

Southwest Transportation Planning Region Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 25, 2023

Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 9:00 am

Colorado Department of Transportation
20581 US-160 West, Durango, CO

ZOOM: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89468420554>, **Phone:** 1 (719)359-4580 **ID:** 89468420554

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|--|-----------------|
| A. Introductions | 9:00 am |
| B. Consent Agenda | 9:10 am |
| 1. Previous Meeting Minutes' approval | |
| 2. Financial Report approval | |
| C. Reports | 9:15 am |
| 1. STAC Update | |
| 2. Transportation Commissioner Report | |
| 3. Congressional Updates | |
| D. Decision/Discussion Items | 9:45 am |
| 1. Election of Officers | |
| 2. Discuss suggested edits to bylaws. | |
| 3. Letter Requesting TC to delay or oppose annual fees | |
| E. CDOT Reports | 10:45 am |
| 1. Construction Update - Kevin Curry | |
| F. Other Business | 11:00 am |
| 1. Updates – Round Robin | |
| G. Adjourn | |

Southwest Transportation Planning Region Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 9:00 am

A. Introductions

Elected Representatives			Guests		
X	Kevin Kissler	City of Cortez Alt.	X	Kevin Bruce	Archuleta County
X	Sarah Hill	City of Durango	X	Jamie Grim	CDOT
X	Steve Garchar	Dolores County	X	Jennifer Allison	CDOT
X	Clyde Church	La Plata County	X	Julie Constan	CDOT
X	Jim Candelaria	Montezuma County	X	Timothy Funk	CDOT
X	Katie Sickles	Town of Bayfield	X	TJ Burr	CDOT
X	Richard Tokar	Town of Mancos	X	Tony Cady	CDOT
X	Veronica Medina	Archuleta County	X	Scott Baker	City of Cortez
X	Nicole Pieterse	Town of Rico Guest	X	Alisa Schultz	Dolores County
X	Bernadette Cuthair	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	X	Laura Lewis Marchino	Region 9 EDD
			X	Lisa Pool	Senator Hickenlooper’s Office
X	Phil Von Hake	CDOT	X	Patrick Davis	SW Transit Coordinating Council- SW Rides
X	Lucy Mulvihill	Town of Silverton/San Juan County	X	Ian Robertson	City of Cortez
X	Brendan Adams	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	X	Melissa Lewis	CDOT
X	Tony Marusiak	CDOT	X	Mike McVaugh	HDR
			X	Mike Torres	Archuleta County

Sarah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of minutes from August 10, 2023

Meeting Discussion:

- **Hill noted that she was able to attend the July meeting and wanted the minutes adjusted to reflect that.**

Motion from Sarah Hill to approve all minutes as presented.

Second: Kevin Kissler; Motion passed unanimously.

2. Financial Report approval. Financials through Sept. 30,2023 were provided for review.

Motion from Clyde Church to approve the financial report as presented.

Second: Kevin Kissler; Motion passed unanimously.

C. Reports

1. STAC Update – Presented by Sarah Hill and Jim Candelaria

- Several TPR governance considerations were noted related to term limits, rotations of chair and vice chair, how STAC chair and vice chair might rotate between rural and urban, having a STAC member or other transit representative as a STAC member, and other changes to ensure one jurisdiction does not have more than one representative on the STAC.
- There are a lot of new transportation commissioners.
- Air travel in and out of DIA continues to be a struggle.

2. Transportation Commissioner Report – Laura Marchino-Lewis presented Mark Garcia’s notes as Garcia was not present.

- The September Transportation Commission meeting welcomed 6 new commissioners who are new appointees from Governor Polis.
- CDOT staff detailed proposed expenditures for approximately \$170M in reappropriated funding received from the FHA. These funds are from projects throughout the US that didn't expend their funding. These expenditures will be discussed again during the upcoming October TC meeting.
- TPR boundary discussions continued with an update on continued work by CDOT staff and TPR's around the state.

3. Congressional Updates

- Jamie Grim – The big focus with Congress right now is that there is no speaker for the House. The government will not close down for at least a little while longer. The TPR study boundary is updating the planning rules; the study is due by November 30th. The STAC will review the study in November before the study going to the TC. One notable recommendation is to combine SE and South Central TPRs. There is a push to get some universal cohesion with certain bylaws like how many people are needed to hit quorum, that there shouldn't be two representatives from the same county on STAC, and to educate new TPR elected officials. The Fare Free Grant program is anticipated to continue.
- Bernadette Cuthair – Wanted and received confirmation that the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe will be able to apply and access STAC funding to help explore capitol fleet expansion. Noted that there are a number of other funding sources that they can apply for as well.
- Lisa Pool – Also noted that there is no Speaker for the House. The CDOT director paid a visit to DC and had many conversations with the Senator’s office regarding budgets.

D. Decision/Discussion Items

1. Resolution 2023-01 extending 23709 24004 Bayfield SUP Improvements

Meeting Discussion:

- **Bayfield representative believes that they have plans to move forward with advertisement in the next few weeks for the project funded by the MMOF.**

- It was confirmed that the project can be extended one more year.
- If for some reason the project couldn't be extended, the money would go back to the region and would need to get used in the same duration. Discussion surrounding what that would look like should it come to it.

Motion from Clyde Church to approve Resolution 2023-01 as presented.

Second: Kevin Kissler ; Motion passed unanimously.

E. CDOT Reports

1. Construction Update – Tony M, represented Kevin Curry

- US 160 McCabe Creek Pagosa – 19263
This project is located on US 160 at approximate MP 143, near downtown Pagosa Springs in Archuleta County. This project replaced aged metal culverts with new precast concrete box culverts. Additionally, riprap lined drainage improvements were installed to establish a new downstream channel, allowing for better drainage along the road. Other work included updating the guardrail and bridge rail, erosion control, sidewalk work, and fencing along the corridor. Construction was completed on June 27, 2023.
- US 172 Ignacio to Elmore's Corner – 24092
This project is located on SH 172 at approximate MP 8.3 to 24.5, from Ignacio to the Elmore's Corner intersection of SH 172 and US 160. The work will include a 16.2-mile surface treatment along with ADA ramp improvements in the Town of Ignacio. Construction began on March 20th, 2023 with a tentative end date in November 2023. Recently, a new culvert was completed.
- US-160 Signals at SH 145 and Chestnut Street - 24772 – This project is located on US 160 in the City of Cortez, in Montezuma County. The project will consist of signal improvements at the intersection of US 160 and SH 145, as well as the intersection of US 160 and Chestnut Street. Work will include the replacement of old existing traffic signals, poles and electronics. This project began on May 1st, 2023 and is currently on hold while additional equipment is delivered. The new completion date is fall/winter 2023.
- US-160 West of Pagosa MP 135-144 ST - 23505 – This surface treatment project is located on US 160 in the Town of Pagosa Springs, approximate MP 135 to 144. Work will include a 1" surface treatment leveling course and a 1.5" SMA overlay as well as a 2.5" mill and fill at intersection locations with curb and gutter construction. Additional work includes culvert and guardrail replacement and re-stripping. Paving operations will take place at night. This project began on May 15, 2023 and has an estimated completion date in November 2023.
- US-160 Section 3 Priority Culverts - 23191 – This project will be located on US 160, starting in Montezuma County, at approximate MP 47, and continuing East to several locations up to a culvert on Wolf Creek Pass. A number of Priority culverts will be repaired or replaced. This project began on May 15, 2023, and has an estimated completion date in November 2023. there are a number of culverts that needed to be repaired. They have 7/9 repaired.
- US 160 – Wolf Creek West Fiber - 22107 – This project will take place on US 160 Wolf Creek Pass from approximate MP 153- 168, within Archuleta and Mineral Counties. Conduit, fiber optic

