I-25/Cañoncito

Exit 294 Interchange Project CN 5100160

Update!

At the previous public workshop, held in May of 2012, the majority of the public supported the *Existing Location Alternative* over the other options evaluated. The *Existing Location Alternative* will:

- Maintain the diamond layout for the interchange,
- Reconstruct and extend the on/off ramps, and
- Replace the existing concrete box culvert underpass with a bridge.

The other alternatives were ruled out because they encroached too far onto private property, had other undesirable design characteristics, or were too costly; and the local stakeholders were strongly against closing the interchange and only replacing the structurally deficient concrete box culvert underpass.

Since the public workshop, the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) has determined that the Existing Location Alternative is the preferred alternative, and will be presented in the Environmental Assessment (EA) along with the nobuild alternative. In addition, the NMDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) consulted with the National Park Service (NPS) regarding impacts to the Glorieta Pass Battlefield National Historic Landmark (NHL), the Santa Fe Trail and Route 66, the Nuestra Señora de la Luz Church, other cultural resources, and project aesthetics.

To address concerns with the NHL, church, and project aesthetics, NMDOT will:

• Monitor vibration and use low vibratory equipment near the church.

Winter, 2013

- Search any previously undisturbed areas within the NHL for subsurface artifacts using metal detectors and a remote sensing survey.
- Face the retaining wall near the church with stone similar to the wall in front of the church, and color the wall at the northbound on-ramp a natural tone.

Development of the EA and additional analysis are ongoing. The next public meeting will be a public hearing expected in April, 2013. This hearing will provide a summary of the EA and an opportunity for the public to comment on the Existing Location Alternative. We will contact you again when an exact time and place have been scheduled. In the meantime, please review the materials presented on the project website (see reverse side) and contact us with any additional comments or questions.

Thank you for your contribution to the I-25 Cañoncito Interchange Study!

MP 292.5 to MP 294.5







Existing Location Alternative

I-25/Cañoncito Interchange Study

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For more information:

Visit the website: <u>http://dot.state.nm.us/en/D5/ProjectsD5.html</u> (scroll down to the "*I-25 Cañoncito Interchange Study*")

Or you can contact representatives of the project team:

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Federal Highway

Administration