



November 12, 2014, Wheat Ridge, Colorado —The City of Wheat Ridge continues to develop plans for improvements to Wadsworth Boulevard through its Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study. This study is investigating improvement opportunities to Wadsworth Boulevard from just south of 35th Avenue to the interchange at Interstate 70. Because Wadsworth is a state highway, the City is also working with the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to determine which improvements will best serve all users of the corridor. This busy roadway section provides access to Interstate 70, connects the City to Arvada and Lakewood, and provides transit service connecting to major east-west routes including the West Corridor light rail line.

Staff working on the PEL Study held several events beginning in the spring of 2014 to gather input from stakeholders and the public:

- An open house in April allowed planners to gather feedback on the purpose of and need for the project.
- In July, Wheat Ridge planners and their consultants held meetings with six major stakeholder groups including: large landowners; bicycle and pedestrian users; utility companies; schools, churches, and hospitals; and traffic and municipal partners. The input gathered during these meetings was used to develop several alternative designs for the improvements along Wadsworth through Wheat Ridge.
- On September 26th, the roadway design alternatives were shared with local business owners along the corridor in “block by block” style meetings to gather feedback from potentially impacted businesses and landowners regarding how the different designs might affect their properties.
- On October 8th, several conceptual designs were then presented during an open house at the Wheat Ridge Municipal Building and additional public input was gathered from approximately 50 attendees.

From an iPad exit survey and commentary gathered during the October 8th public meeting, planners learned that approximately two-thirds of attendees felt the [proposed alternatives](#) aligned with their vision for Wadsworth. The most favored alternative was the enhanced build alternative, with a 130 to 150-foot corridor width, which received 25 of the 36 votes. Additionally, when the planning team asked the public how they currently use Wadsworth, responders indicated that they:

- Lived in the area (18 of 25)
- Shopped at nearby businesses on Wadsworth (17 of 25)
- Commuted on Wadsworth (13 of 25)
- Biked or walked on Wadsworth (6 of 25)
- Owned/operated a business on Wadsworth (4 of 25)

The City will use the input gathered from the community to further refine plans for improvements to Wadsworth Boulevard over the next several months. A final public open house is planned for February 2015 to present the final PEL Study recommendations and to solicit public comments. To learn more, view the proposed alternative plans at the link above, or submit your [comments](#) to the City.