

## **Southwest Transportation Planning Region Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 9:00 am**

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

**ZOOM:** [Zoom Meeting Link](#) , **Phone:** 719-359-4580, **ID:** 894 6842 0554

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|---|-----------------|
| <b>A. Introductions</b>   | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>B. Consent Agenda</b>  | <b>9:05 am</b>  |
| 1. Previous Meeting Minutes’ approval <i>(pg. 3)</i>                |                 |
| 2. Financial Report approval <i>(To Be Provided at Meeting)</i>     |                 |
| <b>C. Reports</b>   | <b>9:10 am</b>  |
| 1. STAC Update – Sarah Hill <i>(pg.11)</i>                          |                 |
| 2. Transportation Commissioner Report – Mark Garcia <i>(pg. 17)</i> |                 |
| 3. Legislative Update – Herman Stockinger                           |                 |
| 4. Congressional Updates  |                 |
| <b>D. Decision/Discussion Items</b>                                 | <b>9:40 am</b>  |
| 1. TPR Boundary Study Update – Jamie Grim <i>(pg. 27)</i>           |                 |
| 2. Letters of Support – Laura Lewis Marchino <i>(pg. 37)</i>        |                 |
| <b>E. CDOT Reports</b>  | <b>10:10 am</b> |
| 1. Construction Update - Kevin Curry                                |                 |
| <b>F. Other Business</b>  | <b>10:40 am</b> |
| 1. Updates – Round Robin  |                 |
| 2. Region 9 Update  |                 |
| <b>G. Adjourn</b>   |                 |

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## Southwest Transportation Planning Region Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 9:00 am

### A. Introductions

Elected Representatives		Guests		
	Allison Baker	City of Durango Alt.	X Aaron Willis	CDOT
X	Andrea Phillips	Town of Pagosa Springs	X Bridgette McDougall	CDOT
	Brian Perkins	City of Cortez	X George Tripp	City of Cortez
	Chuck Stevens	La Plata County Alt.	X Heather Peterson	Region 9 Econ. Development
X	Clyde Church	La Plata County	X Helen Katich	Senator Hickenlooper's Office
	Derek Woodman	Archuleta County	X Jamie Grim	CDOT
X	Heather Alvarez	Town of Mancos Alt.	X Jennifer Allison	CDOT
	Jeremey Mickey	Town of Ignacio Alt.	X John Whitney	Senator Bennet's Office
	Jim Candelaria	Montezuma County	X Julie Constan	CDOT
X	Katie Sickles	Town of Bayfield	X Kevin Bruce	Archuleta County
	Ken Charles	Town of Dolores	X Laura Lewis Marchino	Region 9 Econ. Development
	Kent Lindsay	Montezuma County Alt.	X Phil von Hake	CDOT
X	Kevin Kissler	City of Cortez Alt.	X Scott Baker	City of Cortez
	Leigh Reeves	Town of Dolores Alt.	X Shak Powers	Region 9 Econ. Development
	Linda Yellowman	Dolores County Alt.	X Timothy Funk	CDOT
	Lucy Mulvihill	Town of Silverton	X TJ Burr	CDOT
X	Mark Garcia	Town of Ignacio	X Tony Cady	CDOT
X	Mary Eagle	Southern Ute Indian Tribe		
	Matt DeGuise	Town of Pagosa Springs		
X	Nicole Killian	Town of Bayfield Alt.		
	Pete Maisel	San Juan County		
	Richard Tokar	Town of Mancos		
	Roman Seibel	Southern Ute Indian Tribe Alt.		
	Ronnie Maez	Archuleta County Alt.		
X	Sarah Hill	City of Durango		
X	Steve Garchar	Dolores County		
	Todd Bove	Town of Silverton Alt.		
	Willy Tookey	San Juan County Alt.		

**Sarah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.**

### B. Consent Agenda

1. Previous Meeting Minutes' approval

**Motion from Clyde Church to approve the minutes as presented.**

**Second: Heather Alvarez; Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Financial Report approval
  - a. Working with CDOT on the Grant contract renewal to transfer to Grant to Region 9 instead of SWCCOG starting in July.

