Interstate 11 Northern Nevada Alternatives Analysis
Las Vegas to Interstate 80

March 2018

Meeting Locations:
Las Vegas
Tonopah
Hawthorne
Fallon
Reno
Carson City

Brian Sandoval
Governor

Rudy Malfabon
Director

Nevada Department of Transportation
1263 S. Stewart Street
Carson City, NV 89712

ALL INFORMATION PRESENTED IS CONCEPTUAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE
WELCOME!

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is in the process of evaluating potential alternative corridors for the future Interstate 11 (I-11). The goal of this Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) process is to advance the congressionally designated I-11 corridor of US 95 between Las Vegas and I-80 as identified in the I-11 Intermountain and West Corridor Study (2014). This will help NDOT to strategically plan to best advance this important transportation investment over time and inform future actions by both NDOT and federal land agencies. NDOT would like feedback from the community about the alternative corridors under consideration as well as the analysis process.

The alternative corridors presented as part of this study are preliminary and may be further evaluated under future studies and environmental processes.

This meeting is being held in an open house format. Project representatives will give a brief presentation followed by a short question and answer period from the audience. Project representatives will be available to answer questions before and after the presentation. During this meeting, and through Friday, April 13, 2018, your comments are welcome regarding this project.

WAYS TO GIVE US YOUR COMMENTS:

- **TODAY (IN PERSON):** During the open house, you may make an oral statement to the court reporter that will be available throughout the hearing.
- **TODAY (IN WRITING):** You may fill out the comment form attached to this handout and deposit it in the comment box or give the completed form to one of the project representatives.
- **BY MAIL:** You may write a letter or mail your completed comment form and any exhibits; these will become part of the official public record for the project. Mail your comments to: Kevin Verre, Project Manager, Nevada Department of Transportation, 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712.
- **BY E-MAIL:** E-mail your comments to kverre@dot.nv.gov Please reference this project in the subject line. E-mail comments will also be accepted until 5 p.m., April 13, 2018.

Thank you for attending this meeting and for giving us your comments.

Sincerely,

Kevin Verre
I-11 PEL Project Manager
Nevada Department of Transportation
I-11 Northern Nevada Alternatives Analysis
Planning and Environmental Linkages
Public Information Meetings
March 2018

Presentation Topics

» I-11 Background
» Purpose of I-11 PEL
» Alternatives Analysis
» Opportunities for Comment
» Wrap Up
I-11 Background

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)
The CANTALEX Trade Corridor, connecting Mexico and Canada, was included in the ISTEA highway bill, which established a new priority Corridor in part to address the need for a corridor between Phoenix and Las Vegas. The I-11 corridor, which included a route connecting Las Vegas and Reno.

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
Establishing trade and manufacturing opportunities between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, increased the importance of investing in a north-south connection in the Intermodal West.

National Highway System
A proposal in ISTEA Congress formally established the National Highway System, which allowed individual states to receive funding for interstate improvements.

I-11 and Intermountain West Corridor Study
Arizona and Nevada initiated the I-11 Corridor on US 93 between Williams and Las Vegas, and defined a route corridor for further study from Williams to Hualapai, and from Las Vegas to NV 160.

Fostering America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act
The FAST Act designates a route extended south to Hualapai and Las Vegas to NH 160 federal transportation legislation.

I-11 Northern Nevada Alternatives Analysis
An advanced study of the Northern Nevada corridor is under consideration in the I-11 and Intermountain West Corridor Study. This includes alternative development, analysis, and evaluation of corridor options between Las Vegas and NV 160, including an updated Planning and Environmental Clearance (PEC) document, with the goal of identifying recommended corridors to advance to future NEM studies.

I-11 Corridor Background

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)
Future plans for Phoenix to Las Vegas is designated in federal transportation legislation.

WE ARE HERE

1991
1994
1995
2013
2014
2015
2016
2018

Future I-11 Corridor

I-11 Corridor Tier 1 EIS
Final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process begins on the I-11 Corridor Study, from Phoenix to Las Vegas. It includes a draft and final selecting a Preferred Corridor Alternative.

