



Public Meeting

**Discuss the Butte Interstate Study
Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

**Open House: 5 - 7 p.m. Presentation: 5:30 p.m.
Lobby - Butte Civic Center
1314 Harrison Avenue, Butte**

The Montana Department of Transportation will discuss the existing conditions along the I-15/I-90 and I-115 interstate system and interchanges within the Butte urban limits. The purpose of the meeting is to present existing and future roadway, traffic and safety deficiencies and discuss developing potential projects and cost estimates to address those deficiencies.

The meeting is open to the public and will be recorded. MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any department service, program or activity. For reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Paul Grant at (406) 444-9415 at least two days before the meeting. For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is (406) 444-7696 or (800) 335-7592, or Montana Relay at 711. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

Comments may be submitted in writing at the meeting, by mail to Jeff Ebert, MDT, PO Box 3068, Butte, MT 59702-3068 or online at www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment_form.shtml. Please indicate comments are for project CN 5098 and submit comments by November 23, 2007.

Lang, Corey E

From: Grant, Paul [pgrant@mt.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 8:03 AM
To: Butte - KXLF TV (E-mail); Butte Weekly; KAAR/KMBR/KXTL; KBOW/KOPR; KMSM; KTVM-TV; KXLF-TV; KXTL-KMBR-KAAR; Montana Standard
Cc: Ebert, Jeff; Lloyd, Miki; Lang, Corey E; Olsen, Joe; Walsh, Joe; Watt Levis, Charity; Grant, Paul; Butte-Silver Bow Government; jresso@aol.com; Butte Silver Bow County Commission; Road Supervisor
Subject: Public meeting to discuss Butte Interstate Traffic Study

October 11, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information:

Jeff Ebert, MDT Butte District Administrator, (406) 494-9600 Miki Lloyd, MDT Project Manager, (406) 444-9200 Corey Lang, PBS&J, (406) 599-1479 Paul Grant, Public Involvement Coordinator, (406) 444-9415

Public meeting to discuss Butte Interstate Traffic Study

Butte - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is holding a public meeting to discuss the Butte Interstate Traffic Study on Tuesday, October 23rd, 2007. The open house meeting will be held at the Butte Civic Center, 1314 Harrison Avenue in Butte. Personnel from MDT and the project consultant team will be available to answer questions and take comments from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with a brief presentation at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the existing conditions along the interstate system (I-15/I-90 and I-115) and interchanges (Rocker, West Butte, Excelsior Ave., Montana St., Harrison Ave., East Butte and Continental Dr.) within the Butte urban limits. Existing and future (2025) roadway, traffic and safety deficiencies will be presented for comments.

The goal of the Butte Interstate Traffic Study is to identify existing deficiencies and develop potential projects to address these deficiencies. The first phase of the project (identify existing deficiencies) is completed and the second phase (identify potential projects and develop initial cost estimates) is just kicking off. Currently there is no funding for any potential projects. This project will develop a long-range planning document for the Butte Interstate system so future funding can be pursued.

Community participation is a very important part of the process, and the public is encouraged to attend. Opinion, comments and concerns may also be submitted in writing at the meeting, by mail to Jeff Ebert, District Administrator, at MDT's Butte district office at PO Box 3068, Butte, MT 59702-3068, or online at www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment_form.shtml. Please indicate comments are for project CN 5098 and submit them by November 23, 2007.

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Project name: Butte Interstate Traffic Study Project ID: IM 0002(672) Control number 5098
Silver Bow County

October 3, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



For more information:

Jeff Ebert, MDT Butte District Administrator, (406) 494-9600

Miki Lloyd, MDT Project Manager, (406) 444-9200

Corey Lang, PBS&J, (406) 599-1479

Paul Grant, Public Involvement Coordinator, (406) 444-9415

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Project name: Butte Interstate Traffic Study
Project ID: IM 0002(672)
Control number 5098
Silver Bow County



Butte Interstate Traffic Study Overview

Presentation for:
Public Open House Meeting #1

October 23, 2007

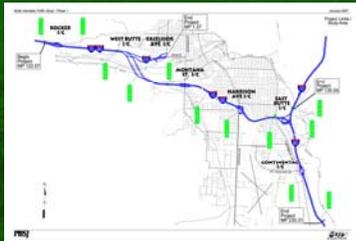
Presentation Outline

- Overall Study Background & Goals
- Present Phase 1 Findings
- Review Phase 2 Elements

