











TODAY

Describe:

- Open House held January 20, 2004;
- Public Input Received at and subsequent to the Open House, and
- Project Status and Next Steps.







AGENDA

- Recap of Study Purpose and Process
- Overview of Open House #1
- Overview of Public Comments
- Analysis of Public Comments
- Selection of a Preferred Alternative
- Plans for Open House #2 and #3







STUDY PURPOSE

- Primarily Concerns Expressed by the Municipality
- Define Long-Term Highway Improvement Needs
- Identify Corridor Protection Meeting National Highway Standards
- Facilitate the Land Development Approval Process







HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Planning Stages5 – 30 yrs

Preliminary Design 2 – 3 yrs

Detail Design 1 – 2 yrs







STUDY PROCESS

- Project Appraisal
- Develop Preliminary Alternatives
 - Exploring all potential options
 - Open House 1 January 2004
- Select Preferred Alternative
 - Open House 2 June 2004
- Recommended Alternative
 - Open House 3 Fall 2004
- Final Documentation
- Approval by Alberta Transportation







OPEN HOUSE #1

- Provided Background Information
- Explained Technical Objectives (National Highway Standards)
- Identified Stakeholders Contacted
- Identified Constraints
 - Geometric Design Issues, Environmental, Terrestrial, Fish & Wildlife, Water, Historical, Geotechnical







OPEN HOUSE #1

- Progression of Alternates
 - 450 Corridor-Level Options
 - 180 Route-Level Options
 - 4 Base Alternatives North of (1), South of (2) and through Coleman (1)
- Request Input from Public
 - Questionnaire and Comments







PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

- 249 Attendees
 - 101 Questionnaires Returned
 - 68 Comments Returned
- Where Do You Live & Work?
 - 46% live in Coleman, 15% in Blairmore
 - 24% work in Coleman, 38% in Blairmore
- Primary Reason for Travel?
 - 86% Residence and Personal Travel
- How Did You Hear of the Open House?
 - 68% from newspaper ads







PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

Comments

- Route Preference stated by 35%
 - 79% support for South Route
 - 10% support for North Route
 - 7% support for Central Route
 - 4% support for Couplet
- Environmental concerns raised by 32%
 - 67% concerned for wildlife
 - 23% concerned for water quality
 - 10% other concerns
- Property related concerns raised by 10%







PUBLIC INPUT CONCLUSIONS

- There is strong and broad-based public support for a South or South-Central Route
- Wildlife and Water Quality are major concerns to be addressed by the project team
- There is a growing trend of public concern and opposition from local residents who would be affected by a North Route







NEXT STEP: IDENTIFYING THE PREFERRED ALTERNATE

- Four Base Alternates
 - South of Coleman (2 Alternatives)
 - Alignment shift at Sentinel
 - Alignment shift at West end of Coleman
 - North of Coleman (1 Alternative)
 - Through Coleman (1 Alternative)
- Municipal Concepts
- Not all alternates / concepts meet evaluation criteria or perform equally







- Technical and Highway Operations
 - Interchange spacing
 - Grades and Curvature
 - Access Management
 - Performance
 - Staging and Constructability







Environmental/Historical Impacts

- Fish & Wildlife
- Water Resources
- Historical & Heritage Sites
- Geotechnical Considerations

Costs

- Capital Costs (Design & Construction)
- Property Costs







Safety

- Maintenance Issues
- Design Standards

Regional Impacts

- Community Development
- Aesthetics
- Integration with Local Roads







- Property Impacts
 - Existing Properties
 - Potential Growth Areas







NEXT STEPS

- Open House #2
 - Tentatively June 2004
 - Identification of Preferred Alternative
 - Invite Public input and discussion
- Open House #3
 - Tentatively September 2004
 - Presentation of Recommended Plan
 - Invite Public discussion