**Motion from Heather Alvarez to approve the financial report as presented.**

**Second: Andrea Phillips; Motion passed unanimously.**

### C. Reports

1. STAC Update (*Detailed information was included in the packet*)
  - a. Held March and April meetings since last TPR meeting.
    - i. Presentations and updates from these meetings were included in the packet.
  - b. March had updates in the Safe House to School Program. There was approximately \$2M that was not awarded due to project eligibility issues. The undisbursed funds will be rolled into the next fund.
    - i. A Safe House to School Committee position will need to be filled. Heather Sloop resigning position.
  - c. STAC presented on Poor Interstate Pavement strategies and recommended to the Transportation Commission to approve a new method to address issues. Passed with majority vote.
  - d. Recommended adoption of 2024 Fiscal Budget
  - e. Fiber and Broadband Infrastructure Improvements
    - i. An overview was presented to STAC regarding CDOT's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Branch and the Branch's Fiber Optic.
2. Transportation Commissioner Report – Mark Garcia
  - a. Did not attend the March STAC meeting but much work completed on House Bill 1101 & last minutes changes to the language.
  - b. Broadband efforts continue to progress. CDOT held a workshop at the April meeting that detailed a new fee structure for ROW access.
  - c. Progress on Wolf Creek buildout for fiber into Pagosa Springs.
3. Legislative Update – Herman Stockinger
  - a. House Bill 1101 – Transportation
    - i. Bill provides Transit free rides during OZ season.
    - ii. Transit Committees must have a voting member on Transportation Planning Committees, which must be complete by September 2023.
    - iii. Bill has Amendment that requires CDOT to perform study on boundaries, which must be completed by November 2023, and then released to the Transportation Planning Committees.
    - iv. The TPR's do not have to put the recommended changes into effect unless they feel it is appropriate.
    - v. Bill has items that protect rural Colorado.
      - Cannot reduce the number of Rural TPRs.
      - Removes language to assess the equitable representation on STAC. (2/3 representation)
      - Require review of not just populations but lanes miles, truck miles traveled, etc.
      - Must have a public process and receive public input for recommendations.
  - b. Senate Bill 213 – Housing
    - i. No much to discuss at this meeting as its basis is housing and it has not been passed through its 1st committee yet.

- ii. Requires a Strategic Growth Objective to look at growth through public process and comment. From a Transportation perspective, Statewide and Regional Plans must be aligned with these growth objectives, including the 10-year Plans.
- iii. From Grant perspective, the CDOT Grants that are provided to Local Governments must also be aligned with the growth objectives.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **With Transit being more involved in STAC, what does that entail?**
  - **Transit Committee must have a voting member on TPR, not just an attendee.**
  - **The Amendment also requires a review of the Transit Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC) and how it interfaces with STAC; there is a STAC member that is also a member of TRAC.**
- **If Boundaries are aligned, will they be aligned with the Planning Management Regions?**
  - **Review of the boundaries for consistency between the COG and DOLA regions is being performed to create more consistency.**

4. Senator Bennet's Office – John Whitney

a. Bipartisan Bill

- i. Incredible effort was made on the Infrastructure Bill (passed with 69 Senate votes).
- ii. Colorado will receive \$3.7B in funding for highway projects, \$917M in public transportation, \$57M for Electric Vehicle charging and \$65B for Broadband.
- iii. \$1.9M for Durango Airport
- iv. Working on Raised Grants and getting supports letters.

b. Forests and Watershed was included in the Bill.

- i. \$55B for forests with more to be released.
- ii. Western watershed will receive \$8.3B.

5. Senator Hickenlooper's Office - Helen Katich

a. The Office is reviewing 500 grant applications for Congressional Discretionary Funding and will have the first set of project applications posted to the website in 2-3 weeks.

- i. Trying to push through the transportation, transit, and infrastructure projects.

b. EPA Regulations on Electric Vehicle

- i. Clean School Bus Program was funded last year; there is 1 clean bus within Region 9. RFP's for additional buses are expected between May and September.
- ii. There are infrastructure concerns regarding buildout. Hickenlooper's Office is working on the Big Wires Bill regarding this process.

c. Thanks to Shak and Laura with Region 9 for their work on the Middle Mile Grant for \$66M.

- i. Region 9 is waiting for a response from NTIA regarding the funding award but received Letters of Support from all the Congressional offices.

6. CDOT Congressional Update - Jamie Grim

a. CDOT is positioning for the Wildlife Crossings Grant.

b. Save Streets and Roads For All Program

- i. CDOT is not eligible, but Counties / Governments are eligible. This is regarding walkability, pedestrian, and safety items.

c. CDOT is working on an Alcohol and Impaired Driving Enforcement Bill which addresses driving high as well as drunk driving. It is on the House Floor for review currently.