Project Background

- 2005 Butte-Silver Bow Transportation Plan Update
 - Committed Project CM4 – Butte Interstate Traffic Study
 - Recommended Committed Project RCM6 – Interstate Collaboration
- Additional projects with interstate access

Study Area



Project Goals

- Analyze existing conditions and identify deficiencies (Phase 1)
- Develop conceptual treatments, cost estimates and prioritize list of projects (Phase 2)
- Provide a long-range planning document for the Butte Interstate system

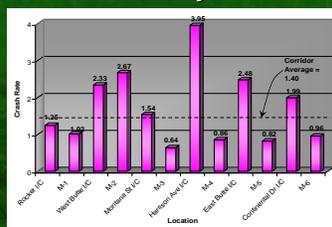
Phase 1 Study Elements

- Safety Analysis
- Traffic Capacity & Operation Analysis
- Noise Study
- Geometric Features

Safety Analysis

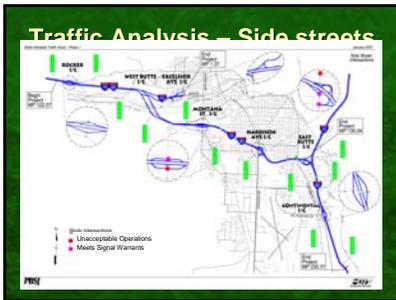
- Reviewed crash data (2001-2005)
 - 442 crashes
 - 128 Injuries
 - 4 fatalities
- 81% were single vehicle crashes
- 58% were weather related
- ~50% caused by inattentive or careless driving

Safety



Traffic Analysis - Interstate

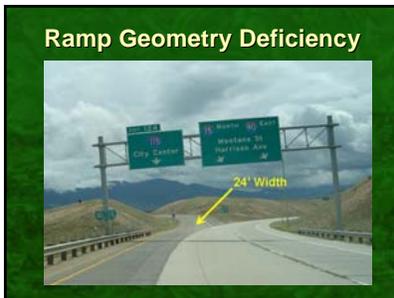
- Interstate Operation Analysis
 - All interstate mainline and merge/diverge areas operate within acceptable standards



- ### Noise Study
- Analyzed existing and future (2025) noise levels
 - Evaluated 83 noise sensitive receptors
 - Several neighborhoods currently experience traffic noise impacts
 - 15 receptors (existing)
 - 18 receptors (future)
 - Noise mitigation and abatement may be considered on future projects

- ### Geometric Features
- Analyzed existing elements, including:
 - Horizontal and vertical alignment
 - Ramp features
 - Interchange/ramp spacing
 - Access
 - Turning movements
 - Intersection sight distance

