

Colorado Forest Highway Long Range Transportation Plan

Vision

To advance Colorado's Forest Highway (FH) network in an efficient manner that facilitates responsible care for the land and allows for quality of life enhancements for the public.

Mission

The Forest Highway Program will:

- Improve transportation mobility and access to and within Colorado's National Forests
- Provide funding, planning, design, and construction
- Work in partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the US Forest Service (USFS), and local communities to achieve four common transportation goals

Goals

1. Access and Mobility

Provide access to Colorado National Forests for public visitation, commercial use, and administrative needs of the USFS and its resources.

Objective 1: Provide and maintain public and commercial access to USFS lands by funding improvements for transportation facilities that provide appropriate access (*ADT*)

Objective 2: Provide mode choice opportunities to improve mobility and access to Colorado's National Forests (*bicycle lanes, sidewalks, pedestrian trails, travel time*)

Objective 3: Coordinate with other local, regional and state transportation plans and priorities. Ensure consistency with other transportation plans (this may be an eligibility criteria rather than an objective)

2. System Performance

Ensure a safe and reliable transportation network to and within Colorado's National Forests.

Objective 1: Improve roadway safety (*accident data*)

Objective 2: Maintain or improve the condition of the transportation facilities (*pavement condition, bridge sufficiency ratings*)

Objective 3: Construct all new transportation facilities that meet or exceed the current state-of-the-industry design standards for useful life (*CDOT design standards, AASHTO design guidelines for bicycle and pedestrian facilities*)

3. Funding and Economic Development

Discover innovative ways to fund FH projects and to support economic development opportunities to the local, regional, and national level

Objective 1: Create partnerships with other public and private agencies or programs to provide additional funding to extend the benefits of the FH Program (*multiple funding sources*)

Objective 2: Improve long-term monetary benefits in terms of maintenance and user cost reductions (*maintenance burden*)

Objective 3: Support economic development in terms of tourism and recreational travel and utilization of natural resources (*local timber, tourism*)

4. Natural Resource Protection

Maintain leadership in protecting and enhancing the natural environment associated with the USFS and its renewable resources.



Objective 1: Ensure that transportation facilities are developed in harmony with the natural environment or minimize impacts to the health of USFS resources (*potential unique resources*)

Objective 2: Use transportation resources as a tool to achieve Forest Plan objectives including visitor management and natural resource protection (*describe visitor/resource conflicts*)

