

Vail Daily

I-70 coalition close to choosing director

%]

Bob Berwyn
February 8, 2006

SUMMIT COUNTY - A group of mountain governments exploring ways to reduce traffic congestion on I-70 between Denver and Glenwood Springs expects to hire a director by the end of the month.

The group is working as the Colorado Department of Transportation completes a massive study, focused on the interstate, of how to move people more efficiently between Denver and the High Country.

Seven finalists for the director's job will be interviewed by the coalition during the next few weeks. Chet Gaede, a Leadville resident who has worked closely with the coalition, said mountain towns feel the state hasn't studied mass transit enough.

"What we're hearing is that CDOT has been remiss in not talking with the Summit Stage, Eco Transit and the Roaring Fork Transit Authority," he said.

One of the new director's will be to get the private sector gets involved in the discussions, said Gary Severson, director of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, a lobbying group.

Businesses like Vail Resorts and Intrawest, along with mine owner Phelps Dodge, and even companies like Safeway and City Market all have a stake in the future of I-70, and should be sitting at the table as stakeholders, Severson said.

A summit meeting of sorts with private businesses has been set for Vail in the next few weeks, Severson said.

Vail, Colorado

Snowfall along Interstate 70 can bring traffic to a crawl — an issue members of a coalition on the highway's future are trying to solve.

Brad Odekirk/Summit Daily



[Click to Enlarge](#)

[Browse Vail Daily Photos](#)

[BACK](#) 