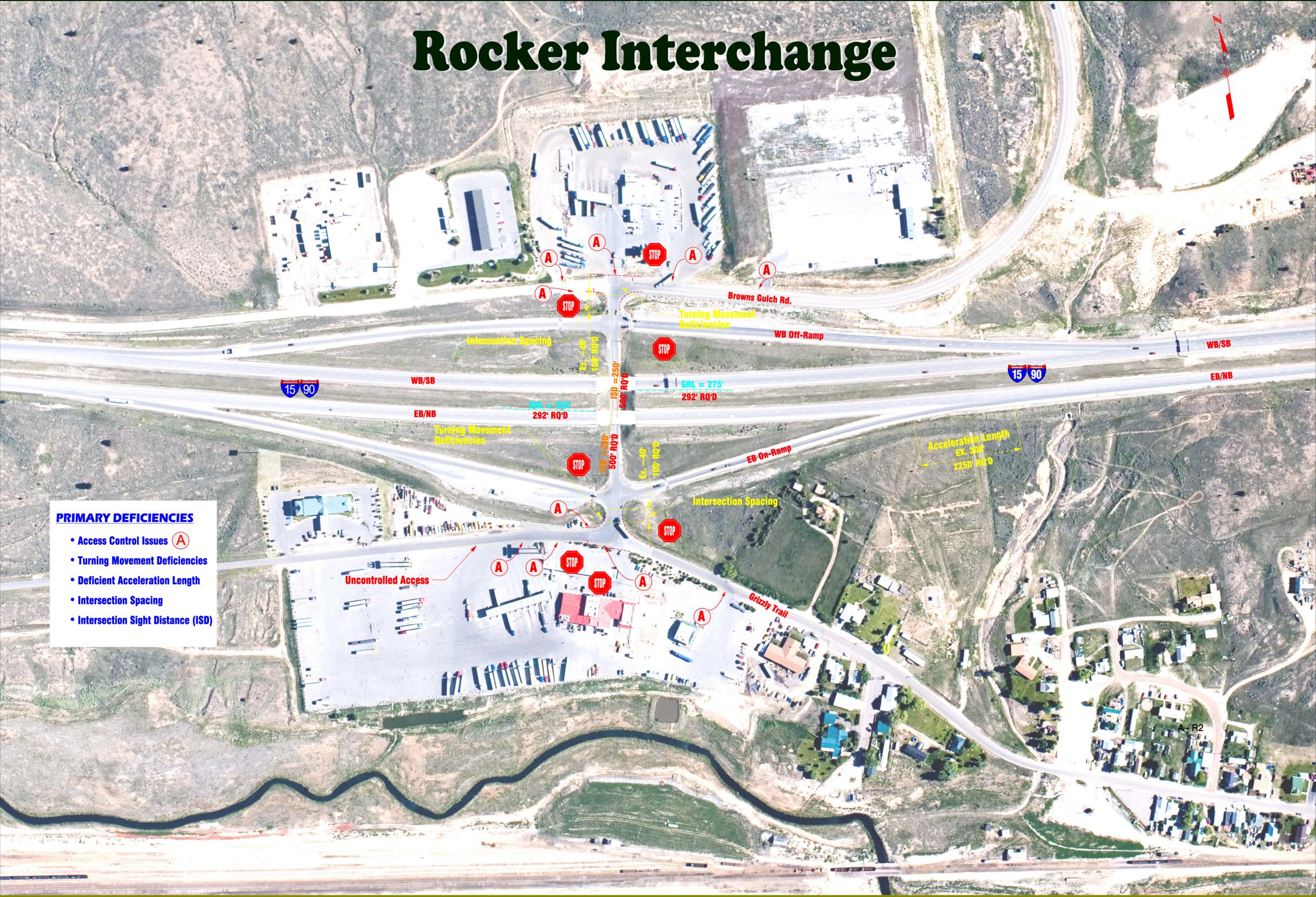
- ### Common Geometric Deficiencies
- Acceleration and Deceleration Length
 - Turning Movements
 - Functionally Obsolete Structures
 - Ramp Geometry
 - Intersection Sight Distance
 - Non-recoverable Side Slopes



- ### Phase 2 Elements
- Public involvement opportunities
 - Develop list of safety/minor projects
 - Develop conceptual designs to address deficiencies identified in Phase 1
 - Prepare cost estimates
 - Prioritize projects
 - Prepare Phase 2 Report
 - Future Steps (Identify funding / MDT programs projects)

