

U.S. 95 THORNCREEK ROAD TO MOSCOW

JULY 2006

Project Update

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has approved the three U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow alternatives/alignments recommended by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for further study.

The three alternative/alignments are the same ones ITD recommended to carry forward at the January 2006 open houses – W4, C3 and E2.

ITD will continue to analyze a “no action” alternative/alignment. “No action” will be established as a baseline of existing conditions.

FHWA’s approval means ITD will now conduct further studies on W4, C3 and E2 and document findings in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS will also recommend an alternative/alignment for design and construction.

The further studies of W4, C3 and E2 will include:

- Community impacts (see Other Project News)
- Cultural
- Hazardous materials
- Historic
- Noise
- Weed propagation
- Wetlands
- Wildlife

The public will have the opportunity to provide input on the DEIS and the recommended alternative/alignment at a public hearing in spring/summer 2007.

ITD will continue to communicate with the public through monthly breakfast meetings, newsletters, the project information kiosk and the Web site during the analysis of W4, C3 and E2 and the preparation of the DEIS.

ITD District 2 Project Manager Ken Helm said the department appreciates the involvement of the community in this project. ITD received nearly 700 comment forms from the public about the three alternatives/alignments at its public open houses in January 2006.

To see a map of the three alternatives/alignments approved by FHWA, the document ITD submitted to FHWA and FHWA’s response, visit the project Web site at: itd.idaho.gov, go to Get Involved, choose North-Central Idaho, click on U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow, Stage 1.

OTHER PROJECT NEWS

COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

ITD is conducting a community impact assessment for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project. The assessment will identify the potential impacts of the three proposed alternatives/alignments (W4, C3 and E2) on the following:

- Economics
- Land use
- Public services
- Recreation
- Safety

You are invited to give input into this assessment by completing a written questionnaire or participating in a one-on-one interview. If you’re interested, come to the **Eastside Marketplace off the Troy Highway between noon and 7 p.m. on July 12, 13 and 14.**

Please allow 30 minutes to fill out the questionnaire or be interviewed.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Below is a construction update for the Top of Lewiston Hill to Genesee, and Genesee to Thorncreek Road. Both projects are expected to be complete in spring 2007.

Top of Lewiston Hill to Genesee

The contractor is currently excavating material from the hill south of Genesee. The material is being used for the northbound lanes across the Genesee flats.

Traffic delays are minimal. Traffic is being stopped only to allow trucks to enter the highway when visibility is limited. Most delays are 1-2 minutes.

Genesee to Thorncreek Road

The contractor is excavating and building embankments for the new southbound lanes.

At this time there are only minor traffic delays to allow trucks to enter the highway.

KIOSK NEWS

The U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project information kiosk will not be staffed during the summer. Representatives from the Idaho Transportation Department will bring the kiosk to the **Moscow Farmer's Market on July 15** and will be available to answer questions about the project.

The kiosk will be moved to the **Moscow Chamber of Commerce, 411 S. Main St., on July 17**. The kiosk is currently located at Moscow City Hall, 206 E. Third St.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST MEETING

Monthly breakfast meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant, 414 N. Main Street in Moscow, from 7 to 8 a.m.

The next breakfast meeting
will be held July 11.

ITD Project Manager Ken Helm will provide a brief project update and answer questions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Web site: itd.idaho.gov, click on Get Involved, click on North-Central Idaho, then click on U.S. 95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, Stage 1
- Email: thorncreekroadtomoscow@itd.idaho.gov
- Call: ITD Project Manager Ken Helm at 799-5090

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all related regulations and directives. ITD assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any ITD service, program, or activity. The department also assures that every effort will be made to prevent discrimination through the impacts of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. In addition, the department will take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to services for persons with Limited English Proficiency. Questions? Call (208) 334-4444; TTD (208) 334-4458.

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