

I-70 EAST

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION

NOVEMBER 2008




AQC R600-165
Subaccount 13599
I-70 East
I-70 East from I-25 to Tower Road
Denver, Colorado

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND
DRAFT SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION**

Document Submitted Pursuant to:
42 USC 4332 (2) (c) and 49 USC 303
by the
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
and
Colorado Department of Transportation


Cooperating Agencies
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Federal Transit Administration
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Regional Transportation District

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ABSTRACT

This Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation documents the effects associated with transportation improvements along the I-70 Corridor. The project includes improvements to approximately 13 miles of I-70 between I-25 and Tower Road in east Denver, Colorado. The project will improve safety, access, and mobility and address congestion on I-70. Four build alternatives are considered in the DEIS, including:

- General purpose lanes on existing alignment
- Combination of general purpose lanes and tolled express lanes on existing alignment
- General purpose lanes on realignment
- Combination of general purpose lanes and tolled express lanes on a realignment

In addition to the four build alternatives, a no-action scenario is considered. The no-action scenario would reconstruct the existing I-70 viaduct between Brighton Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard.

Direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the various alternatives on social, environmental, and economic resources are identified in a broad range of categories including social and economic conditions, environmental justice, land use and zoning, right of way and relocations, historic preservation, paleontological resources, visual and aesthetic qualities, parklands, air quality, energy, noise, biological resources, floodplains and drainage, wetlands and waters of the U.S., water quality, geology and soils, hazardous materials, utilities, and construction. Mitigation measures are identified to address impacts to these resources.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will identify the Preferred Alternative for the project, its effects, and commitments for mitigation measures.

Comments on this document may be submitted in writing through the project website at www.i-70east.com, or at the public hearing. Written comments should be submitted to the Colorado Department of Transportation care of James Bemelen at 2000 South Holly Street, Denver, CO 80222 by December 31, 2008.

Three public hearings will be held during the review and comment period from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the following locations:

December 9, 2008
Sable Elementary
2601 Sable Boulevard
Aurora, CO

December 10, 2008
Commerce City
Recreation Center
6060 East Parkway Drive
Commerce City, CO

December 11, 2008
Bruce Randolph Middle
School
3955 Steele Street
Denver, CO

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Volume 1 of 3

Executive Summary	S-1
S.1 PURPOSE AND NEED	S-3
S.2 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED	S-5
S.3 TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	S-8
S.4 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES, AND MITIGATION	S-9
S.5 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT	S-9
S.6 SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION	S-11
Chapter 1, Introduction	1-1
1.1 BACKGROUND AND CORRIDOR HISTORY	1-2
1.1.1 Previous and Concurrent I-70 Corridor Transportation Studies	1-2
1.1.2 Local Planning Studies	1-3
1.2 STUDY INTENT AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT	1-4
1.3 RELATIONSHIP TO THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS	1-4
1.3.1 Metro Vision 2035 Plan	1-6
1.3.2 2035 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan	1-6
1.3.3 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program.....	1-6
1.3.4 2035 Statewide Transportation Plan.....	1-7
1.3.5 2008-2013 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.....	1-7
Chapter 2, Purpose and Need	2-1
2.1 PROJECT PURPOSE	2-1
2.2 NEED FOR THE ACTION	2-1
2.2.1 Increased Transportation Demand	2-1
2.2.2 Limited Transportation Capacity	2-3
2.2.3 Safety Concerns.....	2-4
2.2.4 Transportation Infrastructure Deficiencies	2-5
Chapter 3, Alternatives Considered	3-1
3.1 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	3-2
3.2 EVALUATION FRAMEWORK AND SCREENING PROCESS	3-3
3.3 RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES	3-6
3.3.1 Alignments	3-6
3.3.2 Interchanges	3-12
3.3.3 Lane Types	3-13
3.3.4 Local System Improvements.....	3-14
3.3.5 Transportation Demand Management/Transportation System Management Strategies	3-15
3.4 INITIAL SCREENING (LEVEL ONE)	3-16
3.5 COMPARATIVE SCREENING (LEVEL TWO)	3-20
3.6 CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT	3-29
3.6.1 No-Action Alternative	3-29
3.6.2 Corridor Alternatives	3-29
3.7 DETAILED SCREENING (LEVEL THREE)	3-45
3.8 ALTERNATIVE REFINEMENT (LEVEL FOUR)	3-49
3.9 DEIS ALTERNATIVES	3-53
3.9.1 Cost Estimates	3-56
3.9.2 Project Financing	3-56
3.9.3 Stapleton Bicycle/Pedestrian Crossing.....	3-58

Chapter 4, Transportation Impacts and Mitigation Measures	4-1
4.0 TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	4-1
4.1 TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW.....	4-1
4.2 PROJECT AREA ROADWAY SYSTEM	4-2
4.2.1 Existing Traffic (2003)	4-2
4.2.2 Existing Traffic Operations and Performance	4-6
4.2.3 Future Traffic (2030)	4-8
4.2.4 Future Traffic Operations and Performance	4-28
4.2.5 Future 46th Avenue Traffic Operations and Performance	4-34
4.2.6 Travel Demand on North-South Streets.....	4-35
4.3 PROJECT AREA TRANSIT SERVICE	4-36
4.3.1 Existing Transit Service.....	4-36
4.3.2 Future Transit Service.....	4-36
4.4 FREIGHT MOVEMENT EFFECTS.....	4-37
4.4.1 Effects on Trucking and Deliveries	4-37
4.4.2 Effects on Rail Freight Movement.....	4-38
4.5 PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE FACILITIES	4-39
4.5.1 Existing and Planned Bicycle Facilities.....	4-39
4.5.2 Effects on Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities	4-39
4.6 SAFETY IMPACTS	4-40
4.6.1 Safety Experience	4-40
4.6.2 Incident Management/Emergency Response	4-41
4.7 SUMMARY OF TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	4-42
Chapter 5, Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Mitigation	5.0-1
5.1 RESOURCES NOT AFFECTED	5.1-1
5.2 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.....	5.2-1
5.2.1 Affected Environment.....	5.2-3
5.2.2 Environmental Consequences	5.2-35
5.2.3 Mitigation	5.2-59
5.3 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	5.3-1
5.3.1 Environmental Justice Public Involvement Efforts	5.3-2
5.3.2 Affected Environment.....	5.3-4
5.3.3 Environmental Consequences	5.3-9
5.3.4 Mitigation and Summary of Effects	5.3-35
5.4 LAND USE AND ZONING	5.4-1
5.4.1 Affected Environment.....	5.4-1
5.4.2 Environmental Consequences	5.4-5
5.4.3 Mitigation	5.4-9
5.5 LAND ACQUISITION, DISPLACEMENTS, AND RELOCATION OF EXISTING USES	5.5-1
5.5.1 Affected Environment.....	5.5-1
5.5.2 Environmental Consequences	5.5-2
5.5.3 Mitigation	5.5-14
5.6 HISTORIC PRESERVATION	5.6-1
5.6.1 Affected Environment.....	5.6-3
5.6.2 Environmental Consequences	5.6-10
5.6.3 Mitigation	5.6-23
5.7 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES.....	5.7-1
5.7.1 Affected Environment.....	5.7-1
5.7.2 Environmental Consequences	5.7-2
5.7.3 Mitigation	5.7-3
5.8 VISUAL AND AESTHETIC QUALITIES.....	5.8-1
5.8.1 Affected Environment.....	5.8-1
5.8.2 Environmental Consequences	5.8-8
5.8.3 Mitigation	5.8-17