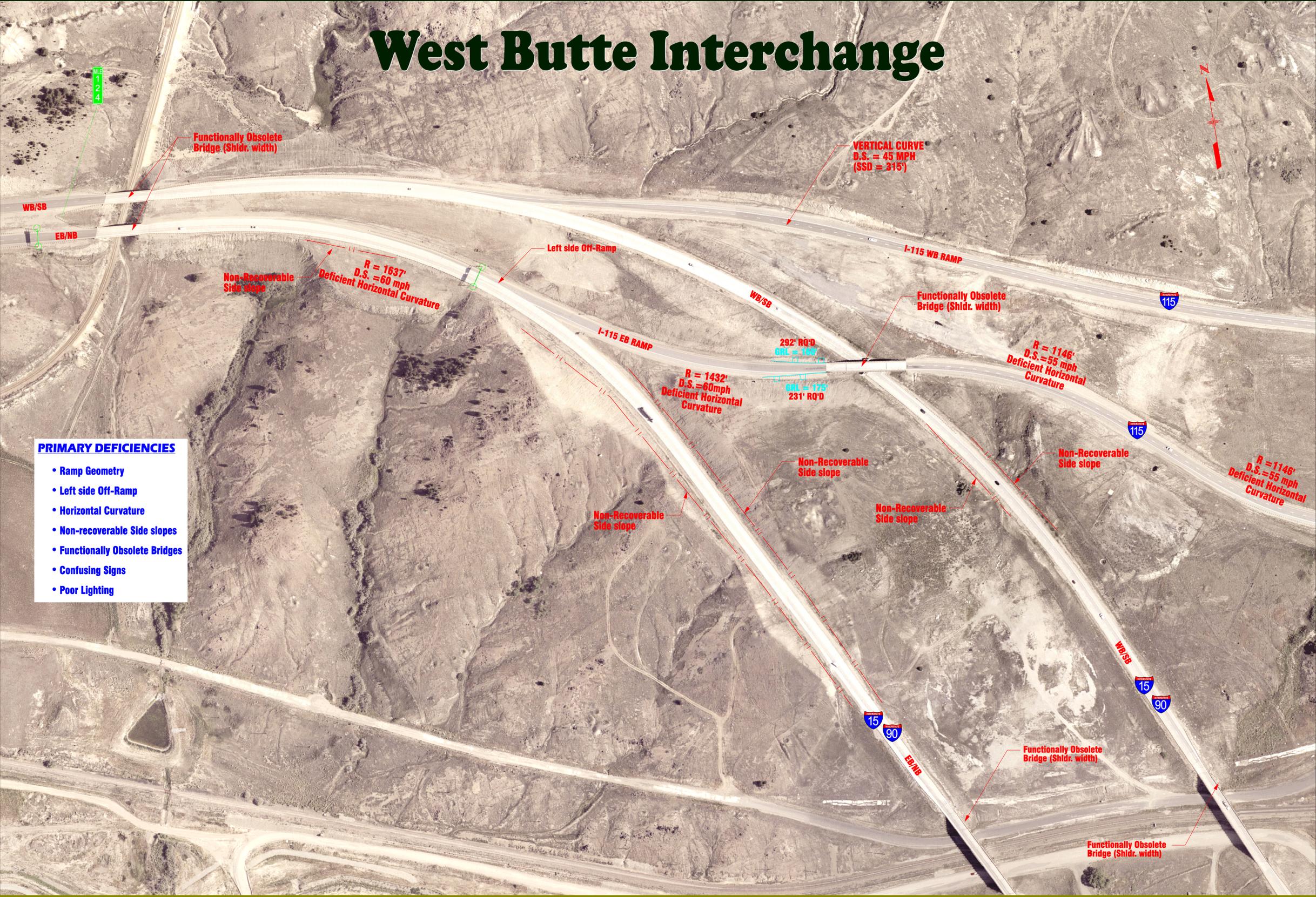
- ### Next Steps
- Develop concept designs / Identify projects – Fall 2007/ Winter 2008
 - Public Open House #2 – Late Spring/Early Summer 2008
 - Complete Phase 2 – Late Summer 2008

Rocker Interchange



- PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES**
- Access Control Issues (A)
 - Turning Movement Deficiencies
 - Deficient Acceleration Length
 - Intersection Spacing
 - Intersection Sight Distance (ISD)

West Butte Interchange



- PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES**
- Ramp Geometry
 - Left side Off-Ramp
 - Horizontal Curvature
 - Non-recoverable Side slopes
 - Functionally Obsolete Bridges
 - Confusing Signs
 - Poor Lighting