cables and manholes will be installed on the western side of Wolf Creek Pass, from the summit down to Pagosa Springs. The project will also install ITS devices such as variable speed limits tied to friction sensors, a downhill truck warning system for the west side of the pass, and additional cameras. Due to contractor issues, this project was on hold for a period of time. The second season of construction started in May 2023 and is anticipated to be complete in fall 2024.

- Us 550 MP 81 & 89 Bluepoint Avalanche Mitigation - 23623 – This project is located on US 550 at approximate MP 81- 89 in Ouray County. This avalanche mitigation project will install a Gasex avalanche system on a known avalanche slide, Bluepoint and an Obelex system on the Mother Cline slide. The installation of these systems will allow maintenance crews to trigger avalanches remotely when needed. This project began on July 10, 2023 and had an anticipation completion date of September 2023; current end completion of project is estimated at the end of October.
- US 550/160 Connection South Design-Build-22420 - This project is focused on the US 550 connection to US 160 in La Plata County. The connection will realign US 550 directly into the existing US 160 interchange, eliminating the steep and windy grade of the current US 550 Farmington Hill and improving roadway geometry. The project will include wildlife highway mitigation features which will reduce animal-vehicle collisions. Both bridge structures are now constructed. Additional current work includes the continuation of deer fence installation, wildlife underpass work, drainage work and further construction on the Grandview side of the project. Construction began in August 2020 and now has an estimated completion date in spring of 2024.
- SH 151 Culvert Replacement MP 28.51 - 25737 –This emergency project is located on SH 151 at MP 28.51 in Archuleta County, south of Chimney Rock. Heavy spring runoff has caused damage to the existing culverts. The flood damaged CMP will be replaced with twin CBCs to better accommodate high water levels. Construction has started and is expected to be completed in November of 2023. Noted issues with trying to get emergency services through and discussions surrounding the plan on how to get them through the construction.
- Us 160 Section 3 Chipseal – 24954 - This project is a combination of 2 surface treatment projects on US 160. One is located on US 160 from Mancos Hill, Eastbound to Durango in Montezuma and La Plata Counties, approximate MP 61-81. The second location will be on US 160, at approximate MP 102.7 to 117, in-between Bayfield and Piedra. Work will include a chipseal, fog coat, the addition of rumble strips and new pavement markings at select locations. This project is scheduled for Ad in Fall 2023 with construction tentatively anticipated for spring 2024. We will have to make a decision soon on what we want to build and when we want to build it. Noted that there is 10 times the need for funding than funds actually available.
- US 160 San Juan River MP 0.8 & Aztec – 20685 - This project is located on US 160 at the Colorado/ New Mexico state line, approximate MP 0. The project will provide scour protection for the San Juan River Bridge which will help contain the increase in runoff. Improvements to a second bridge at Aztec Creek have also been added to the project scope. The Ad date is scheduled for fall 2023 with start of construction tentatively anticipated for January 2024.
- US 160 Pagosa Reconstruct – 21919 - This project is located on US 160 through the Town of Pagosa Springs, approximate MP 142- 144, in Archuleta County. The current scope includes improvements to US 160 Between 10th and 1st Streets. An overlay and restriping is planned from 10th Street to the west side of 8th Street with concrete reconstruction continuing from

west of 8th Street to the east side of 3rd Street. Additional work will include ADA upgrades to curb ramps and sidewalks at select intersections throughout the project limits and drainage improvements. This project is scheduled for Ad in fall 2023 with construction tentatively planned for spring 2024.

- US 160 & CR 225 MP 94.04 Improvements – 23001 - This project will be located on US 160 at the intersection of CR 225, at approximate MP 94.05, east of Durango. An intersection study was performed here to evaluate safer, alternative options for the design of this intersection. The results of this study were analyzed, and the project is in final review. This project schedule was pushed out to align with Grant funding opportunities. The Ad date is tentative for fall 2025.
- US 160D Mancos Pedestrian Improvements - 24618 – CDOT is planning on the construction of ADA ramp improvements along US 160D in the Town of Mancos. The design is expected to be complete and shelved in 2023, awaiting construction funding. Currently working with the town on Grant opportunities. The town got a TAP grant to help support construction fees and won has over the match to increase the scope of the project to get more ramps and rails in Mancos.

F. Other Business

1. Updates – Round Robin

a. City of Durango, Presented by Sarah Hill

- Funding to improve curb ramps, ADA accessible sidewalks, etc. is being surveyed.
- They are combining the MMOF project with the larger road diet project to try to get bidders.
- Camino Crossing update – the underpass is still in the works for the design based on final Fire Dept. layout.
- Midtown project – Seeking community feedback for 3rd, Florida, and 15th (malfunction junction). There is a focus group coming up with recommendations for it.
- Durango Transit is launching a micro-transit program called Duran-GO! That will provide door-to-door (like Uber) program running 8pm-12am, 7 days a week.
- The last month or so has had three serious pedestrian collisions. Ongoing conversations on safety solutions. Possible solution is making Animas View Drive a one-way.
- Moving forward with contracting to purchase a new fleet in conjunction with Archuleta County.
- There was a 22% increase in ridership with the Fare Free program during the summer. They plan to implement it next summer as well.

b. City of Cortez, Presented by Kevin Kissler, Ian Robertson, Scott Baker

- Recent grant funding has given the city initial corridor planning to decrease road fatalities.
- Safe Routes to School project currently going on with CDOT, but noted that one school was recently closed down due to asbestos in their building.
- The culvert under Denny Lake is a current project that they are working on with CDOT drainage. Expecting additional drainage projects in the foreseeable future.

c. La Plata County, Presented by Clyde Church

- Working on fiber easement charges with the hopes to lessen the charges as a region moving forward.
- Big shift in road maintenance this past year. There will be additional work down on some county roads that have been deteriorating due to weather damage.