5.9	PARKLANDS AND RECREATION	5.9-1
5.9.1	Affected Environment.....	5.9-1
5.9.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.9-7
5.9.3	Stapleton Bicycle/Pedestrian Crossing.....	5.9-24
5.9.4	Mitigation.....	5.9-24
5.10	AIR QUALITY.....	5.10-1
5.10.1	Affected Environment.....	5.10-2
5.10.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.10-18
5.10.3	Mitigation.....	5.10-27
5.11	ENERGY.....	5.11-1
5.11.1	Affected Environment.....	5.11-1
5.11.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.11-2
5.11.3	Mitigation.....	5.11-4
5.12	NOISE.....	5.12-1
5.12.1	Affected Environment.....	5.12-3
5.12.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.12-4
5.12.3	Mitigation.....	5.12-13
5.13	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	5.13-1
5.13.1	Affected Environment.....	5.13-2
5.13.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.13-12
5.13.3	Mitigation.....	5.13-17
5.14	FLOODPLAINS AND DRAINAGE/HYDROLOGY	5.14-1
5.14.1	Affected Environment.....	5.14-2
5.14.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.14-4
5.14.3	Mitigation.....	5.14-7
5.15	WETLANDS AND WATERS OF THE U.S.	5.15-1
5.15.1	Affected Environment.....	5.15-1
5.15.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.15-5
5.15.3	Mitigation.....	5.15-11
5.16	WATER QUALITY.....	5.16-1
5.16.1	Affected Environment.....	5.16-2
5.16.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.16-6
5.16.3	Mitigation.....	5.16-9
5.17	GEOLOGY AND SOILS.....	5.17-1
5.17.1	Affected Environment.....	5.17-1
5.17.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.17-4
5.17.3	Mitigation.....	5.17-4
5.18	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.....	5.18-1
5.18.1	Affected Environment.....	5.18-1
5.18.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.18-6
5.18.3	Mitigation.....	5.18-12
5.19	UTILITIES.....	5.19-1
5.19.1	Affected Environment.....	5.19-1
5.19.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.19-2
5.19.3	Mitigation.....	5.19-4
5.20	CONSTRUCTION.....	5.20-1
5.20.1	Construction Phasing and Timing Assumptions	5.20-1
5.20.2	Environmental Consequences.....	5.20-4
5.20.3	Mitigation.....	5.20-6
5.21	CUMULATIVE EFFECTS.....	5.21-1
5.21.1	Methodology and Framework for Assessing Cumulative Effects	5.21-1
5.21.2	Historical Context: Past Development and Land Use Changes	5.21-6
5.21.3	Cumulative Effects Assessment	5.21-14
5.21.4	Cumulative Effects by Resource.....	5.21-17
5.21.5	Conclusion	5.21-29
5.22	SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	5.22-1

Chapter 6, Community Outreach and Agency Involvement	6-1
6.1 SCOPING PROCESS AND RESULTS.....	6-1
6.1.1 Agency Scoping	6-1
6.1.2 Public Scoping	6-2
6.2 COMMUNITY OUTREACH	6-3
6.2.1 Community Awareness	6-3
6.2.2 Outreach Specialists and Training	6-4
6.2.3 Door-to-Door Survey	6-4
6.2.4 Block Meetings.....	6-4
6.2.5 Neighborhood Meetings	6-6
6.2.6 Corridor-wide Meetings	6-6
6.2.7 Working Groups	6-7
6.2.8 Community Outreach Process Forum.....	6-8
6.2.9 Topic-specific Neighborhood Meetings.....	6-8
6.2.10 Stakeholder Meetings	6-9
6.2.11 Additional Communication	6-9
6.3 AGENCY COORDINATION	6-10
6.3.1 Executive Oversight Committee.....	6-10
6.3.2 Project Management Committee	6-11
6.3.3 Compliance Committees	6-11
6.3.4 Intergovernmental Forum.....	6-14
6.3.5 Ongoing Resource Agency Coordination.....	6-14
Chapter 7, Section 4(f) Evaluation	7.0-1
7.1 HISTORIC RESOURCES.....	7.1-1
7.1.1 High Line Canal (Tower Road at I-70) 5AM261.2.....	7.1-3
7.1.2 Miranda Residence (4632 Josephine Street) 5DV5677	7.1-5
7.1.3 Colonial Manor Motel (2615 East 46th Avenue) 5DV7130.....	7.1-7
7.1.4 Univar (4300 Holly Street) 5DV9231.....	7.1-11
7.1.5 Safeway Distribution Center Historic District (4200-4600 East 46th Avenue) 5DV9232.....	7.1-13
7.1.6 Nestlé Purina Petcare Company (2151 East 45th Avenue) 5DV9245	7.1-15
7.1.7 Sanchez Business (2381 E. 46th Avenue) 5DV9655	7.1-18
7.1.8 Brown and Alarid Property (4637 Claude Court) 5DV9667	7.1-21
7.1.9 Rodriguez Residence (4539 Clayton Street) 5DV9678	7.1-23
7.1.10 Zale Property (4541 Clayton Street) 5DV9679	7.1-26
7.1.11 Braswell Residence (4631 Columbine Street) 5DV9705	7.1-27
7.1.12 Pavon Residence (4633 Columbine Street) 5DV9706	7.1-28
7.1.13 Olive Street LLC Property (4503 Fillmore Street) 5DV9714.....	7.1-29
7.1.14 Bernal Residence (4618 High Street) 5DV9735	7.1-31
7.1.15 Kenworthy Residence (4529 Josephine Street) 5DV9745	7.1-34
7.1.16 Portales Residence (4608 Josephine Street) 5DV9746	7.1-36
7.1.17 Chavez Residence (4628 Josephine Street) 5DV9748	7.1-37
7.1.18 Garcia Residence (4617-4625 Race Street) 5DV9780.....	7.1-38
7.1.19 Davis Residence (4623-4625 Thompson Court) 5DV9787	7.1-39
7.1.20 Mann Residence (4645 Williams Street) 5DV9795	7.1-40
7.1.21 Sanchez Business (4600 York Street) 5DV9801	7.1-42
7.1.22 Alfred R. Wessel Historic District 5DV10126	7.1-43
7.1.23 Kosik Residence (4681-4683 Baldwin Court) 5DV1247	7.1-48
7.1.24 Rocha Residence (4751 Williams Street) 5DV4396	7.1-51
7.1.25 Diaz Residence (4747 Williams Street) 5DV4404	7.1-53
7.1.26 Torres Residence (4656 Baldwin Court) 5DV9660.....	7.1-53
7.1.27 E.G. Trading Post (1630-1632 East 47th Street) 5DV9805.....	7.1-54
7.1.28 Elyria's Western Guest House Apt. (4700 Baldwin Court) 5DV9808	7.1-55
7.1.29 Haynes and Yuhasz Residence (4712 Baldwin Court) 5DV9809.....	7.1-55
7.1.30 Lewis Investments LLC Property (4727 Brighton Boulevard) 5DV9813.....	7.1-56
7.1.31 Sundheim Property (4750 Brighton Boulevard) 5DV9814	7.1-57
7.1.32 Lewis Investments LLC Property (4709-4715 Brighton Boulevard) 5DV9818.....	7.1-58
7.1.33 Marmolejo Residence (4741-4747 Brighton Boulevard) 5DV9819.....	7.1-58

