

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-70 COALITION OFFERS FRONT RANGE TRAVELERS TIPS FOR THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY WEEKEND

(I-70 Mountain Corridor) — The Interstate 70 Mountain Transportation Corridor Coalition (I-70 Coalition) is offering tips for the upcoming holiday weekend to encourage convenient, safe travel along the I-70 corridor.

The Coalition, which is comprised of more than 30 private and public partners working on short and long-term solutions for congestion along the I-70 corridor, offer these tips to get motorists out of traffic and on to their destination to enjoy the snow:

- **Be an overnighter, not a daytripper.** Spend the night and extend the fun into the next day. Share the cost of a condo or rental unit with a group of friends. Online lodging portals like Vail On Sale (vailonsale.com) and Summit County's summitsaver.com offer amazing lodging specials and promotions.
- **Telecommute.** Work with your employer to create a flexible working schedule for the holiday weekend. For example, work four 10-hour days to get a day ahead of other travelers. Not only will you avoid traffic jams, you'll have slopes, shops and grocery aisles all to yourself.
- **Travel during non-peak times.** Leaving Denver on Wednesday, Feb. 13 means you'll arrive in the mountains in time to celebrate Valentine's Day in a romantic, alpine setting. Stay in the mountains until Tuesday to be sure your ski legs get the full work out they deserve.
- **Look before you drive.** Check on traffic and weather conditions before you leave. You can check up-to-the-minute road conditions on television Channel 22 in Summit County or on the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) travel website, www.cotrip.org. The I-70 Coalition's Web site, www.i70solutions.org boasts three mountain webcams.
- **Take the scenic route home.** There are wonderful shops, visitor's centers, microbrews, historic monuments and more along I-70. During heavy traffic times, pull over and find a fun distraction such as shopping at the unique shops along the corridor or dining at your favorite restaurant.
- **Go green:** Organize a group and carpool; utilize public transportation and/or shuttle services – convenient options include skicarpool.com, ridecme.com or greyhound.com. The Ski Train (www.skitrain.com) that runs from Denver to Winter Park is another creative and earth-friendly option.

“The Coalition continues to work together to create solutions to alleviate the current levels of congestion on I-70 while long term solutions can be developed and implemented,” said Eric Turner, I-70 Coalition TDM Committee Chair and member of the Summit Chamber Board. “The more we can encourage the public to utilize existing alternative transportation options, the closer we come to realizing our goals that work in the best interest of everyone traveling I-70.”

For more information, go to www.i70solutions.org.

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About I-70 Coalition

The coalition was formed through an intergovernmental agreement in January 2004 to address transportation issues in the I-70 mountain corridor, and to respond to Colorado Department of Transportation's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. The local governments involved in the coalition include Grand Valley Regional Transportation Commission, the counties of Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Lake, Pitkin, Gilpin, Grand, Jefferson, Park and Summit, plus the cities and towns of Aspen, Avon, Breckenridge, Dillon, 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, Vail, Walden and Winter Park. Private partners include Gart Companies, Intrawest Corporation, Vail Resorts, Inc., the Summit County Chamber of Commerce and the Vail Valley Partnership. More information is available at www.i70solutions.org.