- A new bike path North of Durango in Hermosa is in the works. There are some easement issues, and this project may take 3-5 years.
 - Seeing an increase in E-Bike use in the area.
 - Looking at making carrier neutral networks easier and finishing loops to reduce redundancies.
- d. Town of Bayfield, Presented by Katie Sickles
- Main Street Program will start next week. The Town appreciated CDOT's grant funding assistance with that.
 - Noted that the construction on 160 outside of their town is going smoothly.
 - Happy that Resolution 2023-01 was passed and is hoping to begin advertising soon.
- e. Archuleta County, Presented by Veronica Medina, Kevin Bruce, and Mike Torres
- Finished up some road maintenance projects like CR 600 which is now open and pinstriped.
 - Looking at doing a culvert replacement in North Pagosa Springs. This will be a pretty big project including 160 ft of 6ft diameter culverts.
 - Wanting to do striping starting in early November and complete it before snow starts on roads that have been under construction.
 - They are looking at buying a temporary bridge soon and getting it open before winter.
 - The transit facility switched contractors last week and construction will start next spring.
 - They are looking for a road and bridge manager (experience ideal).
- f. Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Presented by Bernadette Cuthair and Brendon Adams
- Brendon Adams is a new representative of the Ute Mountain Tribe, has been working with the tribe for over a decade. Adams looks forward to his role working with TPR.
 - They are concentrating this year on UMU 201 Anneth Rd: 23.4 miles. They are looking into doing preliminary surveys in hopes of obtaining future grant money.
 - Main Road in UMU 202 has ongoing maintenance.
- g. Town of Silverton, Presented by Lucy Mulvihill
- Working with an EV charging company out of Denver that brought a proposal to bring in 4 EV fast chargers.
 - Received a TAP grant from CDOT to get ADA accessible sidewalks on one of their main streets.
- h. SW Transit Coordinating Council, Presented by Patrick Davis
- This was Davis's first TPR meeting representing the SW Transit Coordinating Council as he was just voted in in September.
 - CDOT Grant has come through for SW Rides as well as a few other funding sources.
 - SW Rides is expanding into Silverton and giving local transportation to folks to the grocery store.
- i. Region 9 Update, Presented by Laura Lewis-Marchino
- Region 9 received an ICAM grant through the COG that was applied for in 2021 and found out that it was awarded this past summer. Region 9 is giving the grant funds of \$351,000 to CDOT to go toward their mobility hub initiatives.
 - Noted that elections will happen in February for TPR.
 - Pagosa Springs has a new manager, David Harris; he will most likely be joining TPR moving forward.
 - Region 9 and CDOT have entered into a no-cost contract for the fiber going over Wolf Creek.
- j. CDOT UPDATE – Phil von Hake

- Nick Farber left the Colorado Transportation Investment Office (CTIO) - Piper Darlington will serve as the interim CTIO Director. <https://www.codot.gov/programs/ctio>
- The new Division of Transit and Rail Director is Paul DesRocher, from RTD. <https://www.codot.gov/programs/transitandrail>
- Erik Sabina is the new Deputy DTD Director.
- Multimodal Planning Branch is hiring for 2 positions: Full-Time Transportation Planning Position; perfect for someone who is entry to mid-level who enjoys working in a team environment and is a good communicator-- the rest is trainable! <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/colorado/jobs/4229266/transportation-planning-specialist-ii-or-iii> Part-Time Strategic Communications Position - Perfect for someone creative who can help bring the planning work of CDOT to life through engaging visual communications, eye-catching slide decks, reports and infographics. Looking for someone with InDesign / graphic design experience. <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/colorado/jobs/4218559/transportation-planning-specialist-ii-or-iii-strategic-communications-planning>

2. Next Meeting: December 14th, 2023

B. Adjourn

Sarah Hill adjourned the meeting at 10:54 AM

Region 9 Economic Development District
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
From 7/1/2023 Through 11/30/2023

		<u>TPR</u>		
Operating Revenue				
Grants - Program	4020		<u>5,328.84</u>	
Total Operating Revenue			<u>5,328.84</u>	
 Total Revenue			 <u>5,328.84</u>	
 Expenditures				
Wages	5110		5,106.88	
Payroll taxes	5120		406.28	
Retirement Expense	5135		187.04	
Workers' Comp Insurance	5140		21.31	
FAMLI	5145		22.96	
Health Expense	5150		670.92	
Travel	5510		1,993.84	
Meetings	5512		271.14	
Membership/Subs	5540		450.00	
Total Expenditures			<u>9,130.37</u>	
 Net Revenue Over Expenditures			 <u><u>(3,801.53)</u></u>	

Southwest Colorado Transportation Planning Region (TPR)

Bylaws

ARTICLE I

Responsibilities

The Regional Transportation Planning Commission shall be responsible for reviewing the progress and product of the Colorado Department of Transportation or their designee related to transportation planning and analysis activities to incorporate the needs and recommendations of the Southwest Transportation Planning Region, suggesting updates and amendments as necessary to the State Transportation Plan pursuant to all applicable federal, tribal, and state laws and rules or regulations including public participation provisions, selecting a representative to the Transportation Advisory Committee, and participating in the State Transportation Improvement Program development process.

ARTICLE II

Representatives

1. Seats

The TPR shall consist of the following 16 seats:

- Archuleta County
- Dolores County
- La Plata County
- Montezuma County
- San Juan County
- City of Cortez
- City of Durango
- Town of Bayfield
- Town of Dolores
- Town of Dove Creek
- Town of Ignacio
- Town of Mancos
- Town of Pagosa Springs
- Town of Rico
- Town of Silverton
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe
- Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe

Each representative will identify an alternate. Only one vote per seat will be recognized.

3. Vacancies

If any TPR representative shall cease to hold office on the governing board or cease to hold his or her appointed position of its Member Jurisdiction, a vacancy shall exist and the appointing Member Jurisdiction shall fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE III

Officers

1. Officers

The TPR will elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its representatives.

A. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the TPR.

B. Vice Chair: The Vice Chair shall exercise the functions of the Chair in the Chair's absence or incapacity. In the event the Chairperson should resign from the TPR or a vacancy is created, the Vice Chair shall assume the position until the next scheduled election. In the event the Vice Chair should resign from the TPR or a vacancy is created, a special election will take place at the next scheduled TPR meeting.

C. No person shall hold office if he/she is not a member and no member shall hold more than one (1) office at a time.

2. Election of Officers:

A. The officers shall be elected by vote at a regularly scheduled TPR meeting to serve a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the regular meeting during which the election took place. Officers may be elected to successive one year terms as voted on by the representatives.

B. Elections shall be held at the last TPR meeting of every year.

C. There are no term limits for the Chair position.

3. Removal, Resignations and Vacancies of Officers

Any Officer elected by the Board may be removed at any time by the Board by a two-thirds vote. Any Officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of the Officer's resignation to the Chair or Vice Chair, and acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective unless the notice so provides. Any vacancy occurring in any Officer position shall be filled, by succession or by special election by the Board, for the unexpired portion of the term.