7.1.34 Montour and Miller Residence (4675 Williams Street) 5DV9823 7.1-59
 7.1.35 Helzberg Property (4665-4669 Williams Street) 5DV9828 7.1-60
 7.1.36 National Western Complex Historic District 5DV10500 7.1-61
7.2 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES..... 7.2-1
 7.2.1 Swansea Elementary School Playground..... 7.2-1
7.3 AVOIDANCE ALTERNATIVES 7.3-1
7.4 MITIGATION MEASURES 7.4-1
7.5 LEAST HARM ANALYSIS 7.5-1
7.6 COORDINATION 7.6-1

List of Exhibits

Executive Summary

Exhibit S-1 I-70 within the State of Colorado Transportation System S-2
 Exhibit S-2 Project Area S-3
 Exhibit S-3 DEIS Alternatives S-6
 Exhibit S-4 Construction and Maintenance Cost Summary S-8
 Exhibit S-5 Community Outreach Activities S-10
 Exhibit S-6 Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures S-13

Chapter 1, Introduction

Exhibit 1-1 Project Area 1-1
 Exhibit 1-2 Previous and Concurrent I-70 Corridor Transportation Studies 1-3
 Exhibit 1-3 Relationship between DRCOG and CDOT Planning Documents 1-5

Chapter 2, Purpose and Need

Exhibit 2-1 Project Area Population and Employment Growth (1996 – 2030) 2-2
 Exhibit 2-2 Traffic Capacity and Volumes 2-3
 Exhibit 2-3 Traffic Congestion 2-4
 Exhibit 2-4 Crash Rates 2-4

Chapter 3, Alternatives Considered

Exhibit 3-1 Project Goals and Objectives 3-2
 Exhibit 3-2 Alternative Screening Process 3-4
 Exhibit 3-3 Alignment Sections 3-6
 Exhibit 3-4 Lower I-70 below existing ground 3-7
 Exhibit 3-5 Add a level to the viaduct 3-7
 Exhibit 3-6 Enclose I-70 3-8
 Exhibit 3-7 Put I-70 at-grade 3-8
 Exhibit 3-8 Triple level section of I-70 (below ground) 3-9
 Exhibit 3-9 I-70 tunnel 3-9
 Exhibit 3-10 I-70 above and below with 46th Avenue at ground level 3-10
 Exhibit 3-11 Alignments 3-12
 Exhibit 3-12 Interchanges 3-13
 Exhibit 3-13 Local System Improvements 3-15
 Exhibit 3-14 Initial Screening Evaluation Criteria 3-16
 Exhibit 3-15 Initial Screening Results Alignments 3-17
 Exhibit 3-16 Initial Screening Results Interchanges 3-19
 Exhibit 3-17 Initial Screening Results Local System Improvements 3-19
 Exhibit 3-18 Comparative Screening Evaluation Criteria 3-20
 Exhibit 3-19 Comparative Screening Results Alignments 3-22
 Exhibit 3-20 Comparative Screening Results Lane Types 3-23

Exhibit 3-21	Comparative Screening Results Local System Improvements.....	3-24
Exhibit 3-22	Initial and Comparative Screening Results Alignments.....	3-25
Exhibit 3-23	Initial and Comparative Screening Results Interchanges.....	3-26
Exhibit 3-24	Initial and Comparative Screening Results Lane Types.....	3-27
Exhibit 3-25	Initial and Comparative Screening Results Local System Improvements.....	3-28
Exhibit 3-26	Initial and Comparative Screening Results TDM/TSM Strategies.....	3-28
Exhibit 3-27	Existing Alignment Design Options Brighton Boulevard to Colorado Boulevard.....	3-30
Exhibit 3-28	Alternative 1.....	3-31
Exhibit 3-29	Alternative 1 Typical Sections.....	3-32
Exhibit 3-30	Alternative 2.....	3-33
Exhibit 3-31	Alternative 2 Typical Sections.....	3-34
Exhibit 3-32	Alternative 3.....	3-35
Exhibit 3-33	Alternative 3 Typical Sections.....	3-36
Exhibit 3-34	Alternative 4.....	3-37
Exhibit 3-35	Alternative 4 Typical Sections.....	3-38
Exhibit 3-36	Alternative 5.....	3-39
Exhibit 3-37	Alternative 5 Typical Sections.....	3-40
Exhibit 3-38	Alternative 6.....	3-41
Exhibit 3-39	Alternative 6 Typical Sections.....	3-42
Exhibit 3-40	Interchange Forms and Locations.....	3-43
Exhibit 3-41	Detailed Screening Evaluation Criteria.....	3-45
Exhibit 3-42	Existing Alignment Typical Sections Brighton Boulevard to Colorado Boulevard.....	3-46
Exhibit 3-43	Design Option Comparison for Alternative 1 Tunnel, Below Grade, Existing Grade, At Grade.....	3-48
Exhibit 3-44	Alternatives Considered in Alternative Refinement.....	3-50
Exhibit 3-45	Design Option Comparison for Alternative 1 One or Two General Purpose Lanes.....	3-51
Exhibit 3-46	Design Option Comparison for Alternative 1 Existing Grade (Viaduct) or Below Grade.....	3-52
Exhibit 3-47	DEIS Alternatives Lane Configuration.....	3-53
Exhibit 3-48	DEIS Alternatives.....	3-54
Exhibit 3-49	Construction and Maintenance Cost Summary.....	3-56

