

I-70 COALITION

setting the pace for the future



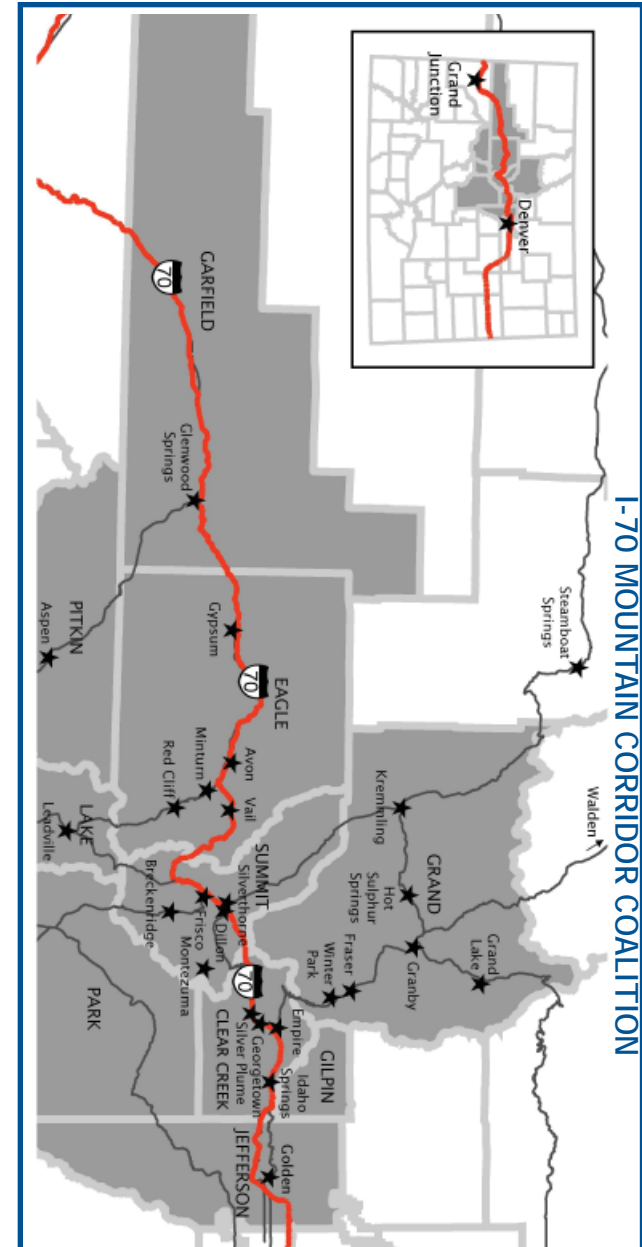
I-70 COALITION



In January 2004, more than 30 political jurisdictions formalized the I-70 Mountain Corridor Coalition by adopting an intergovernmental agreement to address transportation issues along the I-70 mountain corridor and to specifically respond to the Draft I-70 Central Mountain Transportation Corridor Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) issued by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

In May 2005, the coalition unanimously approved a regionally preferred alternative in response to CDOT's PEIS. This alternative is multi-modal and addresses transportation issues in the mountain corridor over the next 50 years. The alternative was derived from portions of the PEIS and includes concepts to enhance public accessibility and mobility while meeting transportation goals of the Front Range, mountain corridor and adjoining communities. Additionally, the coalition's preferred alternative addresses issues such as safety improvements, noise mitigation and environmental programs, not specifically addressed in the PEIS.

The coalition is proving to be a powerful voice for local and regional transportation interests. Coalition members, both public and private, are coordinating efforts to implement long-term transportation improvements along the mountain corridor, while representing the coalition's best interests by carrying out such improvements from conception to completion.



I-70 MOUNTAIN CORRIDOR COALITION

SEEKING 21ST CENTURY SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS 21ST CENTURY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS IN THE I-70 MOUNTAIN CORRIDOR

www.i70solutions.org

Phone: 970-393-2394
 P.O. Box: 4528, Dillon, Colo., 80435-4528
 e-mail: fraitano@earthlink.net
 Web site: www.i70solutions.org

VALUE OF I-70 COALITION

- Provides a collective voice for the I-70 mountain corridor.
- Promotes a sustainable 50-year, multi-modal solution.
- Increases awareness of a comprehensive transportation solution for the I-70 mountain corridor among citizens, federal and state legislative bodies, etc.
- Provides community outreach and education on I-70 mountain corridor transportation problems and solutions.
- Assists CDOT in identifying funding sources and determining long-term mitigation policies for the I-70 mountain corridor.



COALITION MEMBERS

Counties:

Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Gilpin, Grand, Jefferson, Lake, Park, Pitkin and Summit

Municipalities:

Aspen, Avon, Breckenridge, Carbondale, Dillon, Eagle, Empire, Fraser, Frisco, Georgetown, Glenwood Springs, Golden, Granby, Grand Lake, Gypsum, Hot Sulphur Springs, Idaho Springs, Kremmling, Leadville, Minturn, Montezuma, Red Cliff, Silverthorne, Silver Plume, Steamboat Springs, Vail, Walden and Winter Park



2006 I-70 Coalition Private Sector Members:
Gart Companies, Intrawest Colorado, Summit County Chamber of Commerce, Vail Valley Partnership and Vail Resorts, Inc.

I-70 COALITION PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The following concepts were used to develop the coalition's preferred alternative:

- The transportation system must serve communities not only along I-70, but adjacent to or that use I-70 as a main transit connection route.
- The transportation system must be scenic in and of itself and not simply a way to move people and goods.
- The transportation system must be sustainable, multi-modal and include highway, transit, aviation, alternate routes and non-motorized components; plus must move things, as well as people.
- The transportation system must increase capacity while planning must be expanded to at least 50 years; the system can not be obsolete in 25 to 30 years; and planning for all components must be concurrent.
- The transportation system should be incrementally implemented and address the problem; no solution should preclude any other component of transportation.
- The transportation system must be networked and extend beyond the I-70 corridor while providing seamless connections to Denver International Airport.
- The transportation system must include building of a rapid transit component.
- The transportation system must provide immediate mitigation of existing environmental and community impacts.

I-70 Mountain Corridor Fast Facts (Source: CDOT)

More than 200 recreational sites are within six miles of the I-70 mountain corridor including 15 ski areas.

In 2025, the Front Range population is expected to reach approximately 5 million (increasing by 45 percent) creating a substantial increase in summer and winter recreation travel demand along the I-70 mountain corridor.

According to CDOT consultants preparing the PEIS on the I-70 corridor, in 2001, nine counties and their respective communities and resorts contributed 21 percent of all tourism related taxes generated for Colorado.

2025 travel demand along the I-70 mountain corridor is projected to increase by more than 10 million trips at the Eisenhower Tunnel over the next 20 years. Current travel through the tunnel is approximately 10.8 million trips annually.

CURRENT ROLE OF I-70 COALITION

- Research and plan for a preferred transit solution for the I-70 mountain corridor.
- Pursue construction mitigation strategies including alternate route development.
- Seek funding (private and public) to assist in hiring and retaining personnel who will serve as a liaison for the I-70 Coalition.
- Continue to work with CDOT to help define construction and operational mitigation policies for the mountain corridor and work cooperatively on future environmental studies.
- Partner with the Front Range and Mountain Corridor Transit Agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Transportation Planning Regions to create seamless transit connectivity from the Front Range into the I-70 mountain corridor.
- Pursue the most appropriate organizational structure to effectively develop and implement a 21st century transit solution in the I-70 mountain corridor.

