



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

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To: Marc Engemoen, Public Works Division Director
From: Dale Lockwood, Chair
Date: August 20, 2008
Subject: Owl Canyon Corridor Project

I am writing to thank you and your staff for the update on the Owl Canyon Corridor Project that was provided at our August 12 meeting.

It was clear to the Advisory Board that current traffic levels and maintenance needs indicated that roadway improvements, including paving on the western segment, are needed now. We also understand that the plan is to maintain the corridor as part of the County level transportation system with roadway configuration and speeds designed accordingly.

Our discussions at the meeting noted that the reliance on mostly existing traffic corridors is a positive way to avoid additional environmental impacts. It was the consensus of the Advisory Board that the public process and technical evaluation is on the right track in terms of identifying the most appropriate alternatives. We understand that the next phase of the project will involve more extensive evaluation of three route alternatives that were selected based on the initial analysis, and that a detailed environmental review will be conducted once the final route is selected.

The EAB would be interested in reviewing the final environmental analyses for the selected route. The level of detail available at that stage allows for fine-tuning the roadway design and selection of the most appropriate avoidance or mitigation strategies for protecting sensitive environmental resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed regulation. The EAB appreciates being involved in this important project.

cc: Randy Eubanks, County Commissioner Liaison to the EAB