

Welcome to the East Columbia-Environmental Impact Statement Public Information Meeting October 24, 2007

Welcome! Thank you for attending this open-house. Your participation tonight and at future public events is vital to improving transportation in Eastern Columbia.

The purpose of tonight's open-house is to seek your input on recommended transportation solutions for East Columbia.

Study team members are available at each of the stations around the room to provide information, answer questions and listen to your comments. Please take the time to visit all five stations, and provide your comments in writing or orally at Station #5. Written comments can be e-mailed or mailed back to us by November 7th.

Below is a brief list of what you will find at each station.

- Station #1: Welcome, Sign In and Introduction
- Station #2: Conceptual Alternatives
- Station #3: Purpose and Need Evaluation
- Station #4: Recommended Reasonable Alternatives
- Station #5: Comments

After hearing your thoughts on how the recommended Reasonable Alternatives best fit within the desired character of the community, adjustments will be made based on your feedback and additional technical work. A Preferred Alternative will be presented at a public hearing in spring of 2008.

Please e-mail or mail your comments by **November 7th** to:

E-Mail: EastColumbiaEIS@ch2m.com

Mail: EC-EIS Study

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For more information:

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1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636)



East Columbia-EIS

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

A. An EIS is a full disclosure document that details the process through which a transportation project was developed, includes consideration of a range of reasonable alternatives, analyzes the potential impacts resulting from the alternatives, and demonstrates agreement with other applicable environmental laws and executive orders. The EIS process is completed in the following ordered steps: Notice of Intent (NOI), draft EIS, final EIS, and record of decision (ROD). Essentially, an EIS is part of a federally mandated process to determine what actions, if any, will best address a community's transportation needs.

Q. Why is this EIS necessary?

A. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to prepare EISs for major Federal actions that could significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Q. What is the purpose of this study?

A. The study was initiated to identify and evaluate options to improve transportation in the rapidly growing area between Interstate 70 south to New Haven Road, and U.S. Highway 63 East to State Highway Z. Working closely with the public, resource agencies and technical experts, state and local officials are evaluating alternatives that would most effectively address traffic congestion and safety concerns, connect the major highways between Eastern Boone County and Columbia and improve access to Eastern Columbia.

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 compare the recommended Reasonable Alternatives based on the balancing of many issues (e.g. cost, right-of-way acquisition, potential home displacement, environmental impacts). Your input tonight will help the study team better understand which issues are most important to the community. In 2008, a Preferred Alternative will be presented in a Draft EIS, which will be shared with the community at a public hearing in late spring.

Q. How can I keep updated on the study?

- Visit the project web site at www.EastColumbiaEIS.com;
- Sign up for electronic updates by sending an email with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line to EastColumbiaEIS@ch2m.com; or
- Call **1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636)** for more information.