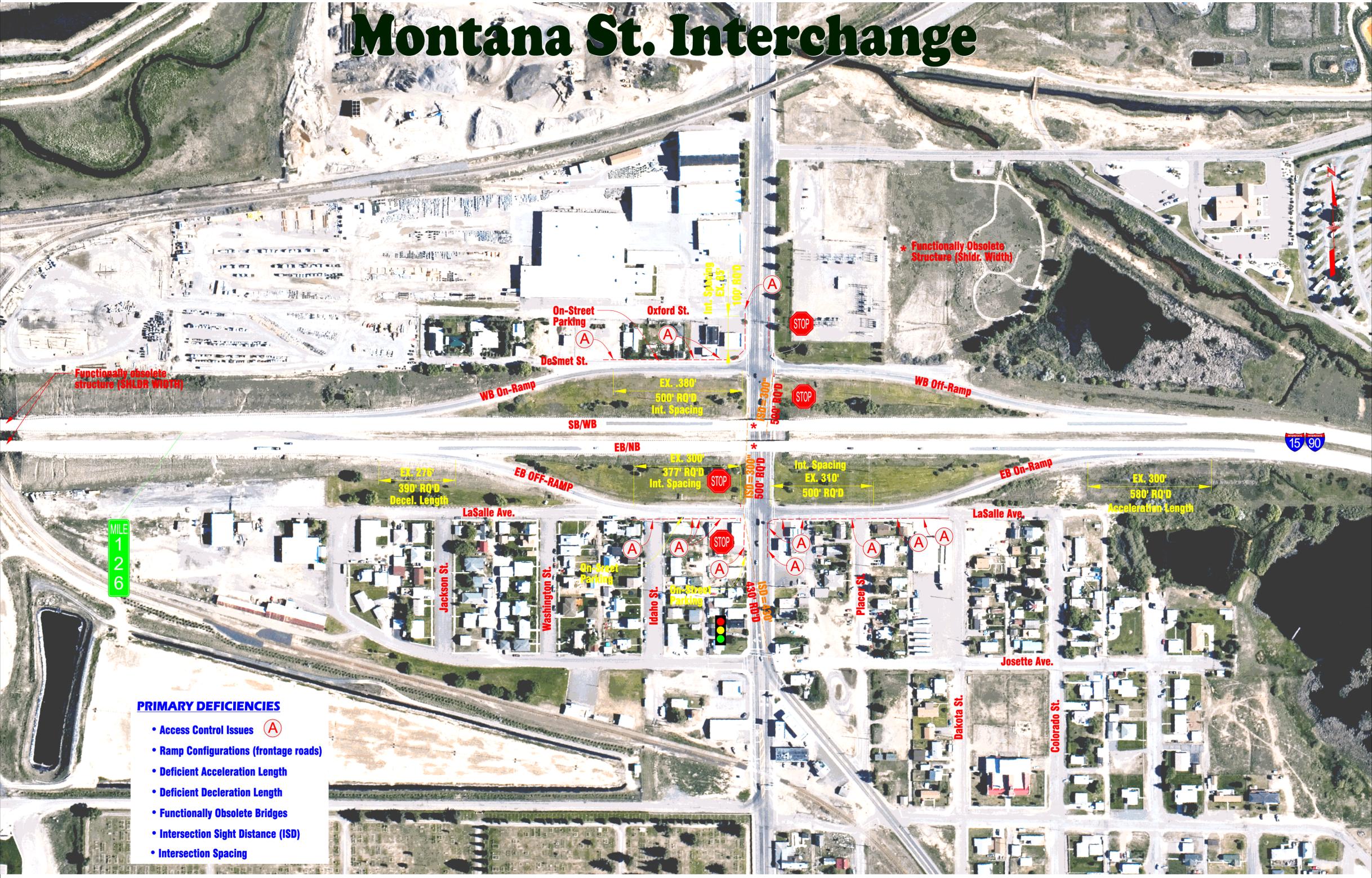
Excelsior Ave. Interchange



PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES

- Ramp Geometry (Tight Curvature)
- Deficient Deceleration Length
- Deficient Acceleration Length
- Functionally Obsolete Bridges

