



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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PPRTA to launch next step of Austin Bluffs Corridor Project

The Pikes Peak Regional Transportation Authority (PPRTA) and the City of Colorado Springs are launching the next phase of the Austin Bluffs Corridor Project, which will include a planning and design effort to support future construction that will widen three different segments of the road.

The project team will kick off the public participation process with an open house meeting on Thursday, Sept. 24, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Calvary United Methodist Church at 4210 Austin Bluffs Parkway. The purpose of the meeting is to share updated information and gather community issues, concerns and knowledge of the corridor.

For Austin Bluffs Parkway to become a consistent six-lane roadway, the following segments will be widened:

- Nevada Avenue to Union Boulevard
- Union Boulevard to Meadowland Boulevard
- Barnes Road to Old Farm Drive

Austin Bluffs Parkway is a critical part of cross-town, east-west mobility. Several studies, plans and initiatives have defined and verified the need to improve the road to alleviate current and future congestion.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.austinbluffscorridor.com. Those interested in further information may also call the project hotline at (719) 302-6782 or send an e-mail to austinbluffs.info@wilsonco.com.

The Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority was formed when voters in Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls and El Paso County approved a one percent sales tax in November of 2004 to address infrastructure and transit needs in the region. The tax revenue is divided into three categories: 55% capital improvements, 35% maintenance, and 10% transit. The capital portion of the tax (which is funding the Austin Bluffs Corridor Improvements) will sunset in 2014.

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