- d. Reviewing Bill to increase fines on hills for Commercial Motor Vehicles due to drivers lack of ability to drive in snow, driving downhill at appropriate speeds and taking controls curves.
  - e. Still no EV charging at rest stations or within Federally funded lands with a vendor that would pay the cost, the service must be free which is a financial burden. Thus, until Congress can resolve the issue, CDOT is working with State vendors to use State owned parking areas.
7. MMOF projects with ARPA funding – Bridgett McDougall
- a. In 2022, both MMOF and RMS awarded projects with new ARPA Funds from the Treasury.
  - b. Funds must be obligated by December 31, 202, meaning they need to be encumbered into a phase for reimbursement.
  - c. Funds must be expended by December 31, 2026, meaning the Local Agency must have paid invoices by deadline.
  - d. Projects at Risk
    - i. Delivery Process for new applicants to the CDOT / Federal Project.
    - ii. Construction cost inflation and current bidding market.
    - iii. CDOT will put attention to these risk projects.
  - e. Mitigation to Loosing Funds – Contingency Plan
    - i. Create milestone schedule with set quality levels.
    - ii. Swap ARPA fund with State funds that can be used.

#### D. Decision/Discussion Items

1. TPR 101 - Tony Cady
- a. The presentation was included in the packet and focused on the role of the TPR, its members and the processes for making and amending plans.
  - b. The CDOT Transportation Planning Manual can be found here: [CDOT Planning Manual](#).

##### Questions:

- **Is there an informational cheatsheet for newly elected officials regarding project requests to CDOT?**
    - **CDOT has a new TPR representative packet available. Region 9 will coordinate with CDOT to provide these packets to the Governments/Representatives upon election.**
  - **Is there a status of all projects available?**
    - **There is a 10-year plan on the CDOT website that is tracked and reviewed. It was updated in 2023. However, with all the projects required and limited funding, the projects are typically consistent from year to year. There is also a 25-year plan but it does not get tracked.**
    - **List of projects that have been submitted. – No current list available.**
2. Ratify Letter of Support for US 160 Durango East Safety and Mobility Improvement Project
- a. Emailed a Letter of Support for this project.
- Motion from Clyde Church to approve Ratify the US 160 Letter as presented.**  
**Second: Steve Garcher; Motion passed unanimously.**
3. Montezuma County Request for Paths to Mesa Verde MMOF Grant Extension
- a. Montezuma County will be requesting a 6-month extension of an IGA with CDOT. Bridgett McDougall has been working with Michael Snow on the 2020 MMOF Grants that were awarded by the TPR's and will expire June 2023. Per Bridgett McDougall email, Montezuma County was directed

to request an extension through the TPR, along with most recipients being directed to ask their TPR's for an extension.

- b. Some projects didn't ask for an extension, but CDOT is trying to get ahead of the expirations. Michael Snow will be issuing extension letters (if granted) but to do so, the Local Agency needs to request an extension and get approval from their TPR. That documentation will be sent to Michael and any extensions will be sent out.
- c. Essentially, Michael wants the TPR's to be involved with the extensions as they were the Grant awarders. Michael has said that TPR Meeting Minutes work for approval or even an email back to Montezuma County if granted.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **Most of the private property Right-of-Way issues have been resolved.**
- **Consultants are preparing the final design work for final review in August and Grant closeout in September.**
- **The Extension will need to be approved by the TPR and then the vote will be disseminated.**
- **Most extensions are being requested for project funds from 2020.**
- **The Local Agencies need to be held accountable for scheduling and quality planning since the funds continue to be extended and more projects are at risk of losing funding.**
- **There is a concern that all the Funds are being used for construction in 2026, which means the funds would have to be extended again, which is concerning for project delivery.**

