



# Provo to Nebo Corridor Study

## BACKGROUND

The Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG) has a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and plans for future transportation projects in Utah County. The plan is updated every four years and contains projects for 30 years into the future.

InterPlan was hired by MAG to perform a corridor study for three transportation corridors in southern Utah County. The three corridors are named the Spanish Fork Connector, the South Connector and the West Connector. These corridors are included as "vision projects" in the MAG RTP and needed after the year 2030.

A corridor study identifies alignments that can be preserved for future transportation projects prior to major land development. When transportation facilities and land use can be planned together the cost and impact to development can be minimized.

## NEED

Population projections and development estimates show southern Utah County growing from approximately 100,000 in 2007 to nearly 300,000 in 2040. Since the projections show a need for the corridor in 2040, it is best to plan for it now. If growth and development do not occur in the area, then the corridor may not be needed.

## PURPOSE AND NEED

- Improve north/south mobility on I-15 through bottleneck and provide alternative
- Serve future planned growth west of I-15
- Connect communities with a major transportation corridor
- Improve direct access to planned commercial centers in Provo to Payson

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The study started in June 2008 with a Transportation Summit to confirm future land uses, update suggested transportation corridors and establish study goals and objectives. Elected officials from the study area were in attendance.

Two Workgroups, one for the northern and one for the southern part of the study area, consisting of professional city and county staff met three times to evaluate alternatives and make recommendations to the Stakeholders' Committee. A Stakeholders' Committee consisting of elected officials from the study area was formed to provide guidance and direction. They met twice

to review the work and recommendations of the Workgroups.

Two Public Open Houses were held to receive public input. The first Open House was held in Payson in October 2008 where the public proposed alignments and commented on environmental issues. The second Open House was held in Spanish Fork in March 2009. More than 180 people attended the meeting and approximately 60 comments were received. Based upon comments received, and additional meetings with property owners, adjustments were made to corridor alignments.



*Open house in Spanish Fork*

## RECOMMENDATION

This corridor study is the first of many steps that will take place over the next 30 years in planning transportation in south Utah County. MAG will recommend to Utah County and the cities that the corridors identified in this study be adopted in their individual transportation master plans through a public process where residents can have input. It also recommends that the jurisdictions assist in preserving the recommended right of way widths for each corridor, as they approve new development.

## WEST CONNECTOR

The study recommends that the West Connector consist of a 240 foot right of way which would provide for a four-lane expressway with transit and a trail.

## MAP OF CORRIDORS

The map on the back shows the three corridors and the final recommended alignments. For additional information, please go to the project website at [www.provotonebo.com](http://www.provotonebo.com)



