



SOUTHWEST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING REGION

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 3, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Carnegie Building, 1188 E 2nd Ave., Durango

- I. Introductions 9:00 a.m.
- II. Consent Agenda:
 - 1. June 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes
 - 2. Financial Report: April – June 2017
- III. Reports 9:05 a.m.
 - 1. June and July 2017 STAC Updates - Bentley Henderson
 - 2. Transportation Commissioner Report - Sidney Zink
- IV. CDOT Reports 9:30 a.m.
 - 1. Construction Update - Ed Archuleta
 - 2. SB 267 – Matt Muraro
 - 3. CDOT Intersection and Corridor Priority Study – Julie Constan
 - 4. Transportation Planning Toolkit #1: Project Ideas – Michael King
- V. Other Business 11:00 a.m.
 - 1. Transit Provider Updates
 - 2. Community Updates – Round Robin (pending available time)
- VI. Adjourn

Next meeting date: Thursday, October 5, 2017

Video/Phone Conference Info:

<https://zoom.us/j/109670693>

1-646-558-8656 (US Toll), Meeting ID: 109 670 693

**Southwest Colorado Regional Transportation
Planning Commission
Thursday, June 1, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.
Carnegie Building, 1188 E 2nd Ave., Durango**

TPR Members in Attendance:

Phil Johnson – City of Cortez
Keenan Ertel – Montezuma County
Brad Blake – La Plata County
Bentley Henderson – Archuleta County
John Egan – Pagosa Springs (by phone)
Dan Naiman – Town of Ignacio (by phone)

Others in Attendance:

Sidny Zink – Transportation Commissioner
Ann McCoy-Herold – Senator Gardner’s Office
Debbie Condrey – Mountain Express Transit
Ed Archuleta - Colorado Department of Transportation
Tony Cady – Colorado Department of Transportation
Matt Muraro – Colorado Department of Transportation
Mike King - Colorado Department of Transportation
Jessica Laitsch – Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

I. Introductions

II. Accept Minutes: April 2017

Keenan Ertel motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Phil Johnson seconded, unanimously approved. Bentley commented that the letter regarding HB 1242 was sent and the efforts by the group had an impact on the bill by causing there to be some beneficial changes before it ultimately failed.

III. Reports

1. April and May 2017 STAC Updates - Bentley Henderson

- The discussion revolved around two transportation related bills, particularly HB 1242 and SB 267, which was the hospital fee bill to create a sustainability enterprise and allow the state to go into debt for transportation projects, under this smaller counties would receive a significant amount of funding. There were also other legislative items discussed.
- There was a presentation on safety performance measure setting trend analysis, which has found that the number of crashes and fatalities are on an increasing trend. Notably, 55% of crashes happen in rural areas despite the lower population. CDOT will continue to evaluate measures to mitigate these trends.

- With respect to the 5311 transit program, while there is strong support with the state and Transportation Commission, there are still issues. It was approved for one year and the committee will continue to work on it to ensure equitability.
- The Office of Policy and Government Relations provided highlights including that SB 267 had passed, so the treasurer must begin executing purchase agreements to be completed by next summer. Sidney added that this is over four years.
- The new headquarters building is being constructed.
- The Transportation Planning Partnership is being started with lessons learned being incorporated.
- Bustang is growing and will include an outrider service to connect the more rural areas. Keenan asked about a connection between SUCAP Roadrunner and Bustang. Bentley clarified that they connect in Grand Junction and are working together. He added that they have been looking at ways to maximize funding and how routes are being utilized.
- There will be a Scenario Planning Peer Exchange to discuss how other areas undertake statewide planning processes. Mike described the scenario planning process and the outside groups that were selected to assist CDOT through the process.
- Telephone town halls will begin next week. The Region 5 call will be June 13 at 7:00 p.m. Mike will forward the call-in details.

