



## Press Release

For Immediate Release

February 1, 2006

Contact:

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

Lori Nakanishi, U.S. 50 Corridor East  
(719) 520-5800

### Colorado Department of Transportation Launches Environmental Study for U.S. 50 Corridor East

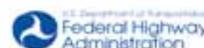
**Pueblo, Colo. – February 1, 2006** -- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) are initiating a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (Tier 1 EIS) for proposed transportation improvements to U.S. 50 between Pueblo and the Kansas state line.

“CDOT’s priority is to provide safe, efficient means of transportation for the citizens of Colorado,” said CDOT’s Regional Transportation Director Bob Torres. “And this process is the next important step towards making those “on the ground” improvements that will ensure the transportation system is able to meet both the current and future needs of the residents and commuters of Southeastern Colorado.”

The Tier 1 EIS builds on the 2003 planning study, which is intended to produce a corridor location decision for U.S. 50 through the Lower Arkansas Valley. Based on decisions reached in the Tier 1 EIS, the FHWA and CDOT may proceed with Tier 2 studies for specific projects along this portion of U.S. 50.

The Tier 1 EIS will evaluate alternative corridor locations and the No-Action alternative based upon the purpose and need. It will also consider access management and corridor preservation strategies and provide a plan for further action. Alternatives will be developed and analyzed through an extensive agency and community outreach process.

*more*





## Press Release

For Immediate Release

### **U.S. 50 Environmental Study** *page 2*

Part of the process in developing a Tier 1 EIS includes reaching out to the public to solicit their comments on the purpose and need, potential alternatives, and social, economic and environmental issues of concern. Community outreach will consist of a comprehensive program including a project Web site ([www.us50east.com](http://www.us50east.com)) and a series of public meetings throughout the project corridor to obtain public comment. The meeting dates and locations will be announced in the near future.

CDOT is *Partnering for Progress* by bringing together communities, public officials, regulatory agencies and citizens to identify a corridor location for an improved U.S. 50 that effectively balances the diverse needs.

For additional information about the U.S. 50 Corridor East Tier 1 EIS or to be placed on the mailing list, please visit the project Web site at [www.us50east.com](http://www.us50east.com) or contact Public Involvement Coordinator Lori Nakanishi at 1-866-GO50NOW (1-866-465-0669).

###