

U.S. 95 THORNCREEK ROAD TO MOSCOW

FEBRUARY 2006

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

Thanks to all of you who attended the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project open houses, hosted by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). The open houses were held Wednesday, Jan. 18 and Thursday, Jan. 19, 2006 at the Eastside Marketplace in Moscow.

Nearly 600 people signed in and more than 400 comments were received at the open houses. ITD is planning to provide a brief overview of the January open houses at the Feb. 14 breakfast meeting. Once it is complete, a summary of the comments will be posted to the project Web site and included in the newsletter.

The open houses provided an opportunity for the public to learn about the project and the 10 alternatives/alignments that have been studied. At the open houses, ITD presented the environmental studies and the alternatives/alignments it recommends for further study.

To see the displays presented at the meeting, the alternatives/alignments recommended for further study, and the environmental reports, visit the project Web site.

U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Profile: Rosemary B. Curtin

Rosemary B. Curtin is conducting the public involvement for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project.

Rosemary is the president and founder of a Boise-based company, Rosemary Brennan Curtin, Inc. (RBCI). RBCI incorporated in 1998. Rosemary has been conducting public involvement processes for 15 years.

Public involvement is important to the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and to the environmental review process. To begin this project, RBCI and ITD conducted interviews with community members in the Moscow area in summer 2004.

The purpose of the interviews was to learn how to best engage the community and help ITD develop a public involvement plan for this project.

Interview participants emphasized that a high level of public involvement that included the entire community was necessary. Other suggestions included:

- Regular and frequent communications with the community
- Presenting all technical information and making it available for review
- Clear explanations of why alignments were eliminated from further consideration
- Small group meetings

Using this information, Rosemary and the ITD project team developed the public involvement process for this project, which includes:

- Sending monthly newsletters and hosting monthly breakfast meetings that feature technical experts
- Developing and maintaining a project Web site
- Hosting two-day public meetings and open houses to present information
- Hosting two-day workshops that allow community members to review information and discuss ideas
- Mailing postcard invitations to all residents of Moscow and Genesee to notify them of key public opportunities

A summary of the community interviews and the public involvement plan are on the Web site.

Rosemary said ITD remains committed to a high level of public involvement for this project. "I have enjoyed getting to know this community and encourage everyone to stay involved with this project."



Rosemary B. Curtin is the scheduled speaker for the February breakfast meeting. The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 14 from 7 to 8 a.m. at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant, 414 Main St., in Moscow.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST MEETING

Monthly breakfast meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant, 414 N. Main Street in Moscow. The next breakfast meeting will be held Feb. 14.

Rosemary B. Curtin, who is conducting the public involvement for this project, is the scheduled speaker. A profile of Rosemary and her work is inside this newsletter.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The contractor has shut down major construction activities for the winter on the Top of Lewiston Hill to Genesee and the Genesee to Thorncreek Road projects. However, some storm water drainage work will continue. More construction updates will appear as the projects become active in the spring.

KIOSK MOVED TO MOSCOW CITY HALL

The U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project information kiosk is now located at Moscow City Hall, 206 East Third Street. Staffing days and times have also changed to:

Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The kiosk staff person can answer questions about the project. The kiosk is updated regularly and contains project information including newsletters, brochures and notices of upcoming events.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Web site: www.itd.idaho.gov/GetInvolved/D2/ and click on U.S. 95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, Stage 1
- Email: thorncreekroadtomoscow@itd.idaho.gov
- Call: ITD Project Manager Ken Helm at 799-5090

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