

U.S. 95 THORNCREEK ROAD TO MOSCOW

OCTOBER 2005

FOLLOW-UP TO OCTOBER BREAKFAST MEETING

Thanks to all who attended the Oct. 11 monthly breakfast meeting and heard Miguel Gaddi from HDR Engineering discuss the socio-economic study of the project area. We appreciate your interest in the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project.

Several people who attended the breakfast meeting raised questions and concerns about the socio-economic study. ITD is reviewing those issues and addressing them.

At the breakfast meeting on December 13, Miguel Gaddi will return to continue the discussion about the socio-economic study and answer questions.

U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Profile: Donald Blacketter



Donald Blacketter is conducting a wind study for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project.

This study is being conducted because members of the public have expressed concern about the effect of wind on vehicles traveling on the proposed corridors.

The concern is that in areas with significant "cut and fill," the effect of wind moving up the side slope could increase in velocity and cause sideways force and uplift force, causing vehicles to lose traction, resulting in accidents.

In order to do his work, Blacketter is looking for studies conducted in other states and locations to see if research has been performed under similar conditions.

He will also conduct preliminary calculations based on a variety of wind speeds on general vehicle shapes to determine the general wind loads on vehicles. These calculations will not address specific alternative/alignments or vehicle types, but will provide general information.

Following this preliminary work, Blacketter will do a more detailed analysis involving specific vehicles and locations.

Blacketter will discuss his research methods and answer questions at the November breakfast meeting.

Blacketter is the chair and professor of the Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Idaho. He has been at the university for 17 years.

The November breakfast meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant, 414 Main St. in Moscow. Don will speak and answer questions from 7 to 8 a.m.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

TOP OF LEWISTON HILL TO GENESEE

- The contractor is working on the subgrade and hauling rock cap, which is the first layer of rock above the subgrade
- The U.S. 95 spur into Genesee is not expected to reopen until early 2006
- The first lift of paving on the northbound lanes is expected to be complete in early November

GENESEE TO THORNCREEK ROAD

- Paving the northbound lanes is expected to be complete in October
- Traffic will be switched to the new northbound lanes after the paving is completed so crews can begin the subgrade preparation for the southbound lanes



The contractor is preparing to pave the south end of the Top of Lewiston Hill to Genesee project.

KIOSK LOCATED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

The information kiosk for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project is located at the University of Idaho on the second floor of the Idaho Commons Building at the south end of the building.

The kiosk is staffed two days a week by someone who can answer questions about the project. Staffing days and times are:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5 p.m.

The kiosk is updated regularly and contains project information including newsletters, brochures and notices of upcoming events.

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 Nov. 8.

The breakfast meeting topic will be the wind study in the project area. Donald Blackletter, professor and chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Idaho is conducting the study and is the scheduled speaker.

Due to questions and concerns raised by attendees at the last breakfast meeting, Miguel Gaddi from HDR Engineering will return to discuss the socio-economic study of the project in December.

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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