**Motion from     Katie Sickles     to approve the MMOF Grant Extension as presented.**

**Second:     Kevin Kissler    ; Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Town of Bayfield Intersection of Highway 160 and East Bayfield Parkway signalized intersection discussion.
  - a. The Town of Bayfield is moving forward with the US Highway 160/East Bayfield Parkway new signalized intersection project. The Bayfield Board of Trustees asked Town Staff to take the lead on this project. Town staff contracted with SEH Engineering and submitted an Access Permit Application to CDOT in 2022.
  - b. Town staff needs funding and recently applied for Congressionally Directed Spending Funding from Senator Michael Bennet, Senator John Hickenlooper, and Congresswoman Lauren Boebert. The Town of Bayfield received Letters of Support from CDOT and the La Plata County Commissioners to apply for this funding.
  - c. The La Plata County Commissioners have also given the Town of Bayfield a Letter of Support addressed to the Southwest TPR to move this project to the TPR's 10-year funded project list.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **This will improve access for commercial properties, high-density housing areas, and to the Intermediary school for buses.**
- **The project is already on the 2045 TPR Project list but unfunded.**
- **The Congressional Funding was submitted and CDOT is supporting the project, so it appears to be moving forward.**
- **Total project is \$3.8M with Developers and other participating in cost.**
- **Project cannot be moved to the 10-year plan unless another project is removed; however, the project list is locked.**
- **Cannot install a round-about due to right-of way space restrictions.**

5. Roadrunner Transportation - notice of change of the use of Award #02819 MMOF
  - a. Roadrunner Transportation/ SoCoCAA had a meeting with T.J. Burr to discuss Award #020819. This MMOF Award will expire at the end of April. There are \$19K in funds remaining that Roadrunner does not want to forfeit. The original Award was for operational purposes, which did not get utilized due to COVID funding available. The award was re-purposed in April of 2021 for a repeater and radios for transit buses and routes.
  - b. Roadrunner gave notice for a change of use of Award #02819 MMOF again. The change will be from purchasing a repeater to purchasing a snowplow for building maintenance at the new facility.
  - c. The original scope of work for this award was generic and a notification to SWTPR would be sufficient to allow the change.
  - d. CDOT approves the funding change and Roadrunner is requesting SWTPR approval as well.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **What procedure needs to be followed for the Award funding change?**
  - **CDOT is not sure if Roadrunner only needs to request change from TPR or if more is required.**
  - **It would be better to vote and approve if needed, than to not have the vote on record.**
- **If already purchased, are there restrictions in using the funding for items that have already been purchased?**
  - **Snowplow has not been purchased. The radios and repeaters have been purchased and received.**

**Motion from Mark Garcia to approve Roadrunner's request for change of use for the 2020 MMOF Award.**

**Second: Clyde Church; Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Dolores County – request traffic study of Highway 491
  - a. Dolores County is requesting a traffic study on Highway 491 to identify the commercial truck traffic.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **Need to determine volume of trucks and traffic on Highway 491.**
- **CDOT has an OTIS database that has all that information.**

**E. CDOT Reports**

1. Construction Update – Tony Cady
  - a. Current project updates were provided in the packet.

**Questions/Discussions:**

- **Highway 151 is closed indefinitely due to road erosion. Two 12' culverts and road are deteriorating from the high snow melt and water flow from the creek. Once flows subside, the integrity of the road can be determined, and repairs will begin.**
- **Wolf Creek West Fiber project is a year behind schedule. The Contractor is planning to start construction May 1<sup>st</sup>. CDOT and Acadian are finalizing agreements for fiber.**
- **Procurement of the signals for the US 160 at SH 145 and Chestnut Street has been difficult.**
- **There has been multiple snow and mud slides on Highway 550 and County Road 145.**
- **What is the status of the Grants for Elmer's Corner / US 160 East?**
  - **Grants were submitted in February and have not heard back on approval.**
  - **The feedback session with the last application was that the Grant was nicely done.**