Chapter 4, Transportation Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Exhibit 4-1	Existing Traffic Volumes (2003) I-25 to Monaco Street.....	4-3
Exhibit 4-2	Existing Traffic Volumes (2003) Monaco Street to I-225.....	4-4
Exhibit 4-3	Existing Traffic Volumes (2003) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-5
Exhibit 4-4	Existing Peak Hour Traffic Volumes on 46th Avenue (2003).....	4-6
Exhibit 4-5	Existing Highway Congestion (2001).....	4-7
Exhibit 4-6	Existing I-70 Evening Peak Travel Times and Speeds (2003).....	4-7
Exhibit 4-7	No-Action Alternative Traffic Volumes (2030) I-25 to Monaco Street.....	4-9
Exhibit 4-8	No-Action Alternative Traffic Volumes (2030) Monaco Street to I-225.....	4-10
Exhibit 4-9	No-Action Alternative Traffic Volumes (2030) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-11
Exhibit 4-10	Future Daily Traffic Volumes (2030).....	4-12
Exhibit 4-11	Alternative 1 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-25 to Monaco Street.....	4-13
Exhibit 4-12	Alternative 1 Traffic Volumes (2030) Monaco Street to I-225.....	4-14
Exhibit 4-13	Alternative 1 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-15
Exhibit 4-14	Alternative 3 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-25 to Monaco Street.....	4-16
Exhibit 4-15	Alternative 3 Traffic Volumes (2030) Monaco Street to I-225.....	4-17
Exhibit 4-16	Alternative 3 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-18
Exhibit 4-17	Alternative 4 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-25 to I-270.....	4-19
Exhibit 4-18	Alternative 4 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-270 to I-225.....	4-20
Exhibit 4-19	Alternative 4 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-21

Exhibit 4-20	Alternative 6 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-25 to I-270	4-22
Exhibit 4-21	Alternative 6 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-270 to I-225	4-23
Exhibit 4-22	Alternative 6 Traffic Volumes (2030) I-225 to Tower Road.....	4-24
Exhibit 4-23	Future Traffic Volumes on 46th Avenue (2030).....	4-27
Exhibit 4-24	Future Highway Level of Service (2030).....	4-29
Exhibit 4-25	Future Highway Congestion (2030)	4-31
Exhibit 4-26	Future Evening Peak Travel Times (2030)	4-32
Exhibit 4-27	Future Evening Peak Travel Speeds (2030).....	4-33
Exhibit 4-28	Future 46th Avenue Signalized Intersection Level of Service (2030).....	4-34
Exhibit 4-29	Future Local Street Volume and Level of Service (2030).....	4-35
Exhibit 4-30	Existing Railroads	4-38
Exhibit 4-31	Existing and Planned Bicycle Route System	4-40
Exhibit 4-32	Summary of Transportation System Effects	4-43

Chapter 5, Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Mitigation

Exhibit 5.0-1	Alternatives and Design Options.....	5.0-1
Exhibit 5.2-1	Project Area and Social/Economic Study Area.....	5.2-2
Exhibit 5.2-2	Housing Unit Types.....	5.2-3
Exhibit 5.2-3	Housing Units and Vacancy Rates by Neighborhood in 2006.....	5.2-4
Exhibit 5.2-4	Median Rent and Median Housing Unit Values in 2000	5.2-4
Exhibit 5.2-5	Population Trends.....	5.2-5
Exhibit 5.2-6	Population and Housing Trends by Neighborhood.....	5.2-5
Exhibit 5.2-7	Land Area, Population Density, and Housing Density.....	5.2-6
Exhibit 5.2-8	Percent of Housing Units with No Vehicles Available by Neighborhood	5.2-7
Exhibit 5.2-9	Percent of Population Under Age 18 in Study Area, by Block Group.....	5.2-8
Exhibit 5.2-10	Percent of Population Aged 65 and Over in Study Area, by Block Group.....	5.2-8
Exhibit 5.2-11	Percent of Civilian Non-Institutionalized Population over Age 4 with One or More Disabilities in Study Area, by Block Group	5.2-9
Exhibit 5.2-12	Percent of Population Born Abroad in Study Area, by Block Group.....	5.2-10
Exhibit 5.2-13	Percent of Population Aged Five and Over Who Speak a Language Other than English at Home in Study Area, by Block Group	5.2-11
Exhibit 5.2-14	Schools, Health Care Facilities, Recreation Centers, Libraries, and Postal Offices	5.2-13
Exhibit 5.2-15	Neighborhood Statistics	5.2-16
Exhibit 5.2-16	Food Markets and Grocery Stores in North Denver	5.2-18
Exhibit 5.2-17	Areas of Analysis for Studies of Existing Health Conditions.....	5.2-23
Exhibit 5.2-18	Summary of Cancer Incidence in North Denver Compared to Cancer Incidence in the Denver PMSA.....	5.2-24
Exhibit 5.2-19	Summary of Cancer Incidence in the Vicinity of the Refuge Compared to Cancer Incidence in the Denver Metropolitan Area.....	5.2-26
Exhibit 5.2-20	Largest Private-Sector Employers in the Denver Metropolitan Area	5.2-28
Exhibit 5.2-21	Largest Private-Sector Employers in Aurora	5.2-29
Exhibit 5.2-22	Employment by Industry Sector for Denver Metropolitan Area	5.2-30
Exhibit 5.2-23	Earnings (in millions of dollars) by Industry Sector for Denver Metropolitan Area	5.2-32
Exhibit 5.2-24	Annual Unemployment Rate	5.2-33
Exhibit 5.2-25	Percent of Workers Residing in Study Area	5.2-34
Exhibit 5.2-26	Residential Properties and Housing Units Affected No-Action Alternative	5.2-36
Exhibit 5.2-27	Commercial/Industrial Properties and Businesses Affected No-Action Alternative	5.2-39
Exhibit 5.2-28	Residential Properties and Housing Units Affected Alternative 1	5.2-41
Exhibit 5.2-29	Commercial/Industrial Properties and Businesses Affected Alternative 1	5.2-44
Exhibit 5.2-30	Effects on Economic Conditions Alternative 1	5.2-45
Exhibit 5.2-31	Commercial/Industrial Properties and Businesses Affected Alternative 3.....	5.2-47