I-11 Future Corridor

Future I-11 from Phoenix to Las Vegas is designated in federal transportation legislation.
I-11 and Intermountain West Corridor Study

- Joint NDOT/ADOT study (2014)
  - Detailed corridor planning: Las Vegas to Phoenix
  - High level connectivity planning in No. Nevada and So. Arizona

- Study recommended connection through Western Nevada, generally following US 95 corridor; no specific routes developed

**Western Nevada I-11 Corridor recommendation approved by NDOT Transportation Board and led to Congressional designation of I-11 between Las Vegas and I-80**

Ongoing I-11 Corridor Planning

- NDOT/RTCSNV Boulder City Bypass
  - Construction underway; Phase 1 open, Phase 2 to be complete 2018

- NDOT Southern Nevada Traffic Study (ongoing)
  - Study to evaluate needs and improvement strategies for all Las Vegas freeways

- ADOT US 93 Corridor Projects
  - Improving 200-mile corridor into 4-lane, limited access highway

- ADOT Tier 1 EIS (ongoing)
  - NEPA study to determined Selected Alternative, Wickenburg to Nogales
Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL)

Project Development Process

- **PLANNING**
  - Develop and evaluate a wide range of corridor alternatives
  - Document evaluation and outreach process in PEL checklists

- **NEPA**
  - Assess environmental impacts and determine Selected Alternative
  - Define implementation and phasing plan

- **DESIGN**
  - Design roadway improvements
  - Determine cost estimates and obtain necessary permitting

- **RIGHT-OF-WAY**
  - Acquire rights-of-way
  - Advertise construction bid

- **CONSTRUCTION**
  - Construct transportation improvements

Current study

Future potential incremental phases pending funding availability
What is a Planning and Environmental Linkage Study?

- What is PEL?
- How long will it take?
- Public input opportunities?
- What’s the outcome?

The Big Picture – Study Goals

- **Advance** I-11 through a federally recognized, collaborative process to identify the most promising potential corridors
- **Document** issues and opportunities to inform and streamline future NEPA processes
- **Formulate** a plan to advance I-11 over the next 10-20 years
- **Prepare** Nevada with identified corridors for preservation should a federal lands bill advance
Alternatives Analysis

Defining Corridor Alternatives

The I-11 and IWC defined a broad connection between Las Vegas and I-80, establishing the study vicinity for future efforts.

This PEL will identify and screen corridor alternatives within the broad study area, advancing the most feasible alternative(s) into future NEPA studies.

Future NEPA efforts will develop and evaluate specific alignments within proposed alternative(s). A single alignment will be recommended for design and construction.
Alternatives Development Assumptions

- Limited access interstate highway facility, with interchanges for local access (no driveways)
  - Allows travelers to maintain interstate speeds
  - Increases reliability of long-distance travel

- Wide corridor alternatives will be studied that examine route options between the project termini (Las Vegas to I-80)

- Corridor alternatives will be evaluated against each other to determine the most reasonable options for further development

Proposed Corridor Alternatives

- Alternatives connect Las Vegas and I-80 via western Nevada connection
  - Western connection recommended from the I-11 and Intermountain West Corridor Study (2014)
  - Western connection approved by Nevada State Transportation Board as official I-11 Corridor (2014)
  - FAST Act extends I-11 designation from Las Vegas to I-80 generally via US 95 corridor (2015)

- Alternatives include a mix of new/existing corridors, responding to constraints such as topography and protected lands (e.g., forest land)
Proposed Corridor Alternatives

• **Segment A**: improvements to US 95 between northwestern Las Vegas and Tonopah
  - US 95 corridor is the only alternative due to topographical constraints and land management patterns (US Forest Service land, military land)
  - Opportunity to expand/improve US 95 corridor or create new routes
  - New routes intended to complement local towns by providing access, but not impacting main street corridors

Proposed Corridor Alternatives

• **Segment B**: new corridors and/or upgrades to existing routes between Tonopah and I-80
  - Four corridor alternatives (B1 – B4)
  - 7 connection options
    » Will be considered qualitatively
    » Provides connectivity options if segments of main alternatives have major flaws or constraints
**Evaluation Criteria**

- Alternatives will be evaluated against the following criteria
- Alternatives will be compared to each other to determine most feasible options
Opportunities for Comment

**At Today’s Meeting:**
- Review information on display boards and handouts
- Provide written comments on comment forms
- Provide feedback on alternatives on large table maps

*Please submit comments by April 13, 2018*

Throughout the study, everyone can **submit comments** through the following methods:

- **Letters and comment forms**
  - **Kevin Verre**
  - Nevada Department of Transportation
  - 1263 S. Stewart Street
  - Carson City, NV 89712
  - Email: kverre@dot.nv.gov
  - Voicemail: 1-775-888-7712
  - Online: i11study.com/Nevada

**Next Steps**
- Stakeholders and public to provide feedback on alternatives and study area issues/opportunities
- Project team to conduct alternatives evaluation and formulate preliminary recommendation
- Share and obtain feedback on findings of evaluation process
**Comment Form**

Public Information Meeting
Interstate 11 Northern Nevada Alternatives Analysis
March 2018

- Please Print Clearly -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone (Day):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would you like someone to call you to discuss your comment or question?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment/Question:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments will be accepted through 5 p.m., April 13, 2018. Please mail to:
Kevin Verre, Project Manager, at kverre@dot.nv.gov or mail to;
NDOT 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712

Thank you for your time and interest