



SUMMARY
Adams County Workshops
U.S. 95 Corridor Study

New Meadows
Oct. 28, 2008

Council
Nov. 5, 2008



Idaho Transportation Department
Prepared by RBCI

Adams County Workshops Summary

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) hosted four public workshops in Adams County to gather input on the U.S. 95 Corridor Study. Two workshops were held in New Meadows on Oct. 28, 2008. The other two were held in Council on Nov. 5, 2008.

At a Glance

<i>Attendance</i>	28 in New Meadows and 21 in Council.
<i>Comments</i>	17 in New Meadows* and 21 in Council.
<i>Stakeholder letter</i>	Sent to 18 stakeholders in New Meadows area. Sent to 43 stakeholders in Council area.
<i>Postcard distribution</i>	Mailed to 950 people in New Meadows area. 901 by mail carrier route 49 to project database Mailed to 1901 people in Council area. 1858 by mail carrier route 43 to project database
<i>Media release</i>	Sent to local media outlets prior to both meetings.
<i>Display ad</i>	Ran the week of Oct. 27 in Adams County Record (New Meadows) and Oct. 30 in Upper County News-Reporter (Council).
<i>Web site</i>	Notice placed on City of Council and ITD Web sites.
<i>Sandwich boards</i>	Placed at several locations along the corridor.

Details about notification methods are included in the U.S. 95 Public Outreach summary. Copies of meeting materials are included at the end of this summary.

* The New Meadows workshop covered both U.S. 95 and Idaho 55. ITD received 33 comment sheets at New Meadows. Of these, 17 were related to U.S. 95.

Adams County Summary of Comments

ITD asked the following questions at the Adams County workshops:

1. What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95? Please be specific with improvements and locations.
2. What is the most important improvement needed?
3. Other comments: Have we missed anything?

This summary represents the main themes and opinions expressed by the public. It is not intended to be statistically reliable or represent a popular vote. A verbatim transcription of comments is included in the appendix.

At a Glance: New Meadows

Workshop participants identified the following overall needs and improvements. Specific locations are included in the detailed summary on the next page.

- Address safety issues.
- Add passing lanes, turn lanes or pull-outs.
- Realign or widen the highway.
- Repair pavement, ruts, soft gravel or drainage problems.

In addition, workshop participants had the following overall comments:

- Reconsider transportation needs on U.S. 95.

At a Glance: Council

Workshop participants identified the following overall needs and improvements:

- Fix sharp corners; realign; improve sight distance.
- Add or extend passing lane, turn lane or turnouts.
- Pursue bypass.
- Address general safety issues.
- Widen narrow areas; need more room outside fog line; shoulders.

In addition, workshop participants had the following overall comments:

- Improve general maintenance (e.g., de-icing, rest areas, etc.).

Summary of Comments: New Meadows

Seventeen (17) people completed comment sheets at the Adams County workshops in New Meadows or returned comments by e-mail. Many people identified more than one suggestion or location in their comments. In these cases, all locations have been included in the summary.

1. Improvements

What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95?

Seventeen (17) people responded to this question. The following improvements were repeated most often. Locations are identified where applicable.

- **Give general attention to specific areas.**

Locations: 55/95 intersection
*Of these, five mentioned turn lanes
or a four-way stop*
Canyon roads out of New Meadows
Bridge

- **Address safety issues.**

Locations: 55/95 intersection
Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Road
U.S. 95 and Zims Road (intersection)
Goose Creek Grade
Mileposts 171 to 175
Bad corners
Weiser River Bridge to Tamarack (guardrail)
New Meadows region (reduce speeds)

- **Add passing lanes, turn lanes or pull-outs.**

Locations: Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Creek
McCall to Lake Fork or Cascade
45th Parallel Drive
Round Valley
General

- **Realign or widen the highway.**

Locations: General
Little Salmon Canyon to Hazard Creek
Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Creek
New Meadows to Council
Four miles south of Smokey Boulder Road

- **Repair pavement, ruts, soft gravel or drainage problems.**

Locations: Through New Meadows
General
Smokey Boulder

2. Top priorities

What is the most important improvement needed on U.S. 95?