Exhibit 5.2-32	Effects on Economic Conditions Alternative 3	5.2-48
Exhibit 5.2-33	Residential Properties and Housing Units Affected Alternative 4	5.2-49
Exhibit 5.2-34	Commercial/Industrial Properties and Businesses Affected Alternative 4	5.2-53
Exhibit 5.2-35	Effects on Economic Conditions Alternative 4	5.2-54
Exhibit 5.2-36	Residential Properties and Housing Units Affected Alternative 6	5.2-55
Exhibit 5.2-37	Commercial/Industrial Properties and Businesses Affected Alternative 6	5.2-56
Exhibit 5.2-38	Effects on Economic Conditions Alternative 6	5.2-57
Exhibit 5.2-39	Summary of Effects on Social Conditions	5.2-58
Exhibit 5.2-40	Summary of Effects on Economic Conditions	5.2-59
Exhibit 5.3-1	Race and Ethnicity for General Population and Study Area	5.3-6
Exhibit 5.3-2	Minority Population Percentages for Block Groups in the Study Area	5.3-7
Exhibit 5.3-3	Low-Income Population Percentages for Block Groups in Study Area	5.3-8
Exhibit 5.3-4	Minority and Low-Income Percentages	5.3-9
Exhibit 5.3-5	Minority and Low-Income Populations within 300 Feet of No-Action Alternative	5.3-12
Exhibit 5.3-6	Minority and Low-Income Populations within 300 feet of Alternatives 1 and 3	5.3-18
Exhibit 5.3-7	Local Road Network in Elyria and Swansea in Existing Alignment Build Alternatives	5.3-19
Exhibit 5.3-8	Minority and Low-Income Populations within 300 Feet of Realignment Alternatives	5.3-26
Exhibit 5.3-9	Residential Displacement Effect Summary	5.3-36
Exhibit 5.3-10	Business Displacement Effect Summary	5.3-37
Exhibit 5.3-11	Parks and Playgrounds Effect Summary	5.3-38
Exhibit 5.3-12	Construction Effect Summary	5.3-38
Exhibit 5.3-13	Residential Noise Effect Summary (Without Mitigation)	5.3-39
Exhibit 5.3-14	Neighborhood Amenities Effect Summary	5.3-40
Exhibit 5.3-15	Neighborhood Cohesion Effect Summary	5.3-41
Exhibit 5.4-1	Existing Project Area Land Use	5.4-2
Exhibit 5.4-2	Existing Land Use	5.4-2
Exhibit 5.4-3	Current Zoning	5.4-3
Exhibit 5.4-4	Existing and Planned Urban Centers within the Project Area	5.4-4
Exhibit 5.4-5	Summary of Direct Land Use Impacts by	5.4-9
Exhibit 5.5-1	Existing I-70 and I-270 CDOT Right of Way	5.5-2
Exhibit 5.5-2	Right-of-Way Requirements and Parcel Effects No-Action Alternative	5.5-3
Exhibit 5.5-3	Right-of-Way Requirements and Parcel Effects Alternative 1	5.5-4
Exhibit 5.5-4	Right-of-Way Requirements and Parcel Effects Alternative 3	5.5-5
Exhibit 5.5-5	Right-of-Way Requirements and Parcel Effects Alternative 4	5.5-6
Exhibit 5.5-6	Right-of-Way Requirements and Parcel Effects Alternative 6	5.5-7
Exhibit 5.5-7	Summary of Alternatives Right of Way Requirements and Parcel Effects	5.5-8
Exhibit 5.5-8	Full Property Acquisitions by Land Use	5.5-9
Exhibit 5.5-9	Right-of-Way Acreage by Alternative	5.5-10
Exhibit 5.5-10	Displacement by Alternative	5.5-13
Exhibit 5.6-1	Area of Potential Effect	5.6-3
Exhibit 5.6-2	National Register Listed and Eligible Individual Historic Properties	5.6-5
Exhibit 5.6-3	Contributing Historic Houses within the Alfred R. Wessell Historic District (5DV10126)	5.6-8
Exhibit 5.6-4	Contributing Resources within the National Western Complex Historic District (5DV10050)	5.6-9
Exhibit 5.6-5	Contributing Resources within the Safeway Distribution Center Historic District (5DV9232)	5.6-9
Exhibit 5.6-6	Effects Summary	5.6-16
Exhibit 5.6-7	Resource Effects by Alternative	5.6-16
Exhibit 5.6-8	Mitigation Measures	5.6-23
Exhibit 5.8-1	Landscape Categorization	5.8-2
Exhibit 5.8-2	Landscape Categorization by Area	5.8-2