Montana St. Interchange



PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES

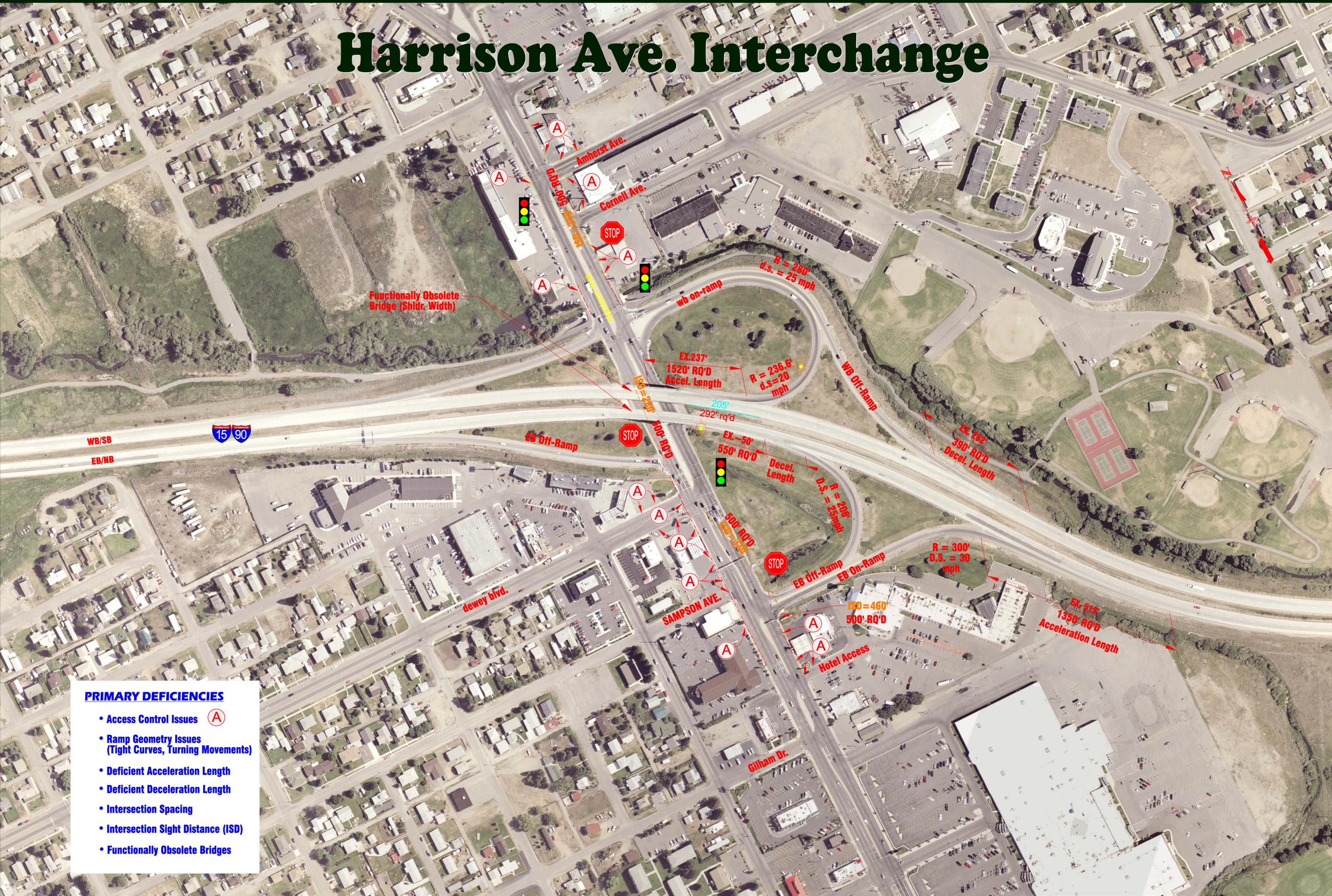
- Access Control Issues (A)
- Ramp Configurations (frontage roads)
- Deficient Acceleration Length
- Deficient Deceleration Length
- Functionally Obsolete Bridges
- Intersection Sight Distance (ISD)
- Intersection Spacing