4. Duties of Officers

The Chair and Vice-Chair along with representatives of the two Tribes will attend monthly STAC meetings as able. The Chair will hold the SW Colorado vote at STAC meetings. In the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair will be able to vote. Once elected Chair, this person will be considered to represent regional interests and will only be able to vote in TPR meeting in the event of a tie. The governmental entity that appointed the person named Chair will be able to appoint a voting member to the TPR.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

1. Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the TPR shall be held on [day] of even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December). Meetings will be held at the SWCCOG office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted in the meeting agenda, and will include a conference call option for participants who wish to call-in. With prior approval of the TPR board, representatives may vote via electronic means. All Board and committee meetings shall be open to the public and interested participants are encouraged to attend. All Board and committee meetings shall comply with the Colorado Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. 24-6-401 et seq, or any successor statute thereto. Executive sessions may be held in compliance with the Colorado Open Meetings Law, or any successor statute thereto.

2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the Chair or with a request made by a majority of the representatives.

3. Public Notice of Meetings

Public notices of meetings will be posted at the SWCCOG office and shall otherwise comply with the Colorado Open Meetings Law.

ARTICLE V

Voting

1. Vote

Decisions will be made through consensus whenever possible. If a vote is needed, a motion may be passed by a simple majority of votes cast by the TPR members in attendance.

2. Allocation of Voting Rights

A Member Jurisdiction's representative shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters that may be cast by the representative or alternate representative if the representative is absent. Advisory Members' representatives are not entitled to vote.

3. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of 9 (nine) members.

ARTICLE VI

Committees

The direction and authority of subgroups or committees will be determined upon their formation.

ARTICLE VII

Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended by 2/3 majority vote of the representatives present in either regular or special session.

Southwest Colorado Transportation Planning Region (TPR) Bylaws

ARTICLE I Responsibilities

The Regional Transportation Planning Commission shall be responsible for reviewing the progress and product of the Colorado Department of Transportation or their designee related to transportation planning and analysis activities to incorporate the needs and recommendations of the Southwest Transportation Planning Region, suggesting updates and amendments as necessary to the State Transportation Plan pursuant to all applicable federal, tribal, and state laws and rules or regulations including public participation provisions, selecting a representative to the Transportation Advisory Committee, and participating in the State Transportation Improvement Program development process.

ARTICLE II Representatives

1. Seats

The TPR shall consist of the following ~~16~~ 18 seats:

- Archuleta County
- Dolores County
- La Plata County
- Montezuma County
- San Juan County
- City of Cortez
- City of Durango
- Town of Bayfield
- Town of Dolores
- Town of Dove Creek
- Town of Ignacio
- Town of Mancos
- Town of Pagosa Springs
- Town of Rico
- Town of Silverton
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe
- Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe
- Regional Transit Council

Each representative will identify an alternate. Only one vote per seat will be recognized.

3. Vacancies

If any TPR representative shall cease to hold office on the governing board or cease to hold his or her appointed position of its Member Jurisdiction, a vacancy shall exist and the appointing Member Jurisdiction shall fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE III

Officers

1. Officers

The TPR will elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its representatives.

A. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the TPR.

B. Vice Chair: The Vice Chair shall exercise the functions of the Chair in the Chair's absence or incapacity. In the event the Chairperson should resign from the TPR or a vacancy is created, the Vice Chair shall assume the position until the next scheduled election. In the event the Vice Chair should resign from the TPR or a vacancy is created, a special election will take place at the next scheduled TPR meeting.

C. No person shall hold office if he/she is not a member and no member shall hold more than one (1) office at a time.

2. Election of Officers:

A. The officers shall be elected by vote at a regularly scheduled TPR meeting to serve a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the regular meeting during which the election took place. Officers may be elected to successive one year terms as voted on by the representatives.

B. Elections shall be held at the last TPR meeting of every year. 

C. There are no term limits for the Chair position.

3. Removal, Resignations and Vacancies of Officers

Any Officer elected by the Board may be removed at any time by the Board by a two-thirds vote. Any Officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of the Officer's resignation to the Chair or Vice Chair, and acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective unless the notice so provides. Any vacancy occurring in any Officer position shall be filled, by succession or by special election by the Board, for the unexpired portion of the term.

4. Duties of Officers

The Chair and Vice-Chair along with representatives of the two Tribes will attend monthly STAC meetings as able. The Chair will hold the SW Colorado vote at STAC meetings. In the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair will be able to vote. Once elected Chair, this person will be considered to represent regional interests and will only be able to vote in TPR meeting in the event of a tie. The governmental entity that appointed the person named Chair will be able to appoint a voting member to the TPR.

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Meetings

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2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the Chair or with a request made by a majority of the representatives.

3. Public Notice of Meetings

Public notices of meetings will be posted at the ~~SWCCOG~~ Region 9 office and website shall otherwise comply with the Colorado Open Meetings Law.

ARTICLE V

Voting

1. Vote

Decisions will be made through consensus whenever possible. If a vote is needed, a motion may be passed by a simple majority of votes cast by the TPR members in attendance.

2. Allocation of Voting Rights

A Member Jurisdiction's representative shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters that may be cast by the representative or alternate representative if the representative is absent. Advisory Members' representatives are not entitled to vote.

3. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of 9 (nine) members.

ARTICLE VI

Committees

The direction and authority of subgroups or committees will be determined upon their formation.

ARTICLE VII

Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended by 2/3 majority vote of the representatives present in either regular or special session.



Colorado Department of Transportation
Attention: Allie Axley
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222

Subject: Urgent Appeal to Vote Against or Delay the Proposed ROW Fees for Broadband Deployment

Dear Transportation Commission,

We are writing to express our deep concern and urge you to vote against the proposed Right-of-Way (ROW) fees for broadband deployment, as outlined in the recent notice of revised ROW fee structure from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The proposed fees, as per the notice, include an annual property use surcharge and a one-time upfront fee, which could have significant implications for local communities, collaborative projects, and the overall public interest.

We acknowledge the importance of implementing a uniform and transparent fee structure, and we also believe the proposed fees may pose obstacles to critical broadband deployment initiatives, particularly in rural areas. We would like to bring to your attention several key reasons why the Transportation Commission should vote against or delay these proposed fees:

1. **Exception in the Overall Public Interest:** The proposed fees may not align with the overall public interest, as outlined in 23 CFR Part 710. Broadband deployment is vital for social, economic, and environmental benefits, and the proposed fees could hinder the achievement of these broader public goals.
2. **Collaborative Projects:** The proposed fees may impede collaborative projects, such as the proposed Alpine Loop from Denver to Grand Junction to Durango to Walsenburg. This project can contribute significantly to the middle mile broadband infrastructure and should be considered as exceptions under Title 23 of the United States Code.
3. **Impact on Economic Development:** High fees, even if reduced from previous proposals, still act as barriers to economic development, especially in rural areas. The potential financial burden imposed by the fees could deter projects aimed at improving connectivity and stimulating economic growth.
4. **Equitable Access and Affordability:** The proposed fees disproportionately affect economically depressed jurisdictions, exacerbating the existing challenges related to equitable access and affordability of broadband services.
5. **Unsolicited Proposals and Public-Private Initiatives:** The fees could discourage private initiatives and collaboration, hindering innovative solutions to address broadband deployment challenges, as allowed under the Public-Private Initiatives Act.
6. **Potential Impact on Middle Mile Infrastructure Funding:** The proposed fees may counteract efforts to secure funding from the State Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for middle mile infrastructure, hindering the progress of critical infrastructure projects.



