



## Meeting Goals

Today's meeting is designed to help you learn more about the East Columbia Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), its goals and schedule. As you follow the exhibits through the EIS process, we invite you to share your questions, concerns and preferences with the study team.

### What is the East Columbia Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

The EIS is examining how population growth and related development will affect future transportation needs in the area generally bounded on the north by Interstate 70 south to New Haven Road, and on the west by U.S. Highway 63 east to State Highway Z.

### Today's Meeting Displays

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Exhibit 1</b>            | The map shows the area under study.  |
| <b>Exhibit 2</b>            | The Purpose and Need Statement outlines issues addressed by the study.   |
| <b>Exhibit 3</b>            | The map shows current zoning (study area and surrounding community).   |
| <b>Exhibits 4 &amp; 5</b>   | The two maps show current and projected (2030) housing density in the study area and surrounding community.                      |
| <b>Exhibits 6 &amp; 7</b>   | The two maps show current and projected (2030) trips to and from specific zones within the study area and surrounding community. |
| <b>Exhibits 8 &amp; 9</b>   | The two maps show current and projected (2030) traffic volumes in the study area and surrounding community.                      |
| <b>Exhibits 10 &amp; 11</b> | The two maps show current and projected (2030) traffic congestion in the study area and surrounding community.                   |
| <b>Exhibit 12</b>           | The chart shows accident data for transportation segments in the study area and surrounding community.                           |
| <b>Exhibit 13</b>           | The map shows the environmental, social and economic constraints in the area that may affect potential solutions.                |
| <b>Exhibit 14</b>           | The diagram shows the steps involved in the NEPA process that governs how the East Columbia EIS is conducted.                    |



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q. What is an Environmental Impact Statement?**

A. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is part of a federally mandated process to determine what actions, if any, will best serve a community's transportation needs.

### **Q. Why is this EIS necessary?**

A. The need for a major highway project must be assessed before it is undertaken. Then its broad social, economic and environmental impacts and benefits must be weighed to determine whether the project makes sense.

### **Q. What is the purpose of this study?**

A. The study will evaluate solutions for current and future (2030) transportation issues in the study area. These issues include safety, congestion, roadway capacity, roadway deficiencies, transportation system linkages, and multi-modal forms of transportation.

### **Q. What else will happen during the study?**

A. If the East Columbia EIS shows that transportation improvements are needed to enhance safety, decrease congestion, and support regional economic development, then a location study will begin. The location study will help determine what specific transportation solutions are needed and their impact to the community.

### **Q. How will my input be used in the process?**

A. Study recommendations come from technical analysis combined with public insights and preferences. Solutions are developed that balance community needs with technical and regulatory constraints (such as cost, feasibility and environmental protection).

### **Q. What happens after today's meeting?**

A. The study team will conduct further technical analysis to determine whether there is a transportation need. It will examine what realistic options, if any, might address the need. This will include reviewing public input from this meeting, the project web site, phone calls and emails. A range of alternatives that potentially address the study's purpose and need will be shared at a public meeting this fall, on the project web site and in future newsletters.

### **Q. How can I keep updated on the study?**

A. You can learn more about the study by:

- Visiting the project web site at [www.EastColumbiaEIS.com](http://www.EastColumbiaEIS.com);
- Signing up for electronic updates by sending an email with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line to [EastColumbiaEIS@dofcpr.com](mailto:EastColumbiaEIS@dofcpr.com);
- Attending future public meetings about study; or
- Calling 1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636) for more information.