

Canyon segment studied for years

(cont.)

caused by highway construction. In August of 1970 the Highway department hired the firm of DeLeuw-Cather to perform such a study on the two major alternatives. For the remainder of 1970, activities included various meetings and tours involving many service organizations, news media, Colorado Open Space Council, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and other interested parties and individuals. In early 1971 meetings were held in Denver and Glenwood Springs to discuss the draft report from DeLeuw-Cather. This report was accepted in final form in May and made part of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement issued in August of 1971.

Corridor Public Hearings were held in Glenwood Springs on October 11 and 12, and continued in Denver on October 13 and 14, 1971. The combined location Study Report and Final Environmental 4-(f) Statement along with an official request for location approval was submitted to FHWA on March 12, 1972. This Statement was later forwarded to the Department of Transportation (DOT) in Washington D.C. No further action is recorded until April of 1973, when DOT requested the Highway Department to perform further design studies on both routes prior to their approval. Reaction by the State was to resist any further effort on the Cottonwood Pass route. Governor John Vanderhoof appointed a special citizens' committee to review the alternatives as presented and the committee report concluded that sufficient studies had been made to reach a conclusion.

The State then requested and received approval to develop design concepts in Glenwood Canyon only. In January, 1974, the State hired three internationally recognized consulting firms to perform the design concept studies. Consultants'

studies were submitted in July of 1974 and were displayed to the public at meetings held in Denver and Glenwood Springs. A summary of the design concept studies was prepared and submitted to DOT in December of 1974, again requesting location approval. Notification of route location approval was received some two years later on February 20, 1976.

Glenwood Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee to be appointed

Selection of a seven-member citizens' advisory committee to aid in the design of Interstate 70 through Glenwood Canyon is under way.

The State Highway Commission has asked seven organizations to nominate three members each, and the commission will select one of the three from each group.

Meanwhile, the state highway policy body has discharged with thanks the citizens' advisory committee that had served through the location phase of the project.

The two actions follow recent approval by the Federal Highway Administration of Glenwood Canyon as the corridor for Interstate 70 between Glenwood Springs and Gypsum.

The commission has solicited, by letter, membership nominations for the new advisory committee from the following: county commissioners of Eagle, Pitkin, Mesa, and Garfield Counties; Colorado Open Space Council; Club 20; and the American Institute of Architects.

Members of the earlier committee now discharged were: Dr. Robert W. Viehe, Glenwood Springs; George B. Beardsley, Denver; Samuel J. Caudill, Aspen; Chris G. Mortiz, Denver; Don Walter, now of Chula Vista, Calif, formerly of Glenwood Springs; and

Citizens Committee (cont.)

Jared B. Morse, Denver.

The commission letter to the retiring committee expresses "sincere thanks and our invitation for your continued involvement in the development of this important Colorado transportation project."

Citizen attitude survey to begin in April

By Edy Hughes

Community Response of Colorado, Inc.

An important citizen attitude survey of residents in Grand Junction.. Metropolitan Denver, Eagle, Carbondale, Gypsum, and Glenwood Springs will be conducted in April. The purpose of the survey is to obtain citizen input concerning preference for the design of Interstate 70 through Glenwood Canyon.

Three artists' conceptions of possible designs have been developed and participants will be asked for their opinions on the design which they would most prefer. The Division of Highways contracted the survey to SRI Community Response of Colorado, Inc. a Denver-based research firm.

The results of the survey will be used in helping to make the decision on the most acceptable design based on the desires of the citizenry.

The survey will be conducted by personal interview. Each interview will last approximately ten to twelve minutes. Citizens will be selected at random and will be asked to participate in the survey.

Two hundred and fifty persons representing different households will be interviewed from Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, Gypsum, and Eagle communities. In addition, 100 persons from Grand Junction and the Denver Metropolitan area will be selected to be interviewed. The

survey will determine the desires of the citizenry concerning the existing concept designs and will explore additional alternatives that the citizenry feels are important.

The interviewers will leave a brochure with each interviewee which lists the schedule of public meetings and a telephone number than can be called for additional information.

If by chance you are selected to be interviewed, the Division of Highways hopes that you will take time to let your opinions and preferences be known. Only through YOUR input can the best concept design be selected.

Public involvement to be emphasized

Sincere and strenuous efforts are soon to begin to insure public involvement in design decisions to be made before detailed design of I-70 through Glenwood Canyon can commence. Preliminaries are expected to take at least a year.

A community attitude survey will sample citizen opinion beginning in April. Details of that effort are described elsewhere in this newsletter.

A Glenwood Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee will soon be empaneled to assist and advise staff personnel and outside consultants during deliberations of design concepts. The process of choosing that committee is described in a separate article.

This newsletter will be issued monthly to keep people tuned in on progress.

Beginning in April, a series of public meetings and workshops will be scheduled at various times, including evening sessions, and week-end sessions, if desired by persons not able to attend during the week. Purpose of the meetings is to familiarize everyone with design