Furthermore, because many of the commissioners are new to the TC, we urge you to take the necessary time to thoroughly understand the complexities surrounding the proposed Right-of-Way (ROW) fees for broadband deployment. This issue holds significant implications for our communities, collaborative projects, and the overall public interest. Given that six of you are new to your positions, taking the time to delve into the intricacies of this matter will ensure informed decision-making. Familiarizing yourselves with the historical context, federal regulations, and local perspectives on broadband deployment will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding. Your thoughtful consideration and commitment to gaining insight into this issue will play a pivotal role in shaping policies that align with the diverse needs and aspirations of the citizens you now represent. We encourage you to engage with stakeholders, review relevant documents, and seek advice to make well-informed decisions that prioritize the long-term interests of Colorado's residents.

We respectfully request that the Transportation Commission carefully considers these concerns and vote against the proposed ROW fees for broadband deployment or, at least delay the vote until such a time that all members of the commission have had time to become versed on the issue. Your decision will play a crucial role in ensuring that Colorado continues to foster economic development, promote equitable access to broadband services, and support the Governor's goal of connecting 99% of Colorado households.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. We appreciate your dedication to serving the public interest.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hill
Chairwoman, Southwest Transportation Planning Region

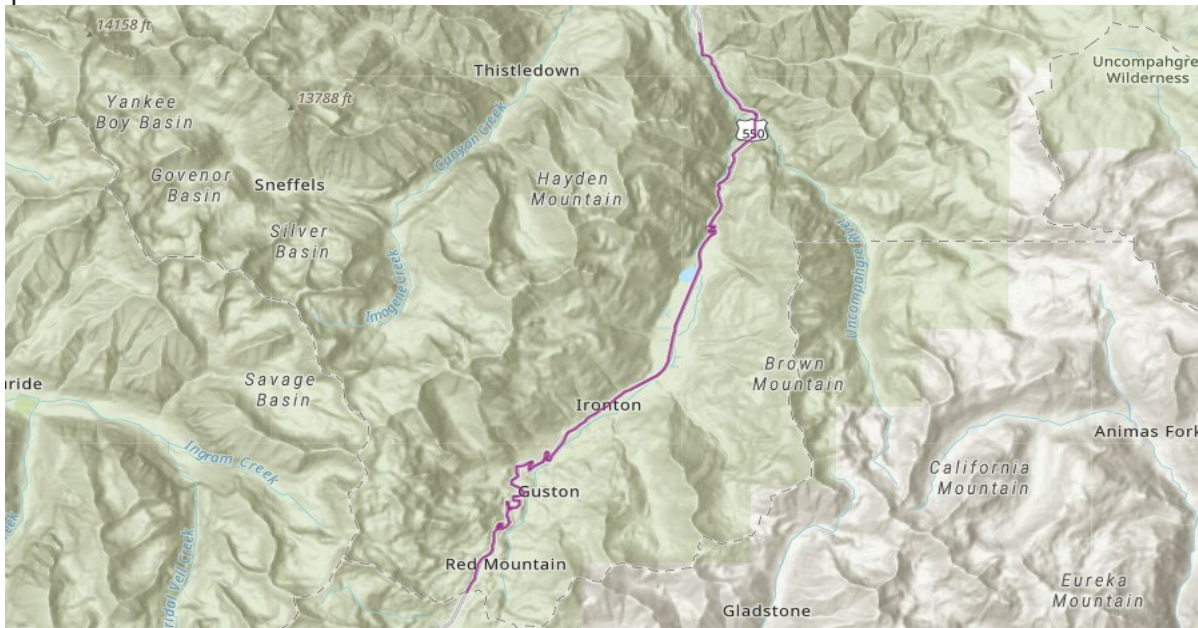


SWTPR- RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

US 550 MP 81 & 89 Bluepoint Avalanche Mitigation- 23623

Budget: \$926k
Funding Type: GeoHaz
Awarded: Geovert

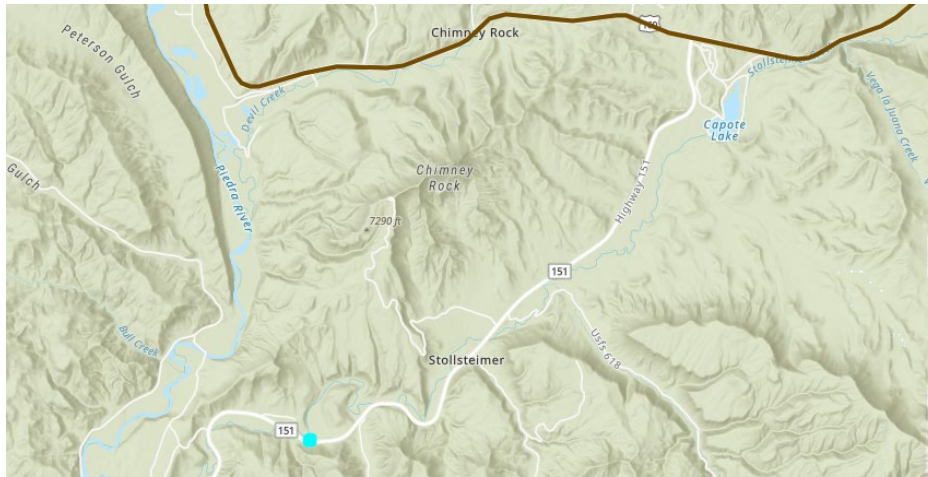
This project was located on US 550 at approximate MP 81- 89 in Ouray County. This avalanche mitigation project installed a Gasex avalanche system on a known avalanche slide, Bluepoint and an Obelex system on the Mother Cline slide. The installation of these systems will allow maintenance crews to trigger avalanches remotely when needed. This project began on July 10, 2023 and was completed in November.



SH 151 Culvert Replacement MP 28.51- 25737

Budget: \$4.5 million
Funding Type: BE
Awarded: American West Construction, LLC

This emergency project was located on SH 151 at MP 28.51 in Archuleta County, south of Chimney Rock. Heavy spring runoff caused damage to the existing culverts. The flood damaged CMP was replaced with twin CBCs to better accommodate high water levels. This project was completed in November.