2. Transportation Commissioner Report – Sidney Zink

- She attended the May STAC meeting. One discussion was about funding criteria and whether the same criteria apply for very different agencies, they will continue looking at this.
- The Commission discussed SB 267, this will help CDOT somewhat, but not significantly. One good aspect of the bill is that FASTER funds will remain.
- There has been discussion about transportation impacts resulting from the federal budget, it is yet to be seen how this might impact Colorado.
- They are working on developing a policy related to right-of-way acquisition and how to address communications with the property owner differently. The intent is that the process will be easier and clearer for all parties.
- The RAMP contingency is nearly used. There are no RAMP projects currently pending.
- There has been ongoing discussion about maintaining roads with limited funding.
- She may be the commission chair beginning in July, if so she will try to set up a meeting in the SW region.

III. CDOT Reports:

1. Construction Update - Ed Archuleta

Ed elaborated on the increase in fatalities. Sidney asked if they track causes. Ed replied they try to, most often it is intoxication. Sidney added that one county reported no fatalities, although there have been. General discussion about challenges with reporting.

- SH 41 Surface Treatment US 160 to Utah – Chipseal and overlay, project is complete.
- US 491 Cortez to MCR 30 (CR M) – They are working north of Cortez. They had planned to pave from US 491 to McPhee, but they will have to incorporate this in the next project.
- SH 184 Narraguinnep Canal 0-02-A Structure – Completed.
- US 550/160 PCCP Diamond Grinding Phase I – Diamond grinding is extended because they have added a number of elements to the project. The project has unveiled blemishes in the previous project. They are now working on striping and ADA ramps. Tony elaborated on the status of the ADA ramp project.
- SH 145 MP 76.05 Wall Failure – Currently under construction, will be completed this summer.
- Sawpit Project – There was funding available that needed to be spend, so they quickly designed this project. This project is intended to mitigate debris flows. This project will eventually extend farther to continue to address drainage in the area.
- US 491 Surface treatment – This will be undertaken next year, the final phase of the project out to Cahone will be undertaken in 2019.
- US 550 Cribwall Repair MP 68.7 and 68.76 – This will have traffic impacts all summer.
- SH 145 Chipseal MP 59.41 to 71.24 – Project expected to begin in July.
- US 160 Wolf Creek Fiber Optic RAMP 16 – Project is underway.
- R5 Region Wide Striping, Rumble Strip and WC RSA Phase 1 – Project is underway.
- SH 84 MP 14.67 Priority Culverts - This work will be done in the fall and will not impact traffic.
- US Dry Creek Passing Lanes – This will extend the previous Dry Creek project down US 160, not all the way to Gem Village.
- US 160 Wolf Creek Pass Phase 1 Signs – This is part of the Road Safety Assessment (RSA) project.
- US 491 at County Road S and CR BB – Primary construction will be next year, they will be doing preliminary work this year.
- Discussion about the FLAP and TIGER programs, including how funds have been used in the past, the likelihood of these continuing in the future, and potential projects that could use this funding.

2. Transportation Planning Toolkit Introduction – Mike King

Mike explained that following the last statewide planning process CDOT had sought feedback about the process. One consistent comment was that the process seemed rushed, such that a topic is introduced and immediately the group is asked to make a decision. They will try to address this through an idea-to-improvement process, in other words how does this idea become an improvement to the system. They are hoping this will allow for more efficient and informed decision-making. He described what they expect this process to look like. Phil asked about the timeline for the asset to be available. Mike replied that the website would be up by next quarter and they will develop materials for each module as they go through the process. Bentley asked about the breakdown of elective modules. Mike replied that the some of the elective modules would be an element in every discussion while others would be stand-alone discussions, recognizing that there may be varying levels of interest in various topics. Bentley asked for clarification about the interplay between the core and elective modules. Mike replied that the core modules should likely be addressed first as a number of issues would be

addressed at a high level, the elective modules would go into certain topics in more detail. He added that they will be seeking feedback through the process.

