontage Road, no change in capacity or alignment profile	NA

Clear Creek Greenway Recommendation

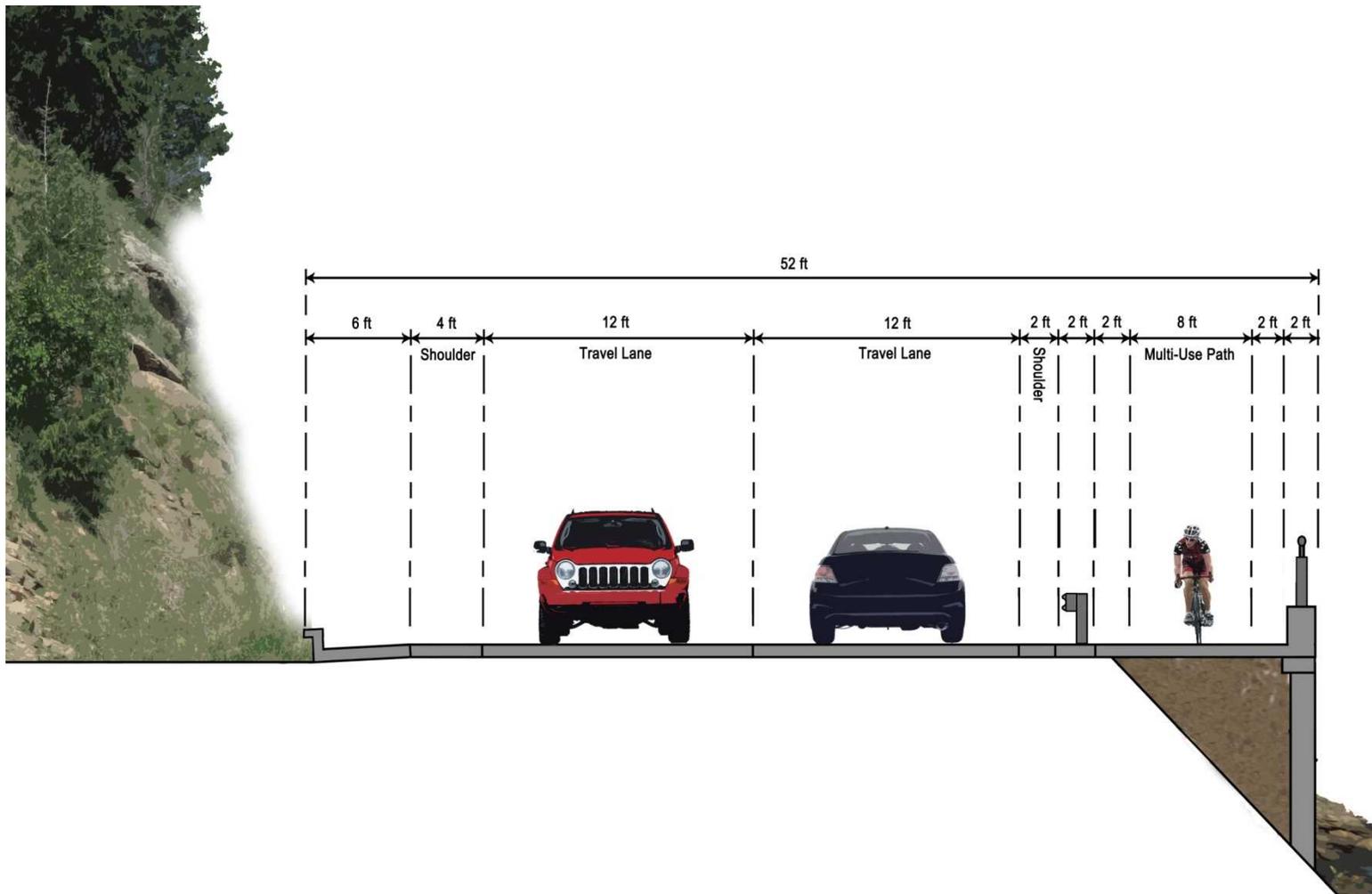
Where the creek comes into close proximity with a roadway such as Stanley Road, little room is available for the greenway trail. Whenever this scenario occurs, either the roadway width must be reduced to accommodate the trail, or a bench for the trail must be created on the creekband using a structural retaining wall system. Safety for the motorist and greenway user is of primary concern. Therefore, an approved traffic barrier between the trail and roadway should be installed whenever the trail is within ten feet (10') of the roadway shoulder edge. Many existing scenarios can occur; therefore, a traffic engineer should be consulted prior to the placement of any barrier along a roadway.



