

Residents along Old Pueblo Road request that the EPC Commissioners instruct Powers Extension program manager, Howard Schwartz, to choose option H3 or other southerly proposals and cancel consideration of option E3.

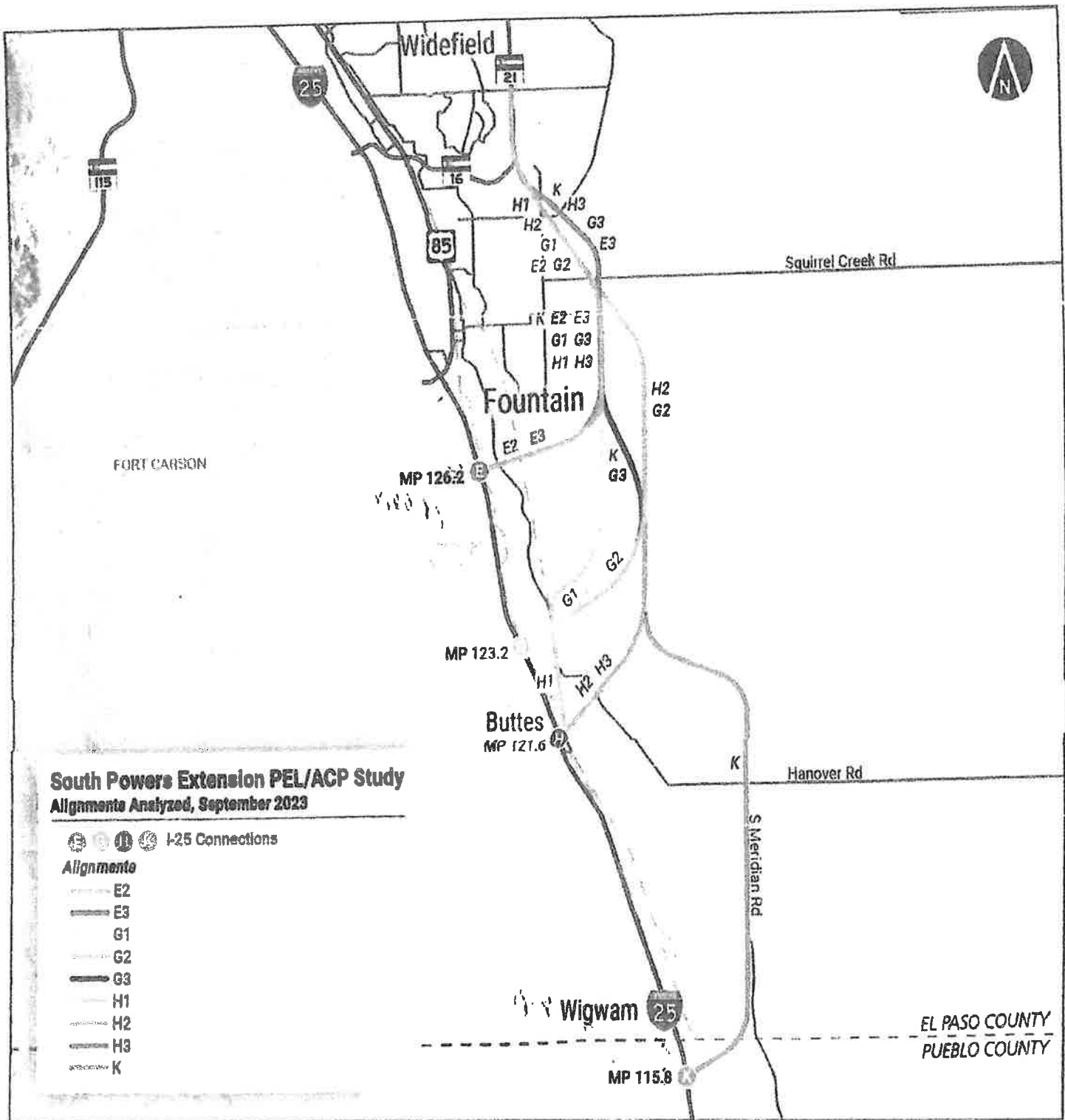
We have submitted and recorded a petition stating the same received by EPC Jan 23, 2024.