SWTPR- CURRENT PROJECTS

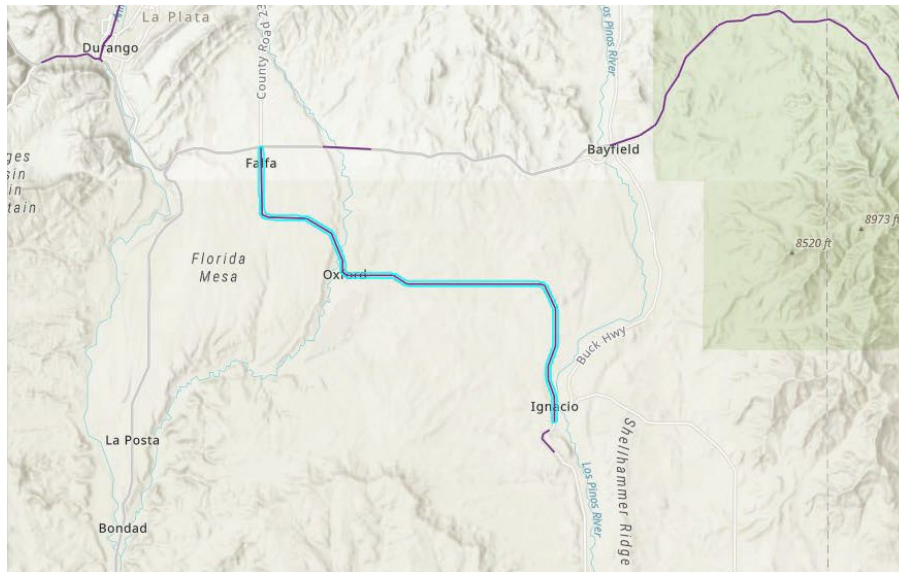
US 172 Ignacio to Elmore’s Corner- 24092

Budget: \$19 million

Funding Type: Surface Treatment, Culverts, Structures

Awarded: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc.

This project is located on SH 172 at approximate MP 8.3 to 24.5, from Ignacio to the Elmore’s Corner intersection of SH 172 and US 160. The work will include a 16.2-mile surface treatment along with ADA ramp improvements in the Town of Ignacio. Construction began on March 20th, 2023 and should be completed in December.



US 160 Signals at SH 145 & Chestnut Street- 24772

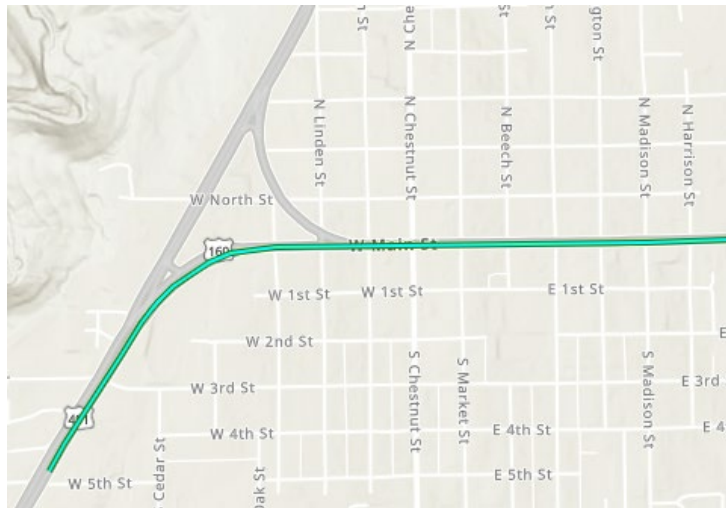
Budget: \$2 million

Funding Type: Traffic & Safety, Signals

Awarded: Bixby Electric, Inc.

This project is located on US 160 in the City of Cortez, in Montezuma County. The project will consist of signal improvements at the intersection of US 160 and SH 145, as well as the intersection of US 160 and Chestnut Street. Work will include the replacement of old existing traffic signals, poles and

electronics. This project began on May 1st, 2023 and should be completed in December.



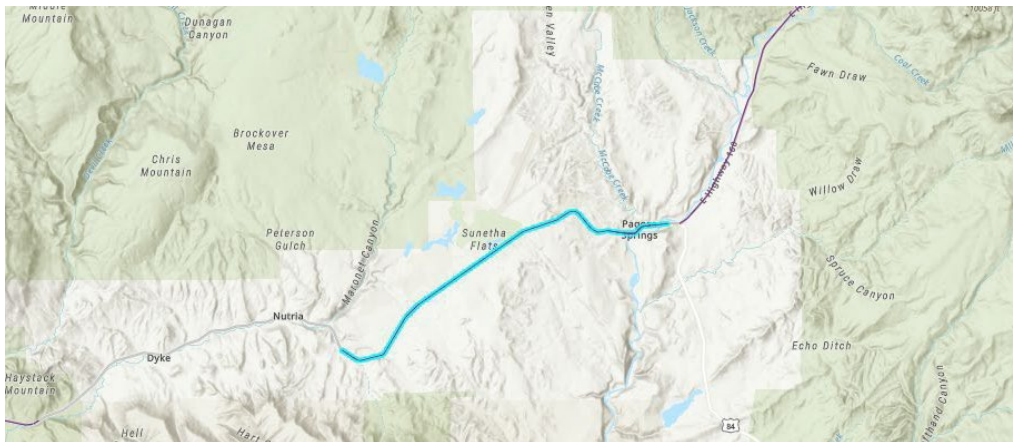
US 160 West of Pagosa MP 135- 144 ST- 23505

Budget: \$12.6 million

Funding: SUR, Safety, FSA, HAZ, Culverts

Awarded: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc.

This surface treatment project is located on US 160 in the Town of Pagosa Springs, approximate MP 135 to 144. Work will include a 1" surface treatment leveling course and a 1.5" SMA overlay as well as a 2.5" mill and fill at intersection locations with curb and gutter construction. Additional work includes culvert and guardrail replacement and re- striping. Paving operations will take place at night. This project began on May 15, 2023 and should be completed in December, weather depending.