Respondents did not consistently identify a single top priority. Many identified more than one top priority.

The following list was compiled from the 11 people who identified one top priority.

- Repair pavement and drainage.
- Lift length restrictions for trucks.
- Improve 55/95 intersection.
- Improve bad corners and bridge.
- Add passing lanes or wider shoulders.
- Pursue bypass around Council.
- Everything is a priority.

Others identified as many as three or four priorities. These are reflected in the answers to Question 1.

3. Other comments

Other comments: Have we missed anything on U.S. 95?

- **Reconsider transportation needs.**
 - Lift length restrictions for trucks.
 - Truck weights are too heavy for roadway design.
 - Consider motorcyclists. Curves are enjoyable; road surface is dangerous.
 - Add sidewalks for pedestrians.
 - Add commuter buses between Council and McCall.
 - Pursue a bypass around Council.

Summary of Comments: Council

Twenty-one (21) people completed comment sheets at the Adams County workshops in Council or returned comments by e-mail.

1. Improvements

What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95?

Nineteen (19) people responded to this question. The following improvements were repeated most often. Locations are identified where applicable.

- **Fix sharp corners; realign; improve sight distance.**

Locations: Cambridge to Midvale (Weiser River Canyon)
Little Rainbow Bridge
Indian Valley: Thomason Lane to Lakey's Café
Indian Valley: South of Lakey's Café
Indian Valley: Mink Ranch to Lakey's Café
Indian Valley to Cambridge: Little Weiser River
Riggins: Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Creek
Council: Cottonwood Road
Council: Mesa siding area
Council: Shooting club south of town
Fort Hall Hill

- **Add or extend passing lane, turn lane or turnouts.**

Locations: Fort Hall Hill
Weiser to Payette
Fort Hall Hill to Tamarack
Mesa Hill northbound
Mesa Hill to Indian Valley
Midvale to Weiser (Weiser Canyon)
North of Council (MP 137 and 138)
Glendale turnoff to Meadows

- **Pursue bypass.**

Locations: Council Alternate Route
Riggins: Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Creek
Tamarack access (Adams Co. to Valley Co.)
Around Fort Hall Hill
Cambridge
Midvale

- **Address general safety issues.**

Council: near schools
One comment mentioned sidewalks.

Midvale Hill wildlife crossing
Fort Hall Hill wildlife crossing

- **Widen narrow areas; need more room outside fog line; shoulders.**
 - General
 - Council to Weiser
 - North of Council (Strawberry Rd. to Fort Hall Hill)
 - Cambridge to New Meadows
 - Riggins: Smokey Boulder Road to Hazard Creek

- **Give general attention.**
 - Fort Hall Hill
 - Cambridge: Rush Creek to Thomason Lane

2. Top priorities

What is the most important improvement needed on U.S. 95?

The following list was compiled from the 16 people who identified one top priority.

- Build Council alternate route, truck route or Main St. bypass.
- Fix dangerous curves or sight distance.
- Address truck traffic, backups.
- Add turn lanes in both directions from Mesa Hill.
- Install reflectors for winter driving.
- Enforce speed limits.
- Remove trees in right-of-way.

Some respondents identified as many as three or four priorities. These are reflected in the answers to Question 1.

3. Other comments

Other comments: Have we missed anything on U.S. 95?

- **General maintenance.**
 - Add reflectors or better paint.
 - De-ice river canyon south of Cambridge.
 - Do general maintenance.
 - Remove trees from rights of way.
 - Extend Wesier River Trail to New Meadows.
 - Add rest area on U.S. 95.

Adams County Workshop Transcriptions

- Public comments
- Corridor map comments
- Questions presented at workshop Q&A sessions

Adams County Workshop Materials

The following materials were used for notification or meeting handouts as part of the Adams County workshops in New Meadows and Council.

- Stakeholder letter
- Postcard
- Display ad
- PowerPoint presentation and unique display boards