Thank you for your time.

Eric and Susan Ecklund
Owners, Wedgewood Farms LLC
13030 Old Pueblo Rd
719-963-8432cP

Attached:

1. Original map of EPC Powers Extension options sent to residents.
2. Petition signed by 30 Old Pueblo Rd residents



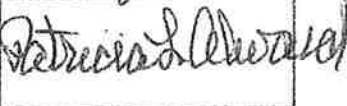
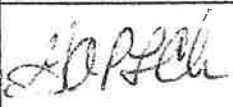
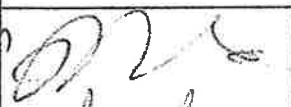
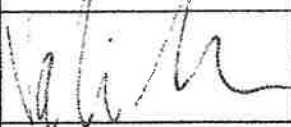
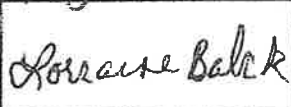
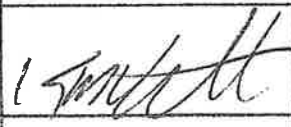
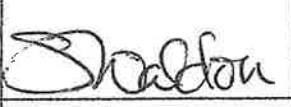
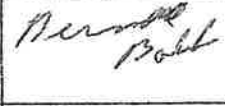
Petition Against South Powers Extension Route Option "E"

We, the signors of this Petition, do not support El Paso County's proposed extension of South Powers Boulevard as depicted on what is marked "Route E" on preliminary planning map, a copy of which is attached to this Petition. We, signors, request the County eliminate Option E from consideration in light of all of the reasons set forth herein, and in the public interest, and instead continue to pursue and study various alternative routes, such as those proposed that place the I-25 connection to the south of the existing homes along Old Pueblo Road. The undersigned provide the following arguments in support of this Petition.

- Existing, viable alternatives proposed by the County include those routes marked as "G and H", with multiple routes (County's labeled G1, G2, G3, H1, H2, H3) between Squirrel Creek Road and I-25 ramps (the "Proposed Alternative Routes").
- The Proposed Alternative Routes will preserve the current state of Fountain Creek for adjacent landowners.
- One such option, Route H, terminates at existing I-25 interchange near the Pikes Peak International Raceway, reducing land acquisition and potentially infrastructure costs.
- The Proposed Alternative Routes have a substantially less adverse effect upon existing private property owners, both in terms of property values, unsightly infrastructure affecting the same, potential need to demolish or relocate existing homes, and with increased roadway activity that will come with the proposed extension.
- The Proposed Alternative Routes better suit the County's long-term development plans of expansion to the south by providing a further reaching alternative that runs north-south. As an example, the County currently proposes a nearer-term alternative, followed by a longer-term alternative further to the south. The undersigned believe pursuit of only the southern alternative will accomplish all near-term and long-term goals, at a lesser expense to El Paso County taxpayers, and with lesser impacts on those who presently call the area their home.
- Route E directly adversely affects existing residents and property owners, and is likewise closer to planned future developments in and around Fountain, leading to otherwise avoidable congestion as compare to speculative future development further to the south.
- The County's own PEL Study indicates Route E is a "High Crash Severity" area of I-25, and the addition of interchange infrastructure in the proximity of existing residents will only exacerbate such dangers.
- Alternative Route H would utilize an existing I-25 interchange, making the project less costly to El Paso County taxpayers than the proposed Route E which would displace current residents, destroy extensive habitat, require a costly overpass, and increase dangerous traffic flow on an already dangerous stretch of interstate.

As such, the undersigned urge El Paso County staff, consultants, and elected officials to consider the above facts, the available alternatives and the burdens upon El Paso County residents and taxpayers, and to select one of the Proposed Alternative Routes, eliminating Route E from consideration for extension of Powers Boulevard for a southerly connection to I-25.

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