3. Update regarding Rest Area Policy Webinar – Mike King

Mike explained that CDOT maintains a number of rest areas and there is not a dedicated funding source for maintaining these or an established management policy. CDOT will be seeking feedback on what citizens want from rest areas so they can begin to look at what to do with respect to rest areas. CDOT will have a webinar on July 18 to begin this discussion. There was discussion about some of the issues relative to rest stops.

V. Other Business

1. Transit Provider Updates

John Egan reported that tomorrow is his last day with Archuleta County Mountain Express Transit. He added that the issue of rest areas is more complex than it seems and recommended that CDOT contact the trucking association to be involved in the discussion. Bentley reported that Debbie Condrey is the new Transportation Coordinator for Mountain Express.

2. Community Updates – Round Robin

Phil reported that the streets program has been doing a lot of work. They will be completing Cactus down to 3rd near the high school. They will be resurfacing South Beach from Main to 1st. They were accepted for the Corridor Safety Assessment through CDOT.

Keenan reported that they are in the process of paving 4.5 miles of CR CC, Kinder Morgan paid for this project several years ago, and will continue down to CR BB. They are grinding and resurfacing a section of US 491. They finished the project on Broadway and Lebanon Road. They have begun the project to the Arizona state line. Ed replied that that this project will be done in 2018. They are starting a program to do an overlay on the chip seal roads to gradually replace all chip seal with pavement.

Bentley awarded bid for a mile of crack seal and chip seal. They are in the process of engineering north Pagosa and possibly from a bridge north to US 160. They have received 2 of 3 buses paid for through FTA 5310 and 5311 funds, these will be a significant benefit to the County. They are getting ready for some significant paving projects. Pagosa Springs is reengaging the work on 8th street.

Keenan thanked CDOT for their cooperative efforts to light the intersection at the Montezuma County fairgrounds.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 3, 2017.

Jan - June 2017 Financials

To: SWTPR
From: Sara Trujillo
Date: 3 August 2017

Comments: The following attachment includes:

- January – June 2017 Profit & Loss

Items to Note

The fiscal year 2016-2017 TPR grant concluded 6/30/2017 with all funds being spent. The final reimbursement invoice was processed in July and funds deposited 7/31/2017. The attached report shows a deficit only because the final invoice had not been processed and this is a reimbursement grant.

The new purchase order for the fiscal year 2017-2018 TPR grant has been received.

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

Profit & Loss

07/31/17

January through June 2017

Accrual Basis

	<u>Jan - Jun 17</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
CDOT Grants	
SWTPR Grant	4,635.31
Total CDOT Grants	4,635.31
Dues Revenue	
SWTPR Contributions	7,607.00
Total Dues Revenue	7,607.00
Total Income	12,242.31
Gross Profit	12,242.31
Expense	
Information Technology (IT)	
Software	120.03
Total Information Technology (IT)	120.03
Insurance Expense	
General Liability	275.12
Worker's Compensation	208.50
Total Insurance Expense	483.62
Internet Connectivity	
Internet Connection (AT&T)	24.82
Total Internet Connectivity	24.82
Meetings	291.36
Office Supplies	131.17
Professional Development	14.00
Professional Fees	
Audit	499.99
Legal	36.00
Total Professional Fees	535.99
Salary and Wages	3,447.09
Travel	7,707.61
Total Expense	12,755.69
Net Ordinary Income	-513.38
Net Income	<u><u>-513.38</u></u>



COLO RADO

Department of Transportation

Region 5

Traffic & Safety

3803 N. Main Avenue, Suite 100

Durango, CO 81301

July 18, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Since 1999, our CDOT Region 5 Intersection Priority Program has corrected (80) safety deficient state highway intersections that exist within our (15) county area. The first priority list was developed in January 1999, with subsequent lists developed in 2003 and 2008, and the most current list was developed in 2015. The top rated intersections have received or are planned to receive safety improvements. It is time to develop a new list with new intersection and corridor data to ensure that we continue to address the most critical intersections and corridors within Region 5.