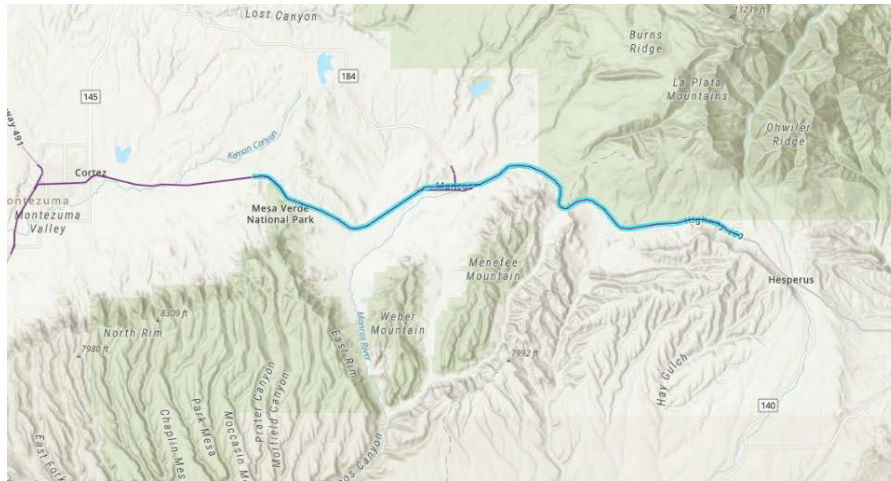
US 160 Section 3 Priority Culverts- 23191

Budget: \$2.6 million

Funding Type: Structures

Awarded: American West Construction, LLC

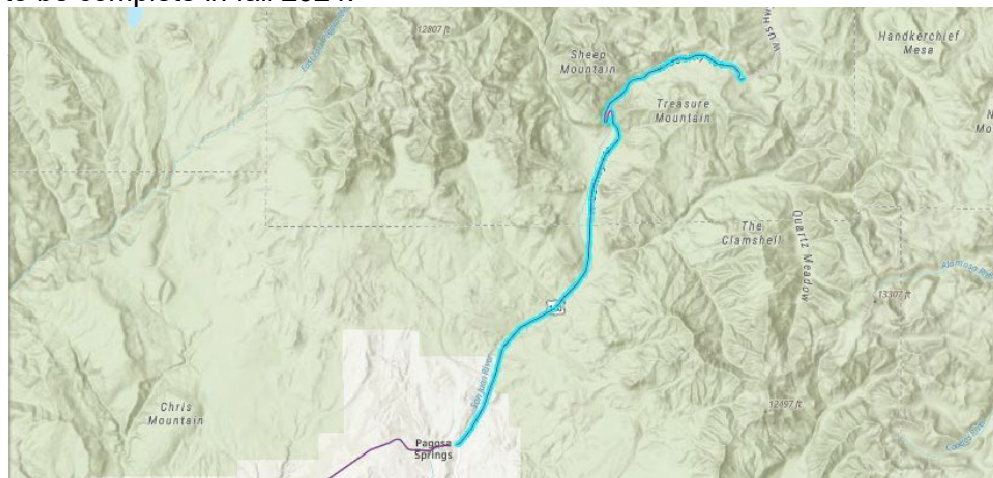
This project will be located on US 160, starting in Montezuma County, at approximate MP47, and continuing East to several locations up to a culvert on Wolf Creek Pass. A number of Priority culverts will be repaired or replaced. This project began on May 15, 2023, and should be completed in December, weather depending.



US 160 Wolf Creek West Fiber- 22107

Budget: \$12 million
 Funding Type: Traffic
 Awarded: Paonia

This project will take place on US 160 Wolf Creek Pass from approximate MP 153- 168, within Archuleta and Mineral Counties. Conduit, fiber optic cables and manholes will be installed on the western side of Wolf Creek Pass, from the summit down to Pagosa Springs. The project will also install ITS devices such as variable speed limits tied to friction sensors, a downhill truck warning system for the west side of the pass, and additional cameras. Due to contractor issues, this project was on hold for a period of time. The second season of construction started in May 2023 and is anticipated to be complete in fall 2024.

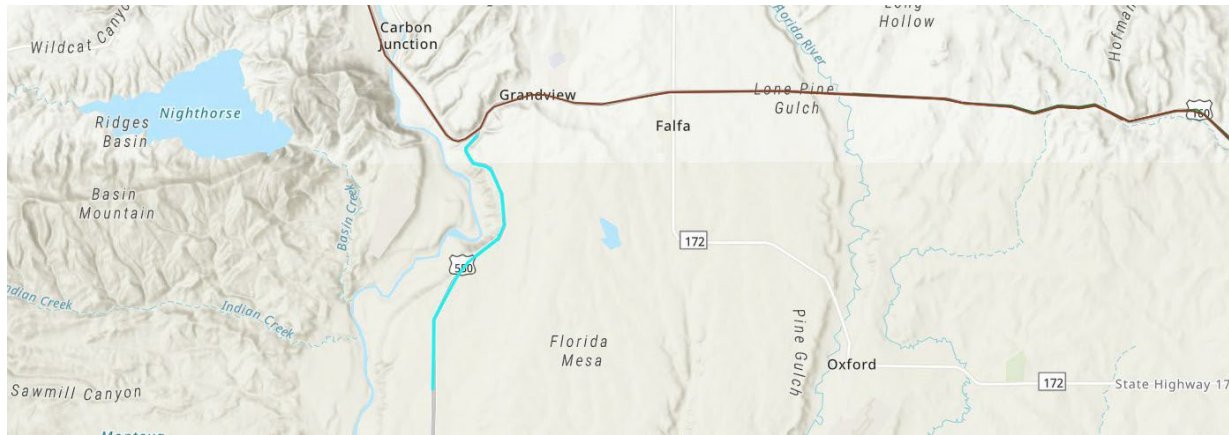


US 550/160 Connection South Design- Build- 22420

Budget: \$112 million (estimated total cost)
 Funding Type: FASTER/ SB 267/ SUR/ RPP
 Awarded: Lawrence Construction Co.

This project is focused on the US 550 connection to US 160 in La Plata County. The connection will realign US 550 directly into the existing US 160 interchange, eliminating the steep and windy grade of the current US 550 Farmington Hill and improving roadway geometry. The project will include wildlife highway mitigation features which will reduce animal-vehicle collisions. Both bridge structures

are now constructed. Additional current work includes the continuation of deer fence installation, wildlife underpass work, drainage work and further construction on the Grandview side of the project. Construction began in August 2020 and now has an estimated completion date in spring of 2024.



SWTPR- UPCOMING PROJECTS

US 160 Section 3 Chipseals- 24954

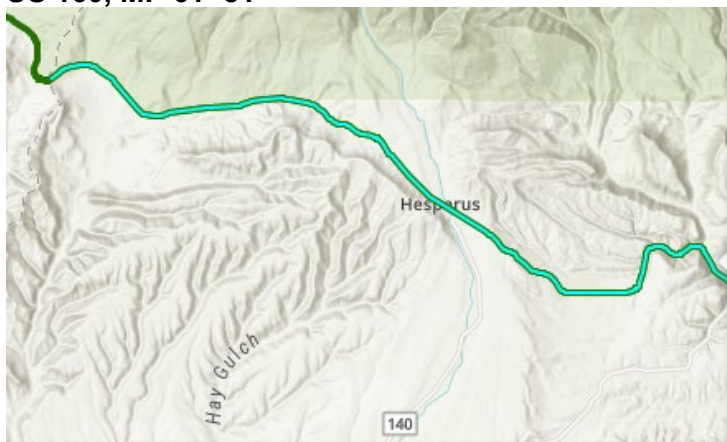
Budget: \$8.2 million

Funding Type: Surface Treatment

Ad Date: November 2023

This project is a combination of 2 surface treatment projects on US 160. One is located on US 160 from Mancos Hill, Eastbound to Durango in Montezuma and La Plata Counties, approximate MP 61-81. The second location will be on US 160, at approximate MP 102.7 to 117, in-between Bayfield and Piedra. Work will include a chipseal, fog coat, the addition of rumble strips and new pavement markings at select locations. This project is scheduled for Ad in November 2023 with construction tentatively anticipated for spring 2024.