## F. Other Business

### 1. Updates – Round Robin

- a. Town of Pagosa Springs – Andrea Phillips
  - i. McCabe Creek is still underway, high-water flows are being watched
  - ii. Have \$1M in maintenance budget that is being used for chip-sealing, slurry-seal and mill-overlay projects.
  - iii. The pedestrian bridge contract should be approved April 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - iv. The 1<sup>st</sup> Street crosswalk construction will begin shortly.
  - v. Working with Archuleta County and CDOT on an Access Control Plan and Secondary Road Network update.
- b. City of Cortez – Kevin Kissler
  - i. Working with the TPR to get lists updated.
  - ii. City has 6 culverts with issues in the CDOT ROWs, so far the roads are still functional and the City has prepared for high water flows. They will reach out to CDOT for repairs.
  - iii. Coordinating with CDOT on the stop light repair.
  - iv. Continued work on 491 de-evolution and reviewing the possibility of adding capacity to the width due to pedestrian traffic.
  - v. Applying for Grant funding for the proposed infrastructure projects.
    - 1) Received Safe Street for All planning Grant, still working with State on contract.
    - 2) Received Safe Routes to School Grant, will allow rehabilitation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor.
- c. La Plata County – Clyde Church
  - i. County blasted 2 large boulders that fell onto La Posta Road.
  - ii. County is working through budgets and has \$145M in backlog, thus new construction projects are unable to be reviewed.
    - 1) There are multiple projects for road re-paving / chip-sealing which will incorporate employees.
    - 2) Emergency Management team is touring the County and responding to numerous calls.
    - 3) Requests are increasing from County Residents to have County Roads paved instead of dirt.
- d. Town of Ignacio – Mark Garcia
  - i. CDOT is replacing the handicap ramps and culverts in Town for the mill and overlay project.
  - ii. Reached out to the businesses and residents to ask if they would be interested in replacing the old sewer access prior to the mill and overlay project, over 2 dozen residents requested replacement.
- e. Town of Bayfield – Katie Sickles
  - i. KLJ plans have not been submitted for the Bayfield project.
  - ii. Town is in design phase for the revitalization on Main Street on the East Gateway project.
  - iii. Released RFP for the pedestrian crossing on Highway 160, would like to have an underpass.
- f. City of Durango – Sarah Hill
  - i. Senate Bill 267 Funding for North Main Transit Capital Project. The bid was significantly more than the budget.
  - ii. Delays with DTR and Transit Operating Grants. 2023 Admin Operating Grants are not contracted yet.

- iii. The Main Street underpass project needs additional site plan information from the Fire Protection District.
- g. Dolores County – Steve Garcher
  - i. There are 9 County Roads have been flooded with water; River Road to the Dove Creek Pumps is closed due to erosion.
  - ii. Predicting record-breaking rafting season with flows at 50 cfs from McFee with side canyons running at 70 cfs near Slick Rock.
- 2. Region 9 Update
  - a. Safe Streets for All Grant funding is still open for Local Jurisdictions, except for CDOT who is not eligible. Region 9 can help with the processing requirements.
  - b. CDOT’S project list and the 2045 plan - both available at [www.codot.gov](http://www.codot.gov). The full list of projects can be found here: [https://www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/assets/project-lists/appendix-b\\_sw-project-list\\_052920.pdf](https://www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/assets/project-lists/appendix-b_sw-project-list_052920.pdf)
  - c. The complete SWTPR 2045 Plan can be found here: [https://www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/assets/regional-transportation-plans/sw-rtp\\_public-review-draft\\_050120.pdf](https://www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/assets/regional-transportation-plans/sw-rtp_public-review-draft_050120.pdf). This information was also sent out on February 13th.
  - d. SWTPR Representatives and Alternates List was attached to the packet.
  - e. Tony Cady requested a Letter of Support from the SWTPR for the US 160 Durango East Safety and Mobility Improvement Project. There were no objections, and the letter was sent. This decision can be ratified at the April meeting.
- 3. Next Meeting: June 8, 2023.

**G. Adjourn**

Motion from Kevin Kissler to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 am.  
Second: Clyde Church; Motion passed unanimously.

## Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) Meeting Notes

Chair: Vince Rogalski, Gunnison Valley TPR

Date/Time: Thursday, May 4, 2023; 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Virtual Only

Recording: May 4, 2023 STAC:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_HjVW0luA8Oveq\\_a2RfM8Gs8asCANhRF/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_HjVW0luA8Oveq_a2RfM8Gs8asCANhRF/view?usp=sharing)

### Attendance:

Denver Area:	Nicholas Williams, and Ron Papsdorf	Pueblo Area:	Eva Cosyleon
Central Front Range:	Dick Elsner Dwayne McFall, and Samantha Hughes	San Luis Valley:	Keith Baker, Vern Heersink
Eastern:	Chris Richardson and Scott Weaver	South Central:	Jennifer Oliver
Grand Valley:	Dana Brosig, Rachel Peterson, and Peter Baier	Southeast:	Stephanie Gonzales
Gunnison Valley:	Vince Rogalski	Southwest:	Sarah Hill
Intermountain:	Bentley Henderson	Upper Front Range:	Kevin Ross and Elizabeth Relford
North Front Range:	Scott James, Becky Karasko, Suzette Mallette, and Johnny Olson	Southern Ute Tribe:	None
Northwest:	Heather Sloop and Brian Cerkvenik	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe:	Manuel Heart
Pikes Peak Area:	Holly Williams, John Liosatos, Danelle Miller, Jessica Bechtel	FHWA:	Bill Haas, Aaron Bustow
		FTA:	None
		Transportation Commissioners:	Eula Adams, Lisa Hickey

### Highlights and Action Items

1. Welcome and Introductions – meeting commenced at 8:30 am by Vince Rogalski, STAC Chair.
  
3. Approval of the April 2023 Meeting Minutes
  - STAC Action: STAC took action to approve the March 2023 STAC Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Williams so moved, and seconded by Commissioner Ross.
  