Harrison Ave. Interchange



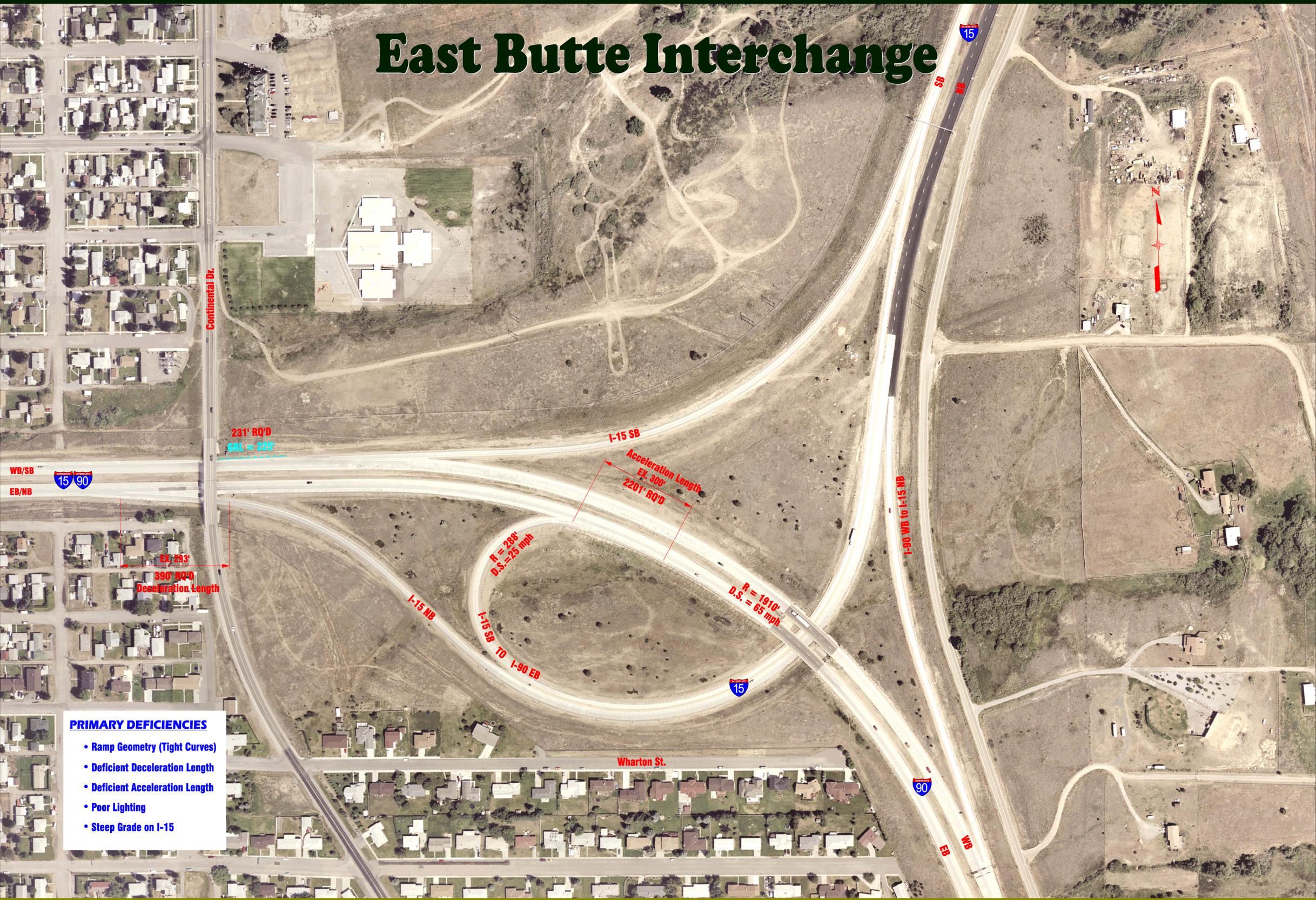
- PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES**
- Access Control Issues (A)
 - Ramp Geometry Issues (Tight Curves, Turning Movements)
 - Deficient Acceleration Length
 - Deficient Deceleration Length
 - Intersection Spacing
 - Intersection Sight Distance (ISD)
 - Functionally Obsolete Bridges

Harrison Ave. Interchange



- PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES**
- Access Control Issues (A)
 - Ramp Geometry Issues (Tight Curves, Turning Movements)
 - Deficient Acceleration Length
 - Deficient Deceleration Length
 - Intersection Spacing
 - Intersection Sight Distance (ISD)
 - Functionally Obsolete Bridges

