CHRONOLOGY OF I-70 EAST EIS

Prepared by Carol Anderson, Lead NEPA Reviewer 12/30/13 to present

The I-70 East EIS studied highway improvements on I-70 between I-25 and Tower Road. The project goals are to reduce congestion, improve safety, and make it easier to get on and off the highway.

3/31/09 - EPA Comment letter to FHWA/CDOT on the Draft EIS

- Proposed alternative: Widen the entire segment and rebuild the viaduct
- Rated EC-2; Deb Lebow was the lead NEPA reviewer
- Generated a large community reaction regarding unwanted impacts to the community

2010-2014: CDOT worked diligently with the communities to address their concerns. With strong community input, CDOT developed a new alternative that would put a section of the highway below grade, and place a cover over one-mile of that section to help re-connect the neighborhoods on either side of the highway.

4/23/14 - Community Bus Tour of Globeville, Swansea and Elyria with the RA at the request of Rachel Cleaves, Coordinator of Globeville, Elyria and Swansea LiveWell, and attended by concerned citizens that included people who supported re-routing I-70 to I-270 and I-276 to bypass these neighborhoods

5/14 - Cooperating Agency review of Supplemental Draft EIS

- Worked with FHWA/CDOT to resolve our comments re: air, environmental justice, water and hazardous materials so that they could be incorporated into the Supplemental Draft EIS released to the public

10/30/14 – EPA Comment Letter on Supplemental Draft EIS

- Rated EC-2 – air impacts where modeled conservatively and showed no predicted exceedances of the NAAQS
- "The EPA commends FHWA and CDOT for the extensive community outreach program that the agencies have undertaken over the years. These public involvement efforts have included monthly community meetings, door-to-door visits, a project office located in the Elyria and Swansea neighborhood, and translators at every public event."

9/14/15 – Cooperating Agency review of Supplemental Final EIS

2/3/16 Public Meeting revealed that most speakers were more concerned about a City/County of Denver drainage project (then called the Two Basin Drainage Project) than they were about this highway project

- Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3/2/16 – EPA Comment Letter on Supplemental Final EIS

- Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process
- "The EPA has been a cooperating agency for this project. We have worked very closely with the lead agencies, FHWA and CDOT, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), another cooperating agency, to address air quality and environmental justice concerns that were included in our comment letter on the Supplemental Draft EIS dated October 30, 2014. The transportation agencies have been very responsive to our recommendations."

10/25/16 – Cooperating Agency meeting for updates on the Record of Decision

11/16/16 – Federal Civil Rights Complaint filed against CDOT by neighborhood groups

- Colorado Latino Forum, Elyria and Swansea Neighborhood Association and the Cross Community Coalition (represented by Earth Justice) have filed a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Civil Rights requesting an investigation of the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) decision to expand I-70 through predominantly Latino neighborhoods.