Exhibit 5.8-3	Visual Character - Industrial.....	5.8-3
Exhibit 5.8-4	Visual Character - Commercial	5.8-4
Exhibit 5.8-5	Visual Character - Residential	5.8-5
Exhibit 5.8-6	Visual Character - Rural/Undeveloped	5.8-6
Exhibit 5.8-7	Visual Character - I-70	5.8-7
Exhibit 5.8-8	Visual Character - I-270	5.8-7
Exhibit 5.8-9	Visual Effects	5.8-8
Exhibit 5.8-10	Elizabeth Street Looking South - Existing Condition	5.8-10
Exhibit 5.8-11	Elizabeth Street Looking South - Alternatives 1 and 3 North Simulation.....	5.8-10
Exhibit 5.8-12	Elizabeth Street Looking South - Alternatives 1 and 3 South Simulation	5.8-11
Exhibit 5.8-13	47th Avenue looking west from Williams Street - Existing Conditions.....	5.8-12
Exhibit 5.8-14	47th Avenue looking west from Williams Street - Alternatives 4 and 6 East Simulation	5.8-13
Exhibit 5.8-15	Baldwin Avenue Looking West - Existing Condition	5.8-14
Exhibit 5.8-16	Baldwin Avenue Looking West - Alternatives 4 and 6 West Simulation	5.8-14
Exhibit 5.8-17	Magnolia Street north of I-270 - Existing Condition	5.8-15
Exhibit 5.8-18	Magnolia Street north of I-270 - Alternative 4 Simulation	5.8-15
Exhibit 5.8-19	Magnolia Street north of I-270 - Alternative 6 Simulation	5.8-16
Exhibit 5.9-1	Location of Parks and Recreational Resources.....	5.9-2
Exhibit 5.9-2	Parks and Recreational Resources	5.9-3
Exhibit 5.9-3	Sand Creek Greenway Trail – Alternatives 1 and 3*	5.9-10
Exhibit 5.9-4	Trunk Open Space – Alternative 1.....	5.9-11
Exhibit 5.9-5	Proposed High Line Canal Trail – Alternatives 1, 3, 4, and 6.....	5.9-12
Exhibit 5.9-6	Trunk Open Space – Alternative 3.....	5.9-14
Exhibit 5.9-7	South Platte River Greenway Trail – Alternatives 4 and 6.....	5.9-16
Exhibit 5.9-8	Sand Creek Greenway Trail near Quebec Street – Alternatives 4 and 6*.....	5.9-17
Exhibit 5.9-9	Sand Creek Greenway Trail near I-270 – Alternatives 4 and 6*.....	5.9-18
Exhibit 5.9-10	Northfield Pond Park – Alternative 4.....	5.9-19
Exhibit 5.9-11	Trunk Open Space – Alternative 4.....	5.9-20
Exhibit 5.9-12	Northfield Pond Park – Alternative 6.....	5.9-22
Exhibit 5.9-13	Trunk Open Space – Alternative 6.....	5.9-23
Exhibit 5.9-14	Mitigation Measures.....	5.9-24
Exhibit 5.10-1	National Ambient Air Quality Standards.....	5.10-4
Exhibit 5.10-2	Criteria Pollutants Overview.....	5.10-5
Exhibit 5.10-3	Summary of Ambient Air Monitoring Levels for Monitoring Stations near the Project Area	5.10-6
Exhibit 5.10-4	U.S Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled vs. Mobile Source Air Toxics Emissions, 2000-2020	5.10-10
Exhibit 5.10-5	HC Emissions: Exploratory Results	5.10-12
Exhibit 5.10-6	Comparison of Emission Factors	5.10-13
Exhibit 5.10-7	Vehicle Miles Traveled by Alternative	5.10-19
Exhibit 5.10-8	Volume of Material Handled for Highway Alternatives.....	5.10-20
Exhibit 5.10-9	Annual Criteria Pollutant Emissions by Alternative.....	5.10-21
Exhibit 5.10-10	Annual Criteria Pollutant Emissions.....	5.10-22
Exhibit 5.10-11	Carbon Monoxide Hotspot Modeling Results Alternatives 1 and 3	5.10-23
Exhibit 5.10-12	PM10 Concentrations.....	5.10-24
Exhibit 5.10-13	Annual Mobile Source Air Toxics Emissions by Alternative	5.10-24
Exhibit 5.10-14	Annual Mobile Source Air Toxics Emissions	5.10-26
Exhibit 5.11-1	Existing (2001) Highway Energy Consumption	5.11-2
Exhibit 5.11-2	Construction Energy Consumption	5.11-3
Exhibit 5.11-3	Daily Project Area Energy Consumption (2030)	5.11-3
Exhibit 5.12-1	CDOT Noise Abatement Criteria.....	5.12-2
Exhibit 5.12-2	Noise Sensitive Sites	5.12-3
Exhibit 5.12-3	Section 1 Noise Model Results	5.12-4

Exhibit 5.12-4	Section 1 Receiver Locations	5.12-5
Exhibit 5.12-5	Section 2 Noise Model Results	5.12-6
Exhibit 5.12-6	Section 2 Receiver Locations	5.12-8
Exhibit 5.12-7	Section 3 Model Results	5.12-9
Exhibit 5.12-8	Section 3 Receiver Locations	5.12-10
Exhibit 5.12-9	Section 4 Noise Model Results	5.12-10
Exhibit 5.12-10	Section 4 Receiver Locations	5.12-11
Exhibit 5.12-11	Section 5 Noise Model Results	5.12-12
Exhibit 5.12-12	Section 5 Receiver Locations	5.12-12
Exhibit 5.12-13	Areas Considered for Noise Mitigation	5.12-13
Exhibit 5.12-14	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternatives 1 and 3 North	5.12-15
Exhibit 5.12-15	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternatives 1 and 3 South	5.12-15
Exhibit 5.12-16	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternatives 4 and 6 West	5.12-16
Exhibit 5.12-17	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternatives 4 and 6 East	5.12-17
Exhibit 5.12-18	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternative 4	5.12-18
Exhibit 5.12-19	Noise Barrier Locations – Alternative 6	5.12-18
Exhibit 5.13-1	Mule Deer Activity Areas	5.13-4
Exhibit 5.13-2	White Tail Deer Activity Areas	5.13-4
Exhibit 5.13-3	Special Status Species	5.13-6
Exhibit 5.13-4	Bald Eagle Winter Range	5.13-8
Exhibit 5.13-5	Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Colonies	5.13-9
Exhibit 5.13-6	Noxious Weed Species of Concern	5.13-11
Exhibit 5.13-7	Affected Wildlife Activity Areas	5.13-13
Exhibit 5.13-8	Effects on Riparian Vegetation (Acres)	5.13-14
Exhibit 5.13-9	Project Effects to Bald Eagle	5.13-14
Exhibit 5.13-10	Effects on Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Colonies	5.13-16
Exhibit 5.13-11	Noxious Weed Occurrences	5.13-16
Exhibit 5.14-1	Major Drainage Basins	5.14-3
Exhibit 5.15-1	Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.	5.15-2
Exhibit 5.15-2	Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.	5.15-4
Exhibit 5.15-3	Effects on Wetlands and Waters of the U.S. (Acres)	5.15-6
Exhibit 5.15-4	South Platte River – Alternatives 4 and 6	5.15-7
Exhibit 5.15-5	Sand Creek near Quebec Street – All Alternatives	5.15-8
Exhibit 5.15-6	Sand Creek at I-70 – Alternative 3	5.15-9
Exhibit 5.15-7	Sand Creek at I-70 – Alternatives 4 and 6	5.15-10
Exhibit 5.16-1	Colorado Regulation Number 38 Water Use Classifications	5.16-3
Exhibit 5.16-2	Impaired Waters	5.16-4
Exhibit 5.16-3	Impaired Waters Identified on Section 303(d) List	5.16-4
Exhibit 5.16-4	Water Quality Effect Summary	5.16-7
Exhibit 5.16-5	Sand Creek Water Quality Effect Summary	5.16-8
Exhibit 5.16-6	South Platte River Water Quality Effect Summary	5.16-8
Exhibit 5.16-7	Water Quality Pond Locations	5.16-10
Exhibit 5.17-1	Geologic Units	5.17-2
Exhibit 5.17-2	Soil Types	5.17-3
Exhibit 5.18-1	CERCLIS Sites	5.18-3
Exhibit 5.18-2	CERCLIS No Further Remedial Action Planned Sites	5.18-3
Exhibit 5.18-3	National Priorities List Sites	5.18-4
Exhibit 5.18-4	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Sites	5.18-4
Exhibit 5.18-5	Colorado Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites	5.18-5
Exhibit 5.18-6	Underground Storage Tank Sites	5.18-5
Exhibit 5.18-7	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites	5.18-6