This year our study will be renamed to the Region 5 Critical Location Safety Study and will focus on not only intersections but we are now also adding the ability to investigate short highway segments that have safety deficiencies. To expedite the prioritization and funding of these projects, the following criteria for project selection will be used:

- Reduce Existing Crashes - Identify crash patterns that can be mitigated and reduced
- Reduce Crash Severity - Identify crash pattern mitigations to implement that can reduce injury and fatal crashes
- Identifies applicable mitigation measures for common crash types that would occur at an intersection location or along a corridor segment
- Reduce the "Risk" for fatal and injury accidents
- Encourage cooperative safety efforts with local agencies
- Enhance other highway safety features that also benefit traffic operations
- Improves pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Meets a minimum cost to benefit ratio to improve the project

There will also be other operational data and criteria used to evaluate truck traffic, average daily traffic, congestion, and highway designation. All of this collected data and criteria will be utilized to determine comparative rating criteria for the new study.

As we did with the 2015 study, we will use a three phased approach to rank the projects with the highest safety need.

Phase I - All submitted projects will be evaluated on known data points that can be easily collected and analyzed at a high analysis level. (Accident history, overall level of safety service, congestion, AADT, etc.)

Information and data collected from Phase I will be used to rank the projects that are in the highest order of need. The top 50% will be carried to the Phase II analysis. The remaining projects will be eliminated from consideration.

Phase II - In this phase, a greater detailed analysis will be performed to help determine potential solutions and benefits which can then be employed through additional data comparison and analysis. Projects will be ranked based upon the collected data. The top (15) projects will be carried on to the third and final phase of this study.

Phase III - In this phase, the highest ranked projects will receive an onsite visit. Projects will also receive a design analysis that will help determine costs, benefits and impact of suggested improvements. Final site specific analysis, supplemental design consideration, and anticipated costs, will all be used to rank the final candidates for future improvement funding. This will be the final list ranked for this study.

Low Hanging Fruit - This is a secondary list that CDOT will develop while analyzing all submitted projects. As we work through the study, we will be identifying low cost, simple improvements that can be quickly implemented and documented. Not every project will have a simple low cost solution but, if we identify one, it will be added to this list so that we may systematically make these improvements outside of the final list.

If your agency would like to discuss their priority intersections or corridors prior to submitting their list, please feel free to contact me via email at julie.constan@state.co.us or by phone at (970)385-1449.

The attached form should be used by your agency to identify up to (5) highway intersections or corridors that should be considered in this study. Please also identify if your agency will participate in the overall cost of the improvement. **Each agency must respond to CDOT via email by September 5, 2017.**

Sincerely,



Julie Constan
Region 5 Traffic and Safety Engineer

2017 Intersection and Corridor Priority Submission Form

Requesting Agency: _____

Agency Contact: _____

Agency Contact Phone Number: _____

Intersection/Corridor Priority	Local Road Name	State Highway Name	Local Funding Commitment Amount	Notes
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

This form must be returned to CDOT, via email, by September 5, 2017.

Please use the provided email address listed below:

deborah.salafia@state.co.us

Deborah Salafia
(970) 385-1453
Traffic and Safety Unit
Region 5



Legislative Wrap-Up

Last month, the 2017 legislative session came to an end. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) followed more than 50 pieces of legislation that impacted the department. Department priorities included legislation on autonomous vehicles and various bills that made Colorado's roads safer. From the beginning of the 120 day legislative session, political leaders from both sides of the aisle pronounced that aged highways and congested roads harm Colorado's future and showed their concern that funding for transportation was one of the highest priorities for the General Assembly.



Legislators introduced five funding bills concerning transportation funding and/or including state budgetary matters and supplementary funding for other CDOT programs. Of the five bills, two generated the most interest and optimism, House Bill (HB) 17-1242 and Senate Bill (SB) 17-267. These two bills traveled very different paths towards the goal of additional funding for roads.

