

TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION

SUMMER 2004

WHAT IS AN RTA?

An RTA is a Rural Transportation Authority. Formation of an RTA would allow the City of Colorado Springs and other local governments to jointly collect revenue for infrastructure maintenance and specifically identified transportation projects. Currently, the City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Manitou Springs, Fountain and Green Mountain Falls are considering a proposal to collect funds for the RTA through a 1-percent sales tax request that must be approved by the voters. State law allows for revenue collection in the form of a sales tax (NOT TO EXCEED 1 cent per dollar) for a Rural Transportation Authority.

WHO WILL DECIDE WHAT GETS DONE?

After months of meetings, the City's Citizen Transportation Advisory Board (CTAB) and the County's Highway Advisory Commission (HAC) developed a list of joint projects identified as priorities for the 55% capital improvements portion of the proposed tax. Specific maintenance and transit projects would be the responsibility of the County and City Public Works Departments to identify and accomplish. Capital projects would be managed by the RTA board, which would likely consist of three County Commissioners, three City Council members, and one elected official from any other community that decides to join the RTA. A strong component of the RTA is a citizen advisory team who would monitor capital projects according to voter decisions.

ONE PLAN

At a joint meeting between the Colorado Springs City Council and El Paso County Commissioners on April 30, 2004, the two voting bodies expressed their support of sending a ballot initiative to the voters in November.

The proposed ballot initiative would form an RTA. It is currently proposed that the RTA be funded by a 1-percent sales tax, broken down as follows:

- 55% roadway capital improvements, as defined by the joint priority list. This portion would sunset after 10 years.
- 35% maintenance
- 10% transit service improvements

State law requires that an RTA be approved by voters.

CTAB

Citizens Transportation Advisory Board was appointed by Colorado Springs City Council in 2003 to evaluate and recommend solutions to transportation problems.
1st Tuesday of each month
Alamo Corp. Center
3 p.m.
Call 385-5542

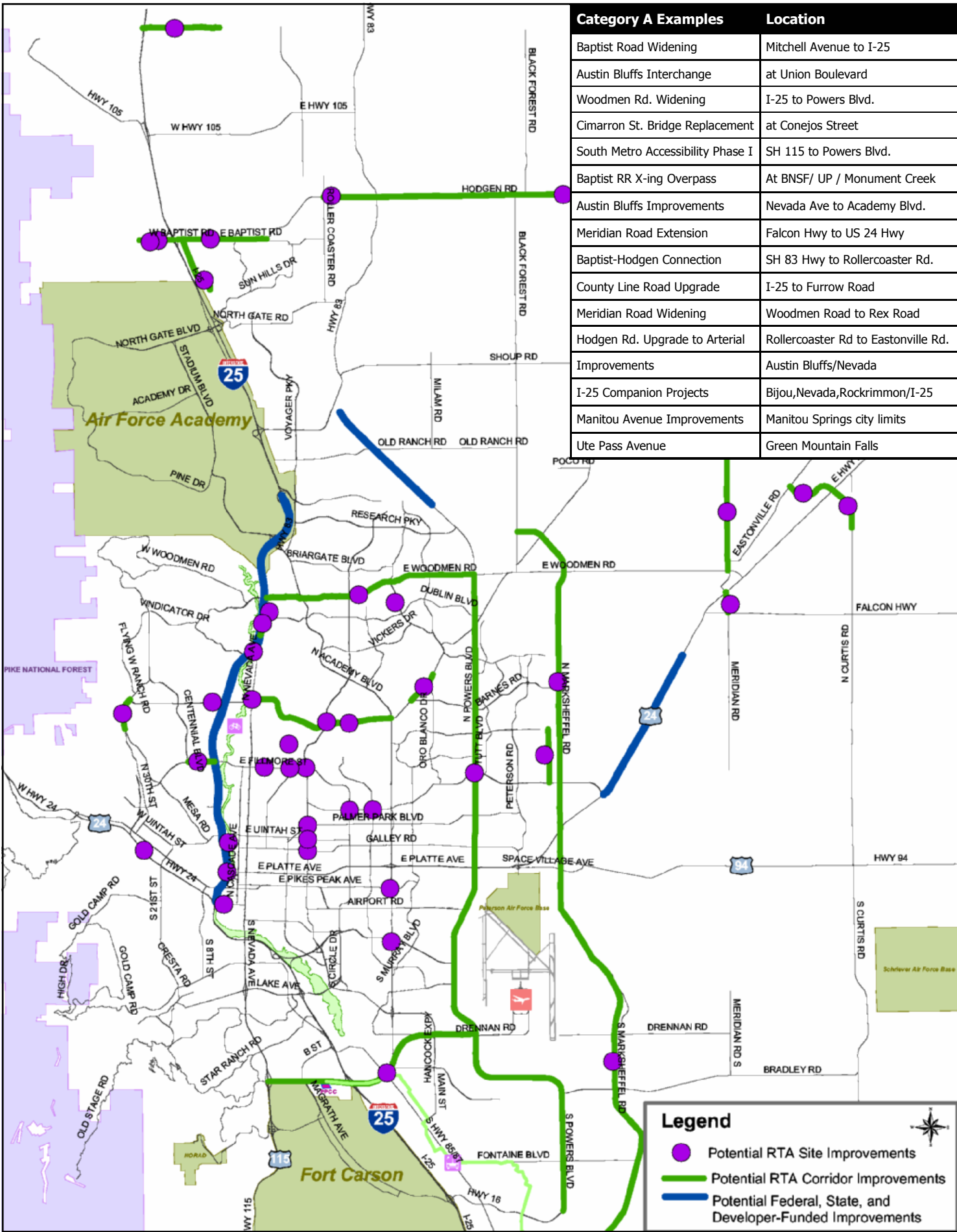
HAC

The Highway Advisory Commission was created to advise the El Paso County Commissioners in transportation policy and philosophy.
3rd Tuesday of each month

Call 520-6460

Visit www.SpringsGov.com and click on Transportation Education for more transportation information.

Category A Examples	Location
Baptist Road Widening	Mitchell Avenue to I-25
Austin Bluffs Interchange	at Union Boulevard
Woodmen Rd. Widening	I-25 to Powers Blvd.
Cimarron St. Bridge Replacement	at Conejos Street
South Metro Accessibility Phase I	SH 115 to Powers Blvd.
Baptist RR X-ing Overpass	At BNSF/ UP / Monument Creek
Austin Bluffs Improvements	Nevada Ave to Academy Blvd.
Meridian Road Extension	Falcon Hwy to US 24 Hwy
Baptist-Hodgen Connection	SH 83 Hwy to Rollercoaster Rd.
County Line Road Upgrade	I-25 to Furrow Road
Meridian Road Widening	Woodmen Road to Rex Road
Hodgen Rd. Upgrade to Arterial	Rollercoaster Rd to Eastonville Rd.
Improvements	Austin Bluffs/Nevada
I-25 Companion Projects	Bijou, Nevada, Rockrimmon/I-25
Manitou Avenue Improvements	Manitou Springs city limits
Ute Pass Avenue	Green Mountain Falls



Legend

- Potential RTA Site Improvements
- Potential RTA Corridor Improvements
- Potential Federal, State, and Developer-Funded Improvements