Exhibit 5.18-8	No-Action North Alternative Affected Sites	5.18-7
Exhibit 5.18-9	Alternative 1 Affected Sites	5.18-8
Exhibit 5.18-10	Alternative 3 Affected Sites	5.18-8
Exhibit 5.18-11	Alternative 4 and Alternative 6 Affected Sites	5.18-10
Exhibit 5.18-12	Affected Hazardous Materials Sites	5.18-11
Exhibit 5.19-1	Summary of Potential Effects to Utilities	5.19-4
Exhibit 5.19-2	Utility Locations and Conflicts	5.19-5
Exhibit 5.21-1	Key Resources Evaluated for Cumulative Effects	5.21-2
Exhibit 5.21-2	Past, Present, and Future Transportation Projects	5.21-3
Exhibit 5.21-3	Past, Present, and Future Development Projects	5.21-4
Exhibit 5.21-4	Transportation and Development Project Locations	5.21-6
Exhibit 5.21-5	Denver and Adams County Construction Permits Issued 1960 – 2005	5.21-7
Exhibit 5.21-6	1960s Development	5.21-8
Exhibit 5.21-7	1970s Development	5.21-9
Exhibit 5.21-8	1980s Development	5.21-10
Exhibit 5.21-9	1990s Development	5.21-11
Exhibit 5.21-10	2000s Development	5.21-12
Exhibit 5.21-11	Study Area Urbanization	5.21-13
Exhibit 5.21-12	Study Area Urbanization	5.21-14
Exhibit 5.21-13	Transportation Effects to Key Resources	5.21-15
Exhibit 5.21-14	Development Effects to Key Resources	5.21-16
Exhibit 5.21-15	Foreseeable Future Project Relocation Estimates	5.21-22
Exhibit 5.21-16	Regional Air Quality Forecast (Tons per Day)	5.21-26
Exhibit 5.21-17	Current and Projected Highway Emissions	5.21-28
Exhibit 5.22-1	Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures	5.22-1

Chapter 6, Community Outreach and Agency Involvement

Exhibit 6-1	Scoping/Outreach Boundaries	6-3
Exhibit 6-2	Community Outreach Activities	6-5
Exhibit 6-3	Neighborhood Meetings	6-6
Exhibit 6-4	Corridor-wide Meetings	6-7
Exhibit 6-5	Working Groups	6-8
Exhibit 6-6	Topic-specific Neighborhood Meetings	6-8
Exhibit 6-7	Intergovernmental Coordination and Compliance Committee Meeting Dates	6-11
Exhibit 6-8	Environmental Justice Compliance Committee Members	6-12
Exhibit 6-9	Environmental Justice Compliance Committee Meeting Dates	6-12
Exhibit 6-10	Air Quality Compliance Committee Members	6-13
Exhibit 6-11	Air Quality Compliance Committee Meeting Dates	6-13

Chapter 7, Section 4(f) Evaluation

Exhibit 7.0-1	DEIS Alternatives	7.0-3
Exhibit 7.1-1	Summary of Historic 4(f) Resource Use Existing Alignment Alternatives (No-Action, 1, and 3)	7.1-1
Exhibit 7.1-2	Summary of Historic 4(f) Resource Use Realignment Alternatives (4 and 6)	7.1-2
Exhibit 7.1-3	High Line Canal (5AM261.2)	7.1-4
Exhibit 7.1-4	Miranda Residence (5DV5677), Sanchez Business (5DV9655), Braswell Residence (5DV9705), Pavon Residence (5DV9706), Portales Residence (5DV9746), Chavez Residence (5DV9748), Sanchez Business (5DV9801) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North	7.1-6
Exhibit 7.1-5	Colonial Manor Motel (5DV7130) No-Action North Alternative	7.1-8
Exhibit 7.1-6	Colonial Manor Motel (5DV7130) No-Action South Alternative	7.1-9