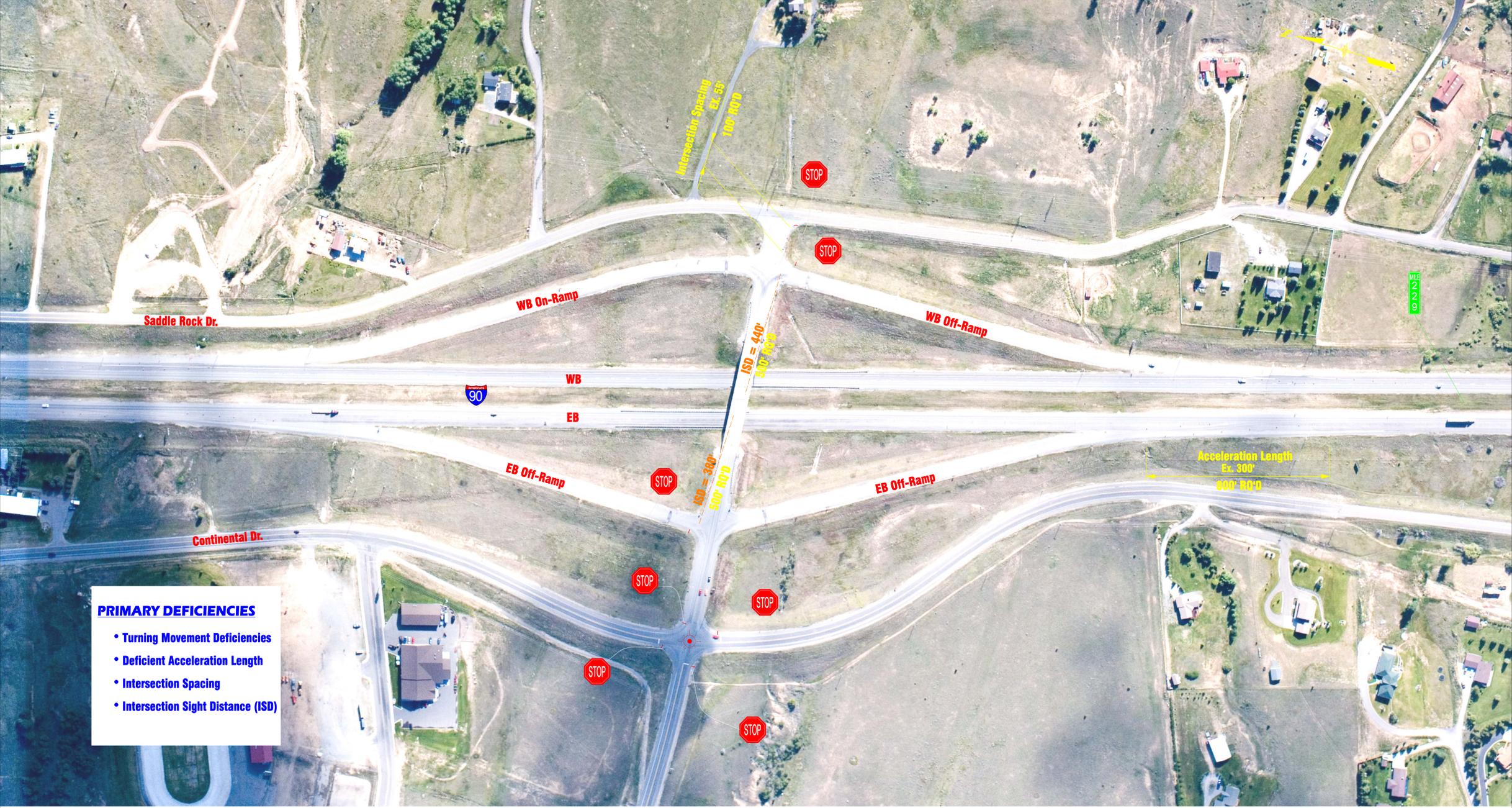
East Butte Interchange



PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES

- Ramp Geometry (Tight Curves)
- Deficient Deceleration Length
- Deficient Acceleration Length
- Poor Lighting
- Steep Grade on I-15

Continental Interchange



- PRIMARY DEFICIENCIES**
- Turning Movement Deficiencies
 - Deficient Acceleration Length
 - Intersection Spacing
 - Intersection Sight Distance (ISD)