Greenway width/rail concepts



Greenway width/rail concepts

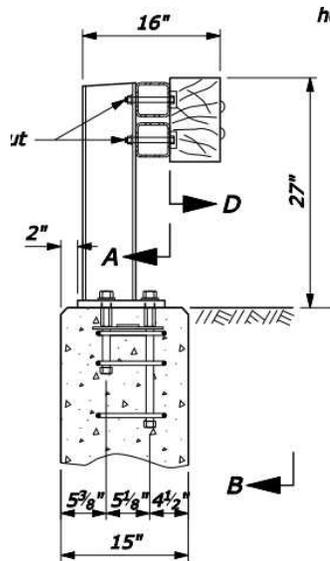
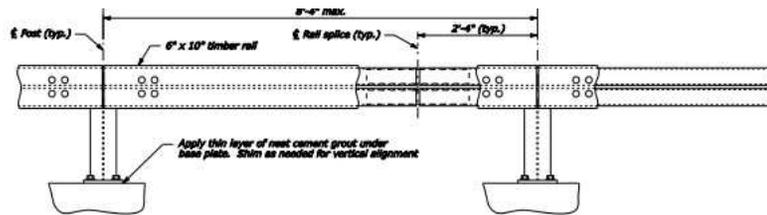


Greenway design concerns

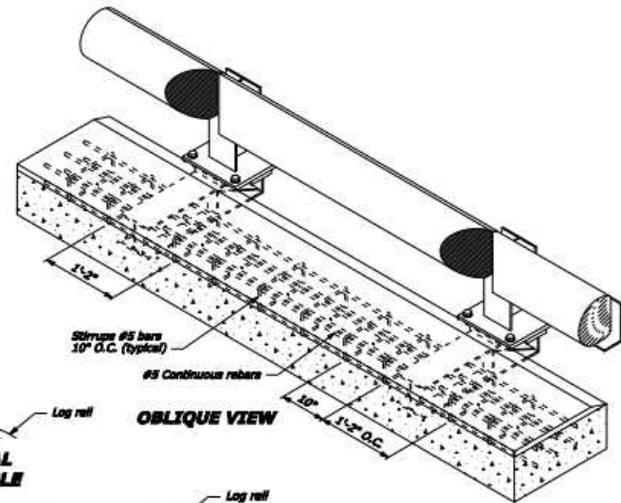
- AASHTO guidance requires at least 3 feet clearance from obstructions
- Need for 42" topple bar on guardrail
- Transition of shared use path into eastern section