Legislators had other policy issues to solve this session and SB 17-267 allowed them to address some of the most pressing problems in rural health care and education funding along with transportation. The bill instructs the state treasurer to leverage \$1.8B worth of state buildings for certificates of participation to use on state highway projects beginning in 2018. Leadership in both chambers hammered out a compromise that allowed majorities in both parties to support SB 17-267 which the Governor recently signed it into law. CDOT will work with planning partners to identify projects for the \$1.8B, of which 25% must be used in rural areas around the state. *cont on page 2*

Transportation Summit

Registration is now open for the 2017 Colorado Transportation Summit. This will be the 4th iteration of this popular meeting that brings together state and civic leaders with the business community and transportation industry to talk about transportation in Colorado. The 2017 Summit will be held on Monday October 23rd at the Hyatt Regency-Denver Convention Center Hotel. This is a change of venue from the last 2 years and will give us enough space to almost double our attendance.



This year the Colorado Department of Transportation is teaming up with the Transit Alliance to bring together an even wider audience to discuss this important topic. Recently the American Road and Transportation Builders of America (ARTBA) Western Regional meeting decided to join with the Summit as well, further expanding the base of knowledge and breadth of subject matter experts that will be in attendance.

For more information on the Summit contact Thomas Lorz at (303) 757-9084 and be sure to visit our website www.codot.gov/summit.

Legislative Wrap upcont from page 1

The SB 17-267 funds are a small down payment on CDOT's ongoing \$1B annual funding deficit. The new funds will allow the department to address some critical projects and CDOT will continue to educate and advocate for the funding needed to address all of our state's needs in the future.

Other important transportation related measures that passed during the legislative session included bills on autonomous vehicles, a move over law and strengthening texting and driving prohibitions. Stay tuned to Interchange in the coming months as we take an in depth look at each of these important changes to Colorado transportation related laws.

Upcoming Legislative Closer Looks

<u>July</u>	<u>Autonomous Vehicles</u>
<u>August</u>	<u>Move Over</u>
<u>September</u>	<u>Texting and Driving</u>

For questions or more information on State legislative issues contact Andy Karsian, CDOT Legislative Liaison at 303-757-9703.

CDOT Heroes

When a fuel tanker caught fire on I-25 near Orchard around noon on Wednesday, May 31, two CDOT employees— driving the highway inspecting for potholes and debris—rushed to help the driver and stop traffic. Matt Bell and Richard Smith, CDOT maintenance employees covering the South Metro Denver area, were the first on scene.

"We saw smoke in the distance and thought it may have been a blown out tire," Smith said. "It wasn't until we were able to get closer that we realized the seriousness of the situation and ran to help. Bell was the one to run to the driver, and I helped set up traffic control to stop vehicles from passing the fire." When asked what compelled them to put their own safety on the line, Bell replied, "That's what all our crews are trained to do." He said everyone on the road was a hero and does not want the spotlight to be on just the two men. "I would just hope that someone would do the same for me," Bell said.



Matt Bell, Shailen Bhatt and Richard Smith

CDOT's goal is to save lives and make people's lives better. Nearly 100 crew members from both CDOT and contractor partners Brannan Sand and Gravel, Alpha Milling Company and Kraemer, were out working diligently to repair the roadway to make I-25 safe, and to have it open by rush hour.

"What Matt and Richard did was truly heroic," said Shailen Bhatt, CDOT executive director. "They went above and beyond our safety values. Truly, all of our crew members who were out on the roadway last night into the early morning demonstrated determination and a high regard for the people of Colorado's lives."



Hitting the Road With Autonomous Vehicles

As we kick off summer, we start with the first of our three part series taking a closer look at impactful legislation that passed during the recently concluded Legislative Session of the Colorado General Assembly. This month we will take a closer look at autonomous vehicles.



Colorado joined a growing number of states around the country by passing a new law on autonomous vehicles this year. Prior to passage, there was no language in statute defining or detailing procedures on managing future autonomous vehicles which are coming soon to state and local roads. State departments and private industry worked for six months to finalize what eventually became Senate Bill 17-231.

