

**El Paso County News Release**  
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**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Julie Johnson**  
Public Communications Specialist  
Phone: 520-7324  
JulieJohnson@elpasoco.com

**Groundbreaking Ceremony for Woodmen Road Expressway Scheduled for Feb. 21**

**Colorado Springs, Feb. 6, 2008** – The El Paso County Board of Commissioners recently approved funding for the Woodmen Road Improvements Capacity Project, paving the way for a groundbreaking ceremony to be held on Feb. 21 at 1 p.m.

The ceremony, sponsored by the El Paso County Department of Transportation, along with the Woodmen Road Metropolitan District, Wilson & Company and R.E. Monks Construction Company, will take place at the northeast corner of Woodmen Road and Mohawk Road to celebrate the start of the construction of the Woodmen Road Expressway. To attend, RSVP to Wendy Johnson at 520-6874 or email her at [wendyjohnson@elpasoco.com](mailto:wendyjohnson@elpasoco.com).

“I am so pleased that we are able to begin construction for the making of the Woodmen Road Expressway,” said County Commissioner Wayne Williams, who represents much of the Woodmen Road area. “The expansion of Woodmen Road will help to alleviate traffic congestion and help to better serve the public. The Woodmen Road corridor serves as one of the most important east-west transportation corridors in the Pikes Peak region and this project will help to maintain Woodmen as a vital link to the region’s transportation system,” he added.

In conjunction with the groundbreaking, the county commissioners passed several resolutions regarding the Woodmen Road Improvements Capacity Project, making it possible for construction to begin.

The first resolution the Board approved, reappropriated 2007 contracts, projects and purchase orders from the Road and Bridge fund balance to the county’s Department of Transportation (DOT) in the amount of \$4,082,169. Reappropriations are items that were not completed in the prior budget year and are available to be reappropriated in 2008.

The second resolution recognizes federal revenue and appropriates expenditures in the amount of \$6,859,033.

DOT will be issuing purchase orders for this project and the funds will come from the reappropriated DOT funds and the federal reimbursement. Woodmen Road Metropolitan District will also provide \$10,700,000 as its match, for a total of \$20,927,085.

Of the \$20 million, \$17,192,201 will be used toward a construction contract with RE Monks Construction Co. LLC for the third phase of the improvement project. This phase consists of roadway and associated capacity improvements within the 6.2 mile Woodmen Road corridor between Powers Boulevard and state Highway 24. The remaining funds will be used for utility relocations and other project related costs.

Woodmen Road connects Interstate 25 to the west, Academy and Powers Boulevards and Highway 24 to the east. It provides public access to numerous residential subdivisions and businesses within El Paso County and the city of Colorado Springs.

This project consists of design improvements to Woodmen Road from Powers Boulevard to state Highway 24, including field surveying, final roadway completion, bridge, drainage and traffic design, environmental support and permitting, right-of-way plans, utility potholing, geotechnical engineering, and the addition of bicycle lanes.