US 160, MP 61- 81



US 160, MP 102- 117



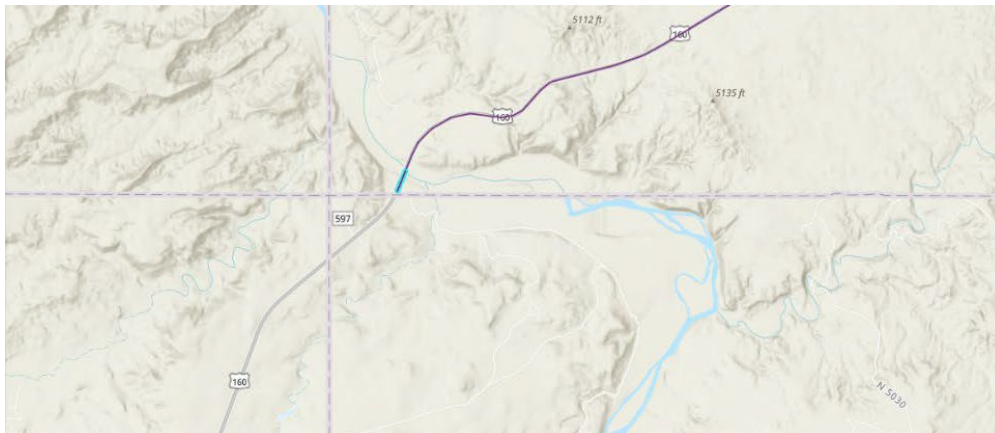
US 160 San Juan River MP 0.8 & Aztec- 20685

Budget: \$3.2 million

Funding Type: BR

Awarded: Meridian

This project is located on US 160 at the Colorado/ New Mexico state line, approximate MP 0. The project will provide scour protection for the San Juan River Bridge which will help contain the increase in runoff. Improvements to a second bridge at Aztec Creek have also been added to the project scope. This project has been awarded with start of construction tentatively anticipated for January 2024.



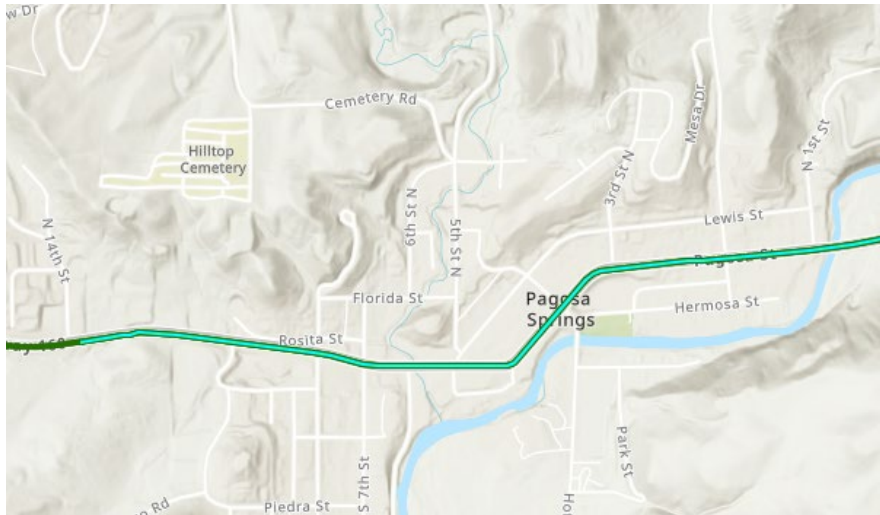
US 160 Pagosa Reconstruct- 21919

Budget: \$17 million

Funding Type: Priority

Ad Date: December 2023

This project is located on US 160 through the Town of Pagosa Springs, approximate MP 142- 144, in Archuleta County. The current scope includes improvements to US 160 Between 10th and 1st Streets. An overlay and restriping is planned from 10th Street to the west side of 8th Street with concrete reconstruction continuing from west of 8th Street to the east side of 3rd Street. Additional work will include ADA upgrades to curb ramps and sidewalks at select intersections throughout the project limits and drainage improvements. This project is scheduled for Ad in December 2023 with construction tentatively planned for spring 2024.



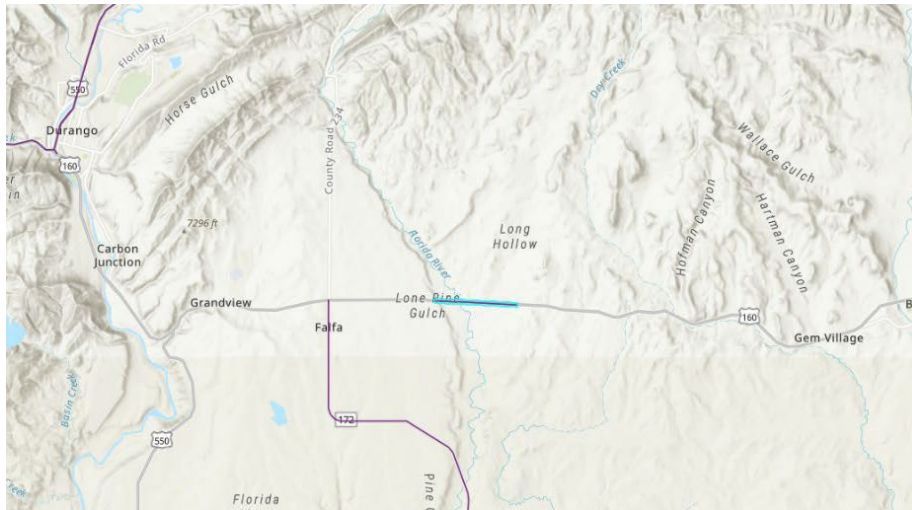
US 160 & CR 225 MP 94.04 Improvements- 23001

Budget: \$6.8mill

Funding Type: Traffic & Safety

Ad Date: Fall 2025

This project will be located on US 160 at the intersection of CR 225, at approximate MP 94.05, east of Durango. An intersection study was performed here to evaluate safer, alternative options for the design of this intersection. The results of this study were analyzed, and the project is in final review. This project schedule was pushed out to align with Grant funding opportunities. The Ad date is tentative for fall 2025.



US 160D Mancos Pedestrian Improvements- 24618

Budget: \$2.1 million

Funding Type: ADA, Local Agency

Ad Date: Fall 2024

CDOT is planning on the construction of ADA ramp improvements along US 160D in the Town of Mancos. The project is in design and has an anticipated Ad date of Fall 2024.