Exhibit 7.1-7	Colonial Manor Motel (5DV7130), Davis Residence (5DV97879) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North.....	7.1-10
Exhibit 7.1-8	Univar (5DV9231) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South	7.1-12
Exhibit 7.1-9	Safeway Distribution Center Historic District (5DV9232) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South	7.1-14
Exhibit 7.1-10	Nestlé Purina Petcare Company (5DV9245) No-Action South Alternative.....	7.1-16
Exhibit 7.1-11	Nestlé Purina Petcare Company (5DV9245) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South	7.1-17
Exhibit 7.1-12	Sanchez Business (5DV9655), Portales Residence (5DV9746), Sanchez Business (5DV9801) No-Action North Alternative	7.1-19
Exhibit 7.1-13	Sanchez Business (5DV9655), Portales Residence (5DV9746), Sanchez Business (5DV9801) No-Action South Alternative.....	7.1-20
Exhibit 7.1-14	Brown and Alarid Property (5DV9667) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North.....	7.1-22
Exhibit 7.1-15	Rodriguez Residence (5DV9678), Zale Property (5DV9679) No-Action South Alternative	7.1-24
Exhibit 7.1-16	Rodriguez Residence (5DV9678), Zale Property (5DV9679) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South	7.1-25
Exhibit 7.1-17	Olive Street LLC Property (5DV9714) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South.....	7.1-30
Exhibit 7.1-18	Bernal Residence (5DV9735), Garcia Residence (5DV9780) No-Action North Alternative	7.1-32
Exhibit 7.1-19	Bernal Residence (5DV9735), Garcia Residence (5DV9780) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North.....	7.1-33
Exhibit 7.1-20	Kenworthy Residence (5DV9745) Alternatives 1 South and 3 South.....	7.1-35
Exhibit 7.1-21	Mann Residence (5DV9795) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North	7.1-41
Exhibit 7.1-22	Alfred R. Wessel Historic District (5DV10126) No-Action North Alternative.....	7.1-44
Exhibit 7.1-23	Alfred R. Wessel Historic District (5DV10126) Alternatives 1 North and 3 North.....	7.1-45
Exhibit 7.1-24	Section 4(f) Use of Alfred R. Wessell District Contributing Properties	7.1-47
Exhibit 7.1-25	Kosik Residence (5DV1247), Torres Residence (5DV9660), E.G. Trading Post (5DV9805), Elyria’s Western Guest House Apt. (5DV9808), Haynes and Yuhasz Residence (5DV9809), Lewis Investments LLC Property (5DV9813, 5DV9818), Marmolejo Residence (5DV9819) Alternative 4 West and 6 West	7.1-49
Exhibit 7.1-26	Kosik Residence (5DV1247), Torres Residence (5DV9660), E.G. Trading Post (5DV9805), Elyria’s Western Guest House Apt. (5DV9808), Haynes and Yuhasz Residence (5DV9809), Lewis Investments LLC Property (5DV9813, 5DV9818), Marmolejo Residence (5DV9819) Alternative 4 East and 6 East.....	7.1-50
Exhibit 7.1-27	Rocha Residence (5DV4396), Diaz Residence (5DV4404), Sundheim Property (5DV9814), Montour and Miller Residence (5DV9823), Helzberg Property (5DV9828) Alternatives 4 and 6 East	7.1-52
Exhibit 7.1-28	National Western Complex Historic District (5DV10500) Alternatives 4 and 6 West	7.1-62
Exhibit 7.1-29	National Western Complex Historic District (5DV10500) Alternatives 4 and 6 East	7.1-63
Exhibit 7.1-30	Section 4(f) Use of National Western Complex Historic District Contributing Properties	7.1-64
Exhibit 7.1-31	Summary of No-Action Alternatives Section 4(f) Resource Use	7.1-65
Exhibit 7.1-32	Summary of Alternatives 1 and 3 Section 4(f) Resource Use	7.1-66
Exhibit 7.1-33	Summary of Alternatives 4 and 6 Section 4(f) Resource Use	7.1-68
Exhibit 7.2-1	Swansea Elementary School Playground No-Action North Alternative.....	7.2-3
Exhibit 7.2-2	Swansea Elementary School Playground Alternatives 1 North and 3 North.....	7.2-4
Exhibit 7.3-1	Alternatives Eliminated During Screening and Determined not Feasible and Prudent	7.3-2
Exhibit 7.4-1	Historic Resource Mitigation Measures	7.4-1
Exhibit 7.4-2	Parkland and Recreational Resource Mitigation Measures.....	7.4-2
Exhibit 7.5-1	Section 4(f) Use Comparison by Alternative.....	7.5-2

Volume 2 of 3

Appendix A – Alternative Maps (Appendix A is located in a separate document, 11x17 format)

Appendix B – Agency Coordination

Appendix C – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/Section 404 and Clean Water Act Merger Report

Appendix D – Historic Preservation

Volume 3 of 3

Air Quality Technical Report

Alternative Analysis and Screening Process Technical Report

Biological Assessment

Environmental Justice Technical Memorandum

Hazardous Materials Technical Report

Hydrology and Hydraulics Technical Report

Right of Way and Conceptual Stage Relocation Technical Report

Traffic Technical Report

Traffic Noise Technical Report

Wetlands and Waters of the U.S. Technical Report

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List of Acronyms

A

ADT	Average Daily Traffic
AIMSUN	Advanced Interactive Microscopic Simulation for Urban and Non-urban Networks
AM	Morning (peak period)
AMI30	30 Percent Area Median Income
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AQCC	Air Quality Compliance Committee
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials

B

BMP	Best Management Practice
BNSF	Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad
BTU	British Thermal Unit

C

CCD	City and County of Denver
CD	Collector-distributor
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CDO	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CDPS	Colorado Discharge Permit System
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic Feet Per Second
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CORRACTS	RCRA Corrective Action List
CPB	Central Park Boulevard
CRS	Colorado Revised Statutes

D

dB	Decibels
dBA	Decibel (A-Weighted Scale)
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DIA	Denver International Airport
DPM	Diesel Particulate Matter
DRCOG	Denver Regional Council of Governments
DTC	Denver Technological Center
DUS	Denver Union Station

E

EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJCC	Environmental Justice Compliance Committee
EOC	Executive Oversight Committee
EPB	Environmental Programs Branch
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

F

FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FR	Federal Register
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration

FY	Fiscal Year
G	
H	
HCS	Highway Capacity Software
HOT	High Occupancy Toll
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
I	
ICCC	Intergovernmental Coordination and Compliance Committee
IF	Intergovernmental Forum
J	
K	
L	
L _{Aeq1h}	Hourly Level Equivalent
Leq	Equivalent Sound Level
LoDo	Lower Downtown
LOS	Level of Service
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
M	
Mg/m ³	Milligrams per Cubic Meter of Air
mph	Miles per Hour
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MVRTP	Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan
N	
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NCHRP	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
NDIS	National Diversity Information Source
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFRAP	No Further Remedial Action Planned
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO _x	Oxide of Nitrogen
NPL	National Priority List
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
O	
O ₃	Ozone
OAHP	Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
P	
PAR-CLO	Partial Cloverleaf
Pb	Lead
PM	Particulate Matter
PM	Evening (peak period)
PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter Less than 10 Micron Size
PM _{2.5}	Particulate Matter Less than 2.5 Micron Size
PMC	Project Management Committee
PMSA	Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area

ppm Parts per Million
 Pub. L. No. Public Law Number

Q**R**

RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 ROD Record of Decision
 ROW Right of Way
 RTD Regional Transportation District
 RTP Regional Transportation Plan

S

SHPO State Historic Preservation Office
 SIP State Implementation Plan
 SO₂ Sulfur Dioxide
 STIP Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan
 STP Statewide Transportation Plan

T

TDM Travel Demand Model
 TDM/TSM Transportation Demand Management/Transportation System Management
 TIP Transportation Improvement Plan

U

UPRR Union Pacific Railroad
 U.S. United States
 USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers
 USC United States Code
 USDOT United States Department of Transportation
 USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service
 USGS United States Geological Survey
 UST Underground Storage Tank

V

v/c Volume to Capacity
 VCP Voluntary Cleanup Program
 VMT Vehicle Miles Traveled
 VOC Volatile Organic Compound
 vpd Vehicles Per Day

W

WQCC Water Quality Control Commission

X**Y****Z**

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