3. CDOT Current Events – Herman Stockinger, CDOT Deputy Executive Director
  - Currently visiting rural TPRs to provide an update of HB 23-1101 and provide updates on other controversial presented legislation, such as SB-23-213, Land Use.
  - TC Agenda for May will cover:
    - 11th Budget Supplement for FY 2023
    - Tolling Operations and Maintenance Interagency Agreement (IAA) between CDOT and the Colorado Transportation Investment Office (CTIO)
    - Adoption of the FY 24-27 STIP for effective date of July 1, 2023
    - Nominating Committee for New Officers - Commissioner Beedy serving as TC Chair until July 1, 2023.

#### 4. CDOT Transportation Commission (TC) Updates – Vince Rogalski, STAC Chair ([Video Timestamp 00:00:00](#))

- Aeronautics Division Update
  - Denver International Airport is currently the 3rd busiest in the world.
  - The Aeronautics Division is focused on supporting efforts to get more pilots and more education programs underway.
  - Battery and electric powered aircraft coming. Possibility for hydrogen powered aircraft.
  - Mobile Aviation Tower is a fairly new aviation technology in Colorado.
- Budget - Ice & Snow removal: TC will consider a proposal to increase the budget by \$19 million for this season. Spring is not over yet.
- In the regular meeting, all resolutions were passed, except for fiber access fees. Getting broadband in rural communities is difficult.
- The Federal MMOF funds must be obligated by December, 2024 and fully expended by December, 2026, so there is concern these delays will make it challenging to meet those deadlines.

#### 5. TPR Representative Reports ([Video Timestamp 00:08:05](#))

- DRCOG - The DRCOG Board met on April 19th, and allocated \$8 million to transit projects and programs for older adults, individuals with disabilities and other vulnerable populations. This money comes from the Older Americans Act to DRCOG AAA along with FTA 5310 funds administered by DRCOG as well as TIP set-aside program for Human Service transportation. Also the DRCOG Board adopted a resolution authorizing DRCOG to submit a notice of intent to participate with the EPA that designated DRCOG as the lead agency and grant recipient for the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Metropolitan Statistical Area Climate Pollution Reduction grant.
- CFRTPR - Custer County CO 96 is resurfacing a year late because the contractor had all kinds of issues; CO 9 South of Guffey a bridge replacement project is causing a traffic slowdown; another project is North of Fairplay and North of Alma a complete shutdown will occur for a couple of weeks which will be a challenge to drive with limited detour options; US 24 from Antero to Hartsel is closed for another week. US 24 close to Fluorescent roadway straightening project is underway with rockfall removal too: US 24 & CO 9 in Fairplay interchange project is starting, anticipate delays on CO 9 and US 285; there is an issue with MMOF funds - Teller County Senior Coalition and other transit agencies have reported having trouble getting MMOF contracts executed, and impacts to operations due to their delays; they are working with CDOT buying a couple of buses, doing some route changes, getting some place to park their buses; Park County just signed an agreement with CORE Electric to install a couple of EV charging stations in Bailey.
- ETPR - ETPR hasn't met since the last STAC but has Project Priority Programming Process (4P) meetings coming up throughout the region on May 22nd & 23rd; continuing the effort of tracking the MMOF programs prepping for the planning cycle coming up and have needs that exceed resources; CDOT's focus on EVs vs. the roadway maintenance work is a concern for ETPR.
- Grand Valley TPR - Met last week with their board- approved the 2024-2027 FY TIP; working on getting the travel demand model up and running for the next long range plan update; yesterday had a successful Bike To Work Day, and innovative activities are occurring and will continue to promote biking to work.
- Gunnison Valley TPR - Struggling with Little Blue Creek Canyon on US 50- its been closed on and off with alternate traffic. Was a public meeting with construction people. The construction season for the Canyon initially anticipated for July 14th, now anticipated to be completed by mid-November; Summer construction is beginning. Increasing more passing lanes on US 50 to the east between Little Blue Creek Canyon to Monarch Pass hoping delays are not to bad; dealing with TAP 8 applications for Region 5 and

15 applications for Region 3; the next GVTPR meeting is next week on May 11th and people are interested in HB 23 1101 regarding TPR boundaries. Believe the boundaries should remain as is.

