



Transportation Research Board  
Future Interstates Committee  
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# The I-70 Corridor



- Connects populated Colorado Front Range with mountains to west
- Only major east-west highway
- Geographically constrained, steep grades, extreme weather
- Ski resorts and mountain destinations significant economic drivers
  - \$88M to state's annual tax receipt
  - 20% of state's tourism revenue

# Severe Congestion



- Discretionary travel – weekends/holidays
- Impacts residents, tourists, commerce, environment, state's economy
- Costs state \$839M per year
- Highway capacity largely unchanged since 1979
- Population increase of 40% expected by 2040

# History of I-70 Coalition

- PEIS Process Begins– 2002
  - Concern from mountain communities
- I-70 Coalition formed – 2004
  - Counties, municipalities, resorts
  - Mission: enhanced mobility & accessibility
  - Consensus on regionally preferred alternative
- Draft PEIS released-2007
  - Strong opposition from mountain corridor
- State recognized need for stakeholder input

# Collaborative Effort (CE)

- Diverse stakeholder group charged with reaching consensus
  - 27 members
- CDOT & FHWA Commitment
- CE Preferred Alternative Accepted

# PEIS Preferred Alternative

- I-70 Record of Decision-2011
- Multi-Modal
- Non Infrastructure Improvements
- Specific Highway Improvements
- Advanced Guideway System (AGS)
- Adaptive Management Approach

# Future Improvements – Tier 2

- Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)
  - AASHTO Best Practices Award 2013
- Project Leadership Team (PLT)
  - CDOT
  - FHWA
  - All impacted jurisdictions
- Technical Team

# I-70 Improvements/Initiatives

- Progress towards Preferred Alternative
  - Mountain Express Lane
  - Interchange improvements/auxiliary lanes
  - TDM
- CDOT focused on cutting edge technology
- Funding a challenge





# Questions?

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