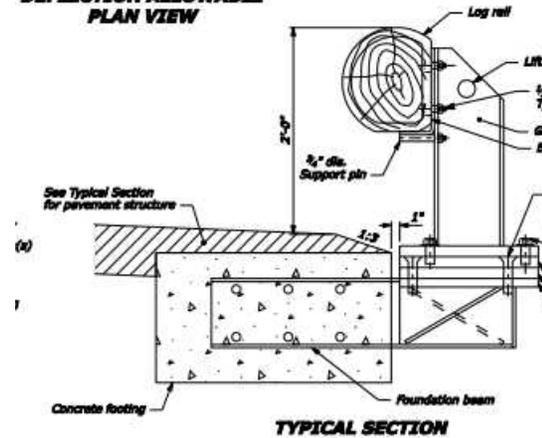
Greenway rails – roadside options



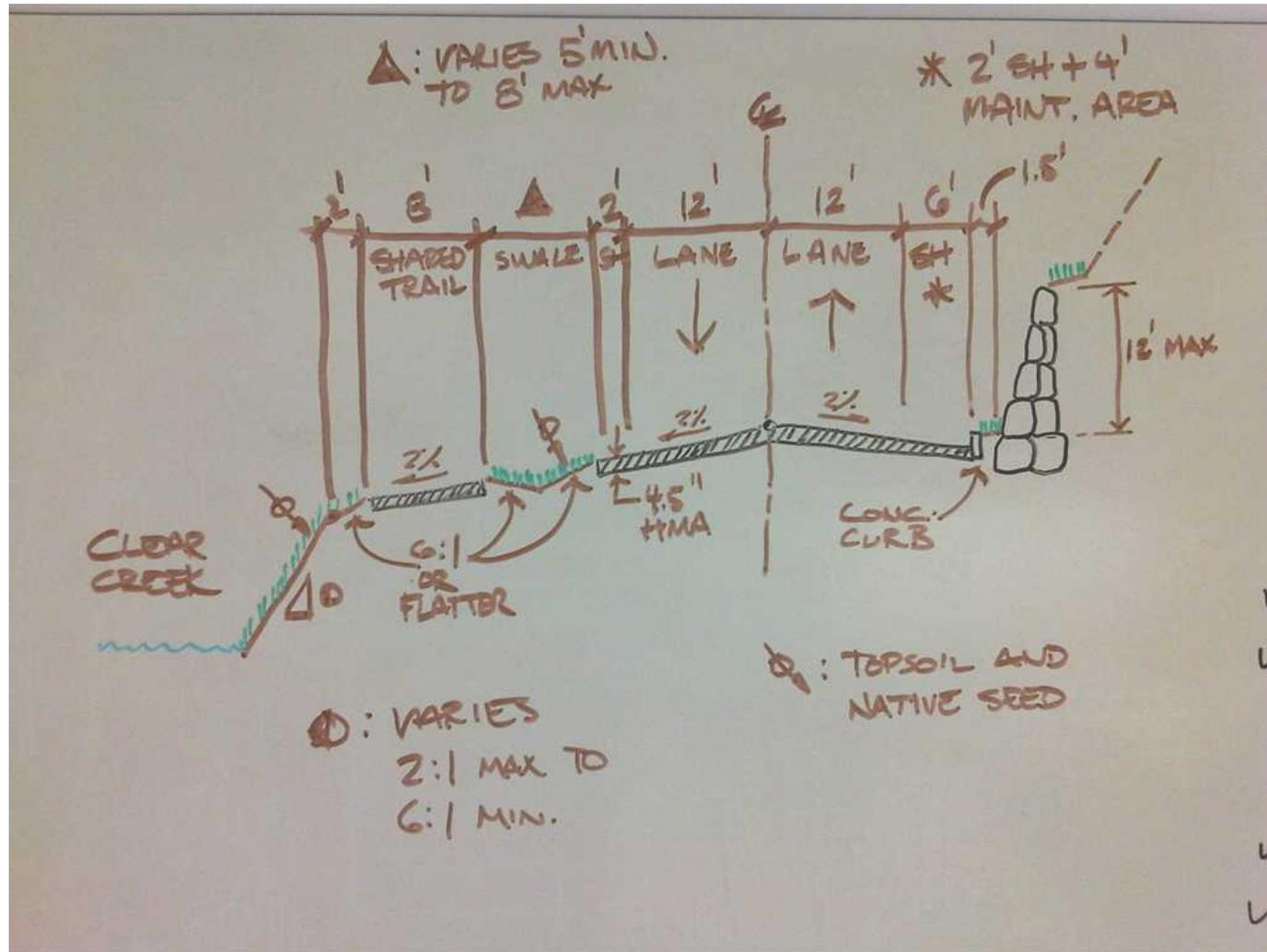
Concrete: minimum $f_c = 3000$ psi.