- NFRMPO - At the April 6th meeting the planning council approved the MPO's 2050 RTP Goals, Objectives, Performance Measures and Target which will be incorporated into the 2050 RTP which will be adopted later this year; At NFR Planning Council- was a Colorado state legislature update from State Representative Andrew Boesenecker; On the North I-25 corridor- reaping the benefits of 2 decades of advocacy and \$84 million contributed from the local governments, that same focus on safety and capacity are needed in other parts of the region.
- NWTPR - Grand County thanks CDOT for coming up and helping out with some conversations and for the money for Berthoud Pass; flooding is happening in Northwest Colorado on roads, and trails due to the second biggest snow season in history of Steamboat Springs with 440 inches of snow that is melting; Busiest bus season in Steamboat Springs in history- with 3.25 million ridership recorded in the first three months of the year; recognized and thanked Herman Stockinger for coming up next week to visit with NWTPR, and NWTPR is interested in what House Bill 1101 looks like. Senate Bill 213 is on a lot of local's minds, and folks want to know what the impacts to funding is for rural Colorado.
- PPACG - Had an EV workshop which was well received by attendees which included University of Colorado, Colorado Springs and school districts, along with a visit from Michael King, CDOT Assistant Director of Electrification and Energy, which was appreciated; Last month discussed Ozone levels and how we're getting close up to the limit in El Paso County- talked about mitigating factors; expansion on I-25 between Garden of the Gods and Fillmore a continuous on/off ramp, will be a project this summer. On the Military Access, Mobility & Safety Improvement Project (MAMSIP) there was a ribbon cutting ceremony at Charter Oak and South Academy; Highway User Tax Funds coming in are a little bit lower than expected for El Paso County for the first quarter of the year was a concern; a lot of capacity and safety issues on the roads exist; City council election in Colorado Springs is short meeting next week and we are looking forward to getting some new board members next Wednesday.
- PACOG - Have not had a board meeting since February; one of the county commissioners Garrison Ortiz has stepped down and he'll be the CFO at CSU Pueblo so will be getting a new County Commissioner pretty soon; Awarded three Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects; continuing complete streets initiative and gearing up for a walk audit on May 18th; CDOT is beginning their Eden and Exit 104 split diamond on the North end of town; 3 TAP applications have been submitted.
- SLVTPR - Completed round of CDOT annual meetings with all the counties as part of 4P; conducted a round of TAP analysis meetings; Reactivating work projects that were laid up over winter and initiating some others. Construction agenda isn't very ambitious right now- but will be focused on corrective maintenance; attended a Internet and all Broadband conference in Westminster a couple of weeks ago, and the point of contact at CDOT is Jonas Durham; the issue of focusing on roadway maintenance vs. EV infrastructure was expressed; suggested to install a couple of EV charging stations at chain-up stations and rest areas, etc., noted interpersonal conflicts at charging stations because of the lack of charging stations.
- SCTPR - TPR meeting last week, 2 applications for TAP which will be reviewed further for upcoming meeting in June for approval of those applications; maintenance projects will start back up as the weather improves. Fishers Peak State Park, Colorado's newest state park road is a state road, and a maintenance request to CDOT has been requested; Bustang Outrider program has been running for about a month and ridership has surpassed expectations with over 100 riders served in under a month.
- SETPR - Had TPR meeting on April 26th- appreciate all the CDOT representatives that made the trip to attend our meeting; extended thanks to Herman for the updates he was able to provide to our TPR

members; submitted TAP applications that were received; voted and approved TIP additions for FY 23; For projects there is a lot of activity happening in the region. Main Street project in Lamar to the bridge repair, with some surface treatments that are getting ready to start; SETPR collaborated with the City of La Junta to start our transit route that previously ran from Otero County through Benton over to Prowers, and we are making great strides; this transit program will be branded as SETran and have routes to run north and south to cover the remaining 3 counties; hopefully in the next couple of months we will have that running.

