

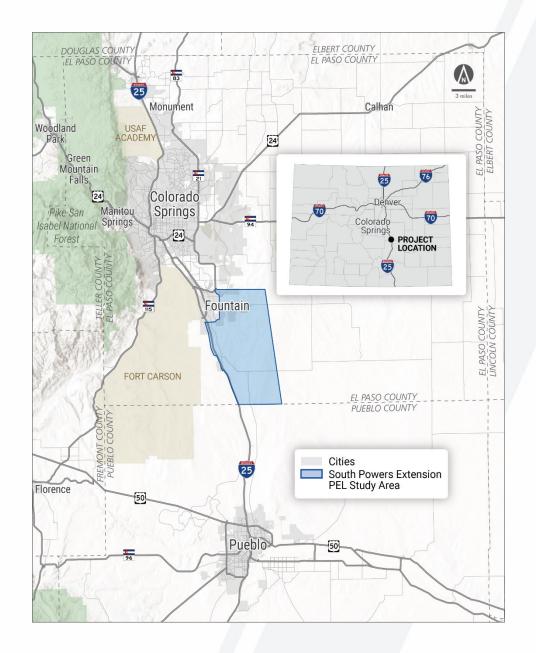
Project History and Location

Since 1963, Powers Boulevard was planned as an alternate route for I-25 along the eastern edge of the City of Colorado Springs. Powers Boulevard is a critical corridor supporting local, regional, and national transportation needs. It is a crucial component of the Region's Congestion Management Plan by providing:

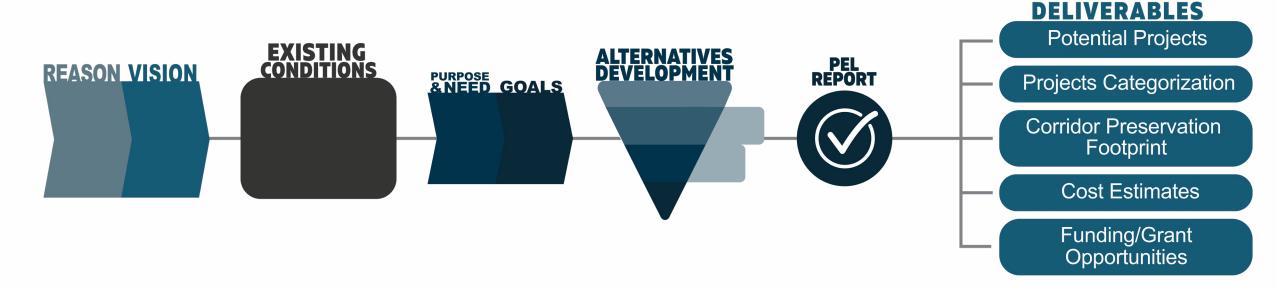
- access to five major military installations
- north/south thoroughfare connectivity for the rapidly developing eastern edge of the City of Colorado Springs
- direct access to the City of Colorado Springs Airport and its surrounding business park.

While it is anticipated that South Powers Boulevard would begin as a locally-owned, El Paso County road, it is expected that the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will eventually obtain it as a state highway once it connects to I-25.

Regional partners (El Paso County/Fountain/Colorado Springs/CDOT/Federal Highway Administration/Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments) continued to work together during this Study to plan for the South Powers Boulevard corridor. This study will help preserve the corridor, identify limited access points to the highway, plan for bike and pedestrian use and crossings of the corridor, and provide predictability to upcoming development.



PEL Process



Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) PEL is a study process which identifies transportation needs, priorities, and environmental concerns.

This PEL study process is the first step in understanding critical transportation problems and needs for the South Power Extension Corridor. A PEL study facilitates the decision-making process by:

- Identifying efficient and cost-effective solutions to improve transportation
- Promoting environmental stewardship
- Minimizing duplication of effort
- Reducing delays in project implementation