

Environmental Justice

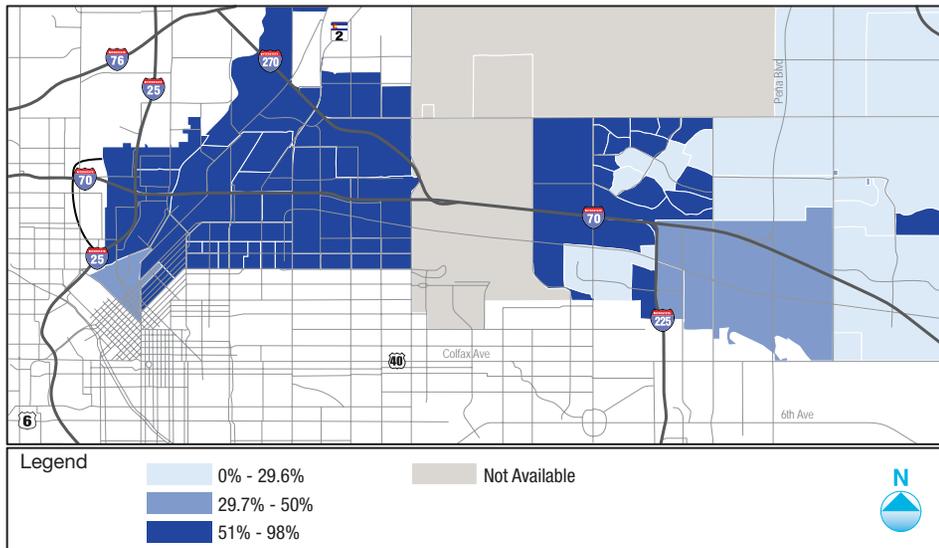
(More detail can be found in Section 5.3 of the DEIS)

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, culture, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws and policies. Each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations (Executive Order 12898).

The analysis for the DEIS must take into consideration the multiplying impact of the project on each resource and determine if the overall impacts to low-income and minority populations would be disproportionate, in total, compared to these same impacts experienced by other populations.

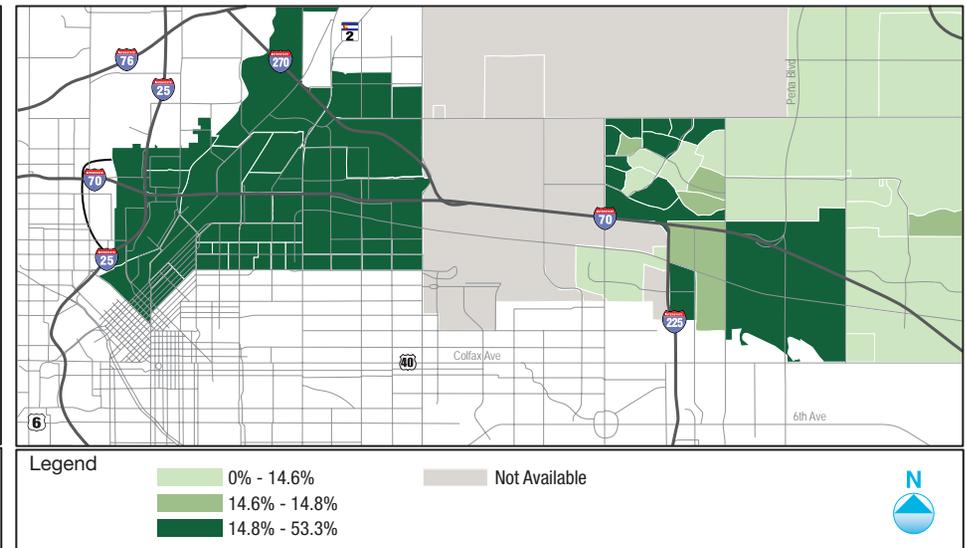
Composition of Existing Corridor Populations.

Minority Population Percentages



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2003a), Summary File 1, P8 (Hispanic or Latino by Race).
Note: 29.6 percent is the average for the Denver area (Denver PMSA)

Low-Income Population Percentages



Source: Calculated using HUD (2004) and U.S. Census Bureau (2002)
Note: 14.6 percent is the average for the Denver PMSA and 14.6 is the average for Colorado

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Low-income and minority populations would be impacted by all project alternatives for the following resources:

- Social and Economic Conditions
- Land Acquisition
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Hazardous Materials
- Construction

Additional details on the resources listed above (including impacts and mitigation measures) are described on accompanying exhibits throughout the open house. The distribution of adverse impacts from these resources are primarily to low-income and minority populations.

Mitigation

Since environmental justice incorporates impacts from other resources, mitigation measures related to these other resources apply. For example, mitigation measures for environmental justice include:

- During construction, information about road closures and access restrictions will be distributed using several types of media (radio, Internet, posting notices at local community facilities, etc.) and forms of notification will be in English and Spanish.

This is your opportunity to review the mitigation for each resources listed above and propose other mitigation opportunities to reduce impacts.

Impact and mitigation example from the DEIS

Alternative	Number of Units		Percentage Minority	Percentage Low-Income
	Elyria and Swansea	Commerce City		
No-Action North	22	0	93%	28%
No-Action South	24	0	94%	43%
Alternative 1 North	93	0	91%	26%
Alternative 1 South	64	0	93%	46%
Alternative 3 North	93	0	91%	26%
Alternative 3 South	64	0	93%	46%
Alternative 4 West	18	0	95%	30%
Alternative 4 East	53	0	89%	27%
Alternative 6 West	18	8	85%	28%
Alternative 6 East	53	8	87%	27%
Known Mitigation			Effects With Mitigation	
Per the Uniform Act, financial assistance will be provided to homeowners and renters to relocate. Homeowners and renters are advised of their rights and entitlements under the Uniform Act. Benefits available to displacees in moving from their current residence include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement housing payments for owners when the amount offered for their current home will not be enough money to get them into a similar home. • Rental assistance payment, which can also be used for a down payment on a residence. • Incidental expenses, which are payments made to the owner for expenses incurred during closing. • Moving costs, which are based on estimates from movers or determined by number of rooms being moved. • Mortgage differential payments to offset the difference in interest rates on the new mortgage. 			Homeowners would receive just compensation. Relocation assistance would be provided. Renters may have opportunities to become homeowners.	

Environmental Justice

(continued)

Public Involvement Efforts

The public involvement process was designed to allow the community an opportunity to comment on the range of issues, impacts, and alternatives being addressed in the EIS, as well as identify impacts of particular concern. Specific outreach programs were designed to reach these populations along the project corridor.

A variety of tools were used to solicit input and involvement from stakeholders. Some of these tools included:

- Meeting notifications distributed through diverse outlets such as neighborhood/regional newspapers
- Flyers for project announcements distributed to area residences and businesses
- Announcements at faith-based organizations
- Dedicated project website
- Opening an office within the corridor
- Employment of neighborhood residents for outreach efforts
- Use of local businesses to cater meetings and to provide translation services and childcare
- Door-to-door outreach in specific neighborhoods
- Community meetings conveniently located within neighborhoods that may be impacted
- Working group meetings

During the development of the Final EIS, additional outreach will be conducted to further develop mitigation measures for environmental justice and the community.