The introduced bill defines technological terms, providing a foundation to build on in future years as these vehicles become more prevalent. The bill also creates a simple matrix for regulation, stating if an autonomous vehicle is unable to comply with all the rules of the road, the maker must get approval from CDOT and the State Patrol in order to operate. SB 17-231 found a balance between governmental oversight and flexibility to allow technological advancement.cont on page 2

Mountain Express Success

The I-70 Mountain Express Lane has been open for two winter seasons and one summer season. During the 2016-2017 winter season usage of the lanes more than doubled with vehicle volume last year of 42,600 and 89,800 vehicles this year, representing a 111 percent increase in vehicle volume. Overall the I-70 corridor saw a 9 percent increase in vehicle volume -- 1.12 million vehicles compared to 1.03 million vehicles in 2016. "Visitors and residents along the corridor are noticing benefits of the Mountain Express Lane," said Margaret Bowes, I-70 Coalition Director. "With more consistent travel times and faster speeds on I-70, we also noticed less congestion on frontage roads."

The lanes are also helping to create a safer travel experience with traffic incidents down 22 percent with 21 total incidents compared to 27 incidents in 2016. The I-70 Mountain Express Lane is only open weekends and holidays. When the Express Lane is not open, roadway signage indicates it is closed and is used as a shoulder for emergency purposes. Historically, the summer season has more traffic and for longer hours of the day than the winter season. Also, summer traffic has more trailers and recreational vehicles in the corridor, which are not permitted in the Express Lane.

"The Mountain Express Lane has also proven capable of handling higher summer traffic volumes. With the July Fourth holiday weekend approaching, the I-70 Mountain Express Lane will help to keep people moving and spending less time in their cars," said David Spector, Director of the the High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE). Learn more about Express Lanes at expresslanes.codot.gov and more on the High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE) at www.coloradohpte.com.

TLRC Tour



The House and Senate Transportation Committees form the The Transportation Legislation Review Committee (TLRC).

The TLRC is heading all over Colorado this summer. The first trip will be to the southwest region of the state. Legislators will have the opportunity to see completed and current highway projects along US-50 and 550. After staying in Ouray, they will travel back to Glenwood Springs over McClure Pass and then on to a tour of the Eisenhower Johnson Memorial Tunnel before returning to Denver.

The TLRC will travel to northwest and northeast Colorado in August and southeast Colorado in September.

For questions or more information on the TLRC tour feel free to contact Andy Karsian, CDOT Legislative Liaison at 303-757-9703.

Summit Speakers

Each year the Colorado Transportation Summit brings an exciting lineup of keynote speakers and presenters. The Colorado Department of Transportation is proud to announce that we have secured two industry leaders for this year's meeting. Pete Ruane, President and CEO of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) and General Motors' Jeff Shields, West Coast Regional Director of Maven ridesharing service.

Pete and Jeff bring a broad range of experience and insight to the table and will underscore the importance of bolstering the state of Colorado's transportation sector to benefit our economy in a rapidly changing world.

For more information on the Summit visit our website www.codot.gov/summit.

TRANSPORTATION | **October 23rd**
SUMMIT | **2017**

Together We Go 

Autonomous Vehiclescont from page 1

Industry groups were apprehensive when Senator Owen Hill and Representatives Faith Winter and Jeff Bridges convened a stakeholder meeting prior to introducing the bill. In a packed committee room many national auto manufacturers voiced concern of a patchwork of state regulation inhibiting growth of the industry. During the legislative debates, however, opposition dwindled as auto industry and trade association representatives realized the benefits of SB 17-231's approach. Ultimately, CDOT, the sponsors, and industry were able to find some common ground and passed a bill that provides the beginning of a framework for the state to use as more autonomous vehicles travel on state highways.

Upcoming Legislative Closer Looks

August Move Over
September Texting and Driving

Stay tuned in the next couple months as we go in depth on the move over law and legislation that strengthened texting and driving prohibitions. For questions or more information on State legislative issues contact Andy Karsian, CDOT Legislative Liaison at 303-757-9703.