



WEST OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

US HIGHWAY 40 - NEPA STUDY

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Steamboat Springs, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and Routt County is studying improvements to US Highway 40 west of Steamboat Springs.

Past and ongoing planning efforts by the City of Steamboat Springs, Routt County, and CDOT, including the *West Steamboat Springs Area Plan 2006 Update*, adopted June 19, 2008, have identified transportation needs along this section of US 40, leading to this focused study.

Although funding has not yet been identified for construction of any future improvements on US 40, the City may seek federal funding. Therefore, part of the study will involve receiving a clearance under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NEPA process is used to objectively evaluate federally funded transportation improvements and fully disclose the potential positive and negative environmental consequences of those improvements. FHWA and CDOT have determined that the appropriate level of NEPA documentation for this study is a Documented Categorical Exclusion.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The overall purpose of this project is to best accommodate future travel on West US Highway 40 between 12th Street and the Urban Growth Corridor by reducing congestion, improving mobility, balancing multimodal use, and providing effective access.