

FREMONT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERS SDS: The [Southern Delivery System](#) (SDS) project team presented to the Fremont County Planning Commission last night as part of the Fremont County Special Review Use Permit (SRUP) Application process for the [Hwy 115 Alternative](#) (Alt.7).

Representing the three partner communities, Colorado Springs Utilities presented a project summary identifying why SDS is important, project facilities planned to be constructed, mitigation measures to be implemented and benefits to Fremont County.

The Highway 115 alternative remains our second best option to deliver water to our community, if we are unable to get a permit with acceptable conditions from Pueblo County. The SDS project team communicated its commitments to Fremont County if SDS is built in their community including:

- Fremont County won't pay for SDS
- Disturbed land will be restored
- Landowners will be fairly compensated
- SDS won't harm water supply or flows in the Arkansas River

The benefits to Fremont County include hundreds of millions of dollars worth of construction that will occur in the county, construction jobs, and the procurement of goods and services associated with SDS.

"We are pleased that Fremont County officials and residents are interested in learning more about the project," said John Fredell, SDS Project Director. "The Highway 115 alternative is a very viable option."

The Planning Commission voted to table their decision until Jan. 6, 2009, in order to conduct additional review of the information contained in the application, to further review mitigations, and to more clearly define the limits of authority and criteria to be considered by the Planning Commission in rendering their decision. Once this review is completed, the Planning Commission will vote on its recommendations to pass the project forward to the Fremont County Commissioners for a formal public hearing.

Fredell added, "This is a significant project in its size and scope and it's understandable that they want time to review it. We look forward to continued conversations and opportunities to answer their questions."

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