



## **Making Next Steps a Reality for U.S. 36 Fact Sheet**

The U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be completed by December 2009. The corridor's preferred transportation alternative will cost \$1.4 billion dollars, but only \$711 million is currently identified in the regional transportation plan and the majority of funds are not programmed to be available before 2021.

In partnership with CDOT and RTD, the local governments along the corridor have defined a first phase of transportation improvements that provide a corridor-wide multi-modal benefit, relieve traffic congestion and provide a predictable travel time for transit within the constraints of available funding.

### **The first phase of construction has been identified as:**

- One managed lane in each direction, extending the existing HOV/HOT lane that terminates at Pecos Boulevard to Foothills Parkway in Boulder.
- Corridor-wide commuter bikeway.
- Bus Rapid Transit system expansion, including special vehicle purchase, marketing and branding, smart cards for easy payment, ticketing vending machines at BRT stations, etc.
- Transportation Demand Management to encourage the use of transit, carpooling, bicycling and other commute options to driving solo.

### **Funding opportunities currently being pursued to fund Phase 1:**

- The RTD FasTracks program includes \$208.6 million for Bus Rapid Transit and \$8 million for the bikeway. This local funding source will be used as a local match for any federal funding identified. RTD has currently made available \$25 million available, contingent upon winning the TIGER grant.
- CDOT has committed \$30 million surface construction project to replace poor pavement and reconstruct portions of the highway to accommodate the Preferred Alternative.
- Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application. The U.S. Department of Transportation has released a \$1.5 billion grant opportunity as part of President Obama's Recovery Act to identify projects of national significance that create short and long-term job growth, sustainable, innovative and demonstrate need of repair. The U.S. 36 application was submitted September 15, 2009. Projects will be selected by January 17, 2010.
- Authorization of the federal surface transportation bill. The six-year federal transportation bill expires September 30, 2009. Congress is currently debating extending the existing bill by eighteen months. Funding requests of \$300 million and \$7 million for corridor improvements were submitted to Congressmen Polis and Perlmutter.

For continued information about the efforts to win funding for U.S. 36, please sign-up for the Help Us Fix U.S. 36 email list at [www.36commutingsolutions.org](http://www.36commutingsolutions.org).