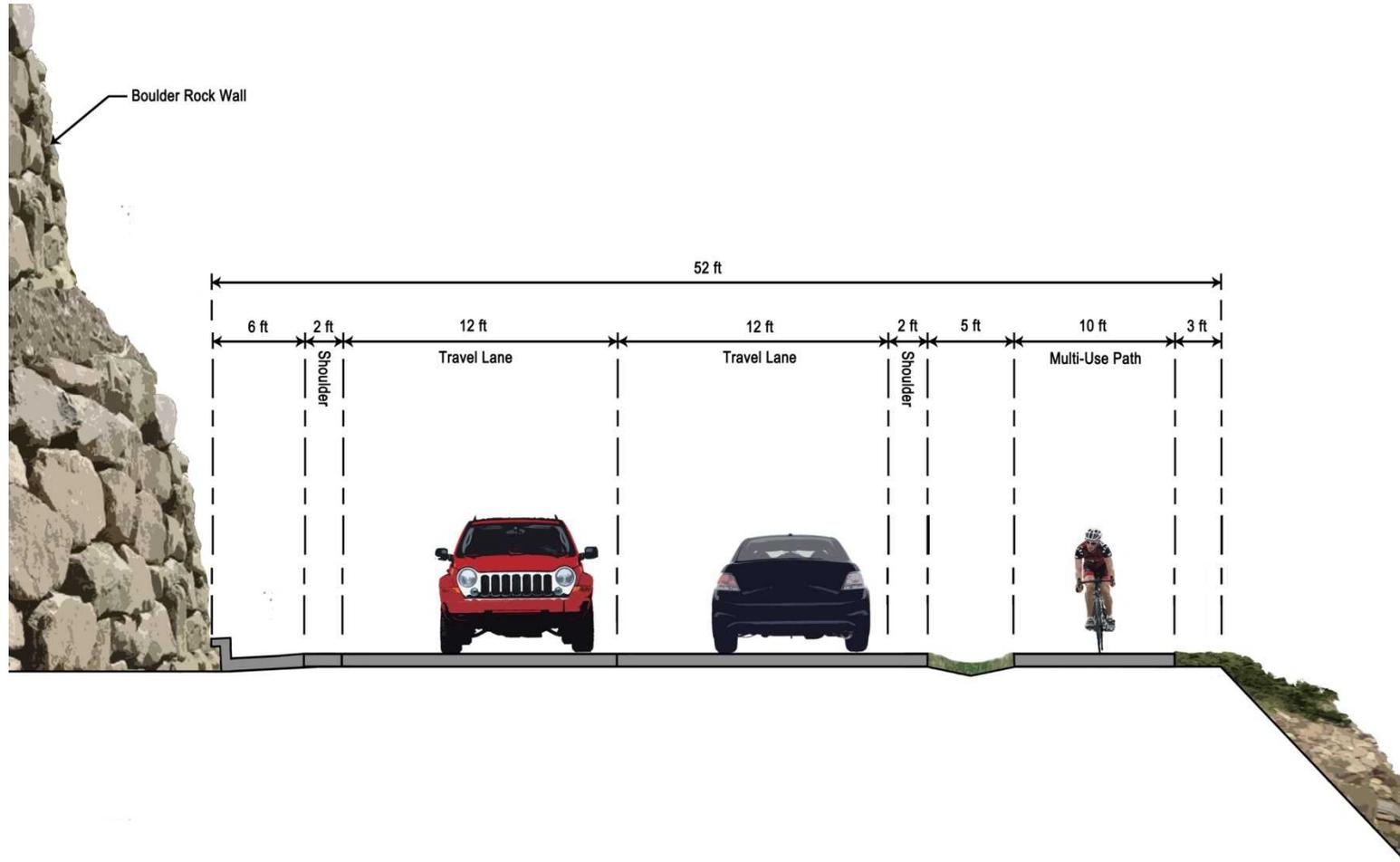
MAXIMUM HORIZONTAL DEFLECTION ALLOWABLE PLAN VIEW



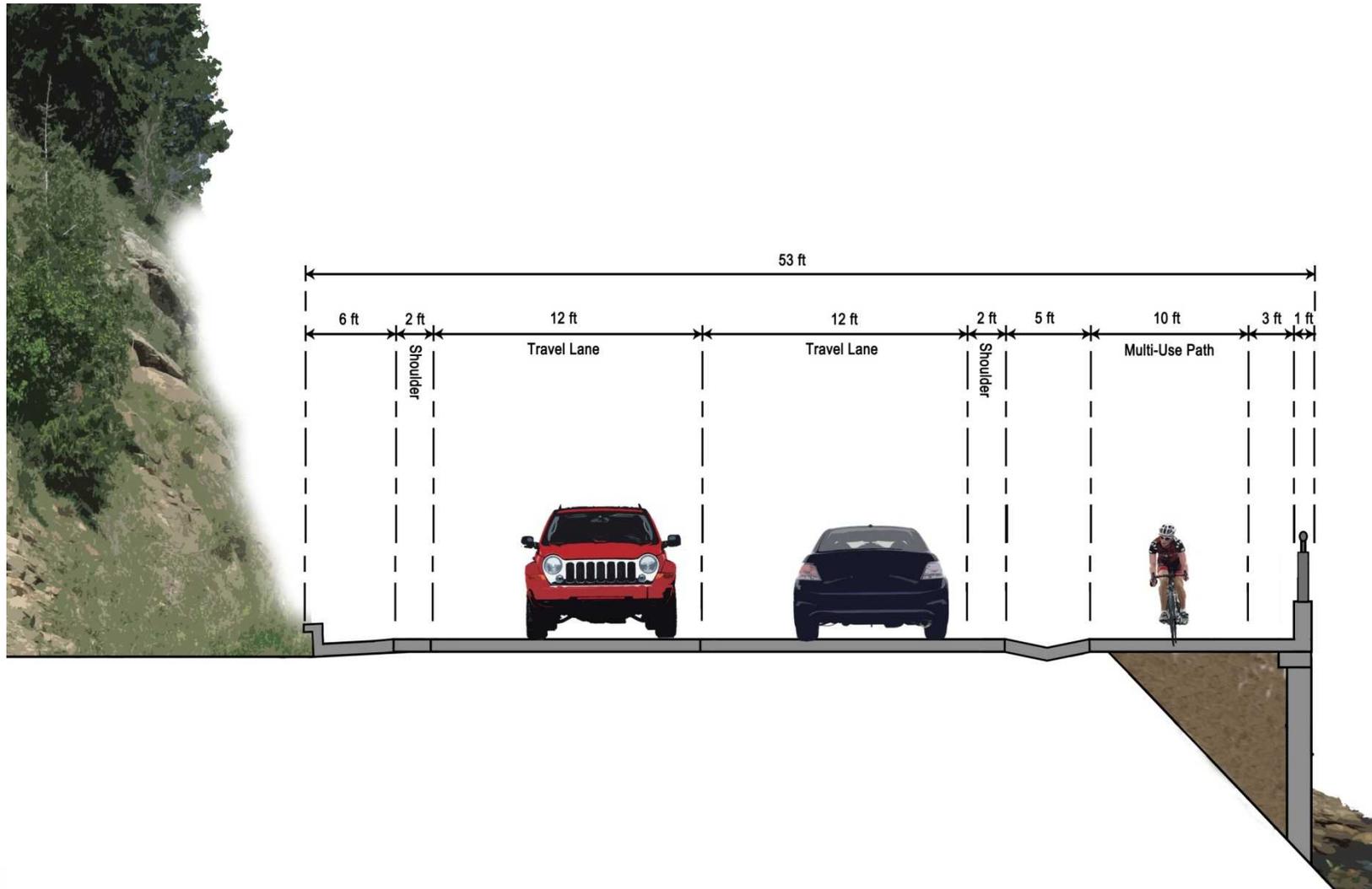
Greenway rails – creekside options



Greenway width/rail concepts



Greenway width/rail concepts



PLT Endorsement

- Endorse cross-section and alignment
- Any conditions or follow-up items?



Next Steps

- Engineering Coordination meeting
 - December 21, 2011
- Idaho Springs Planning Commission
 - Follow-up Needed
- PLT/TT Future Meetings
 - TBD
- Greenway ITF#2
 - TBD – Feedback from PLT
- Final Office Review
 - March 2012