- SWTPR - Wanted to thank Herman for joining the SWTPR meeting on April 13th, and appreciated the representation from CDOT Headquarters and taking the time to update our TPR on HB 23-1101; Walked through the MMOF projects in our region that have ARPA deadlines; listened to a TPR 101 presentation from Tony Cady; have a number of new TPR members so we heard about the planning process, TPR funding mechanisms and the general role of the TPR; the TPR ratified a letter of support for RAISE grant funding for the US 160 Durango East safety mobility project between Durango and Bayfield; approved a change order for an MMOF award for road runners so they can purchase some critical equipment; received a request from Dolores County for a traffic study on CO 491; Hosted a Walk, Bike and Roll event yesterday with Safe Routes to School funding; Building on the Free Fare for Better Air Ozone Program that was funded through Senate Bill 260, and Durango transit will offer free transit for three months this year, June, July, and August; Colorado Association of Transit Agencies CAST is administering the Free Fare grant program and applications are open for transit agencies interested in applying.
- UMU (Ute Mountain Ute Tribe) - US 160 from Four Corners all the way up project is still in progress; issues with bridge scour on San Juan bridge and also the Aztec bridge are a concern and probably part of this project; running into fencing issues with silt and debris from runoff and snow melt; livestock are jumping over the fences along roadways including US 160; potholes on CO 491 and other roads are an issue, and we request CDOT maintenance staff to clean that up; UMU applied for some EV stations for the casino and rest areas; have observed vehicles sit on the side of the road that need charging; not heard anything from CDOT on the cameras coming into the areas along CO 491 and US 160 regarding this technology-based solution for issues along these corridors; requested invitations to SWTPR local meetings.
- UFRTPR - Next meeting is June 1st in Fort Lupton from 1-4pm it will be a hybrid meeting- in-person and virtual; Have our Summer conference for Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI); 4P meetings in Weld County are scheduled for May 25th and June 22nd; thanked the Region 4 staff for doing a great job helping the TPR out on many projects; having a presentation at the June TPR meeting regarding Northern Integrated Supply Project (NIST); It is a large storage project brought forth by northern water and its going to provide water to 15 communities in northern Colorado; may have to reroute US 287 from Fort Collins to Larimie for this project; If there is interest they can bring the presentation to CDOT headquarters.
- IMTPR - Had a meeting last Friday and thanked Herman for coming to the meeting where he provided some great updates and great information regarding the broader scope of things; IMTPR I-70 is in shambles from the top of the pass almost to the Utah border with work going on everywhere; Cottonwood Pass in IMTPR finished a study looking at that right of way and trying to take a look at what kind of things can be done to maybe improve it, not as an alternate route, but so that it can be used by folks if the Canyon gets closed or if locals need it; there is a RAISE grant for IMTPR Cottonwood Pass that has been pursued by CDOT for the Eagle County side; the other part of the RAISE grant is to support the improvements in Glenwood Canyon for some expansion joints and some guard rails; looking at MMOF projects, and have done an project completion extension for one of the MMOF projects in the City of Aspen.

6. Preparatory Program Distribution Discussion Transportation Funding Refresher- Marissa Gaughan and Aaron Willis ([video timestamp 47:11](#))

- CDOT is reviewing program distribution as a lead off for development of the (video timestamp 54:00)2050 Statewide Transportation Plan and will update all forecasts of revenue and revisit TC-directed and FHWA-directed distribution methodology for formula programs (i.e. RPP, MMOF, Metro Planning, STBG-Metro, Carbon Reduction, CMAQ, TAP, and FASTER Safety.)
- Per 23 CFR§ 450.104 - we have until August 2025 to adopt the 2050 Statewide and Regional Transportation Plans.
- This will require STAC to examine distribution formulas for programs and provide a recommendation to the TC.
- Staff plans to kick off the program distribution process with STAC in July; anticipating facilitated discussions on 1-2 formula programs each month. Staff will present how funding for each program is distributed currently and will seek STAC recommendations to the TC if/how distributions by program should change.
- A STAC motion recommending the RPP discussion be held in August and MMOF in October, was passed and agreed to by Staff.

7. Legislative Update (State Legislation)- Emily Haddaway ([Video Timestamp 02:09:11](#))

- The Colorado state legislative session is ending Monday May 15th.
- SB23-268: Ten-Year Transportation Plan bill has passed both chambers and is headed to the Governor's desk.
- HB23-1101: Ozone Season Transit Grant Program Flexibility - The final conference committee report was approved by the House and Senate and the bill has been signed by the Governor.
  - The final version of Section 4 tasks CDOT with a study of TPR boundaries and planning processes.
- SB23-213 Land Use bill has passed the Senate after substantial amendments. Previous upzoning requirements were removed from the bill. Several provisions were added back to the bill in the first committee of reference in the House. Unclear if changes will pass the house committee or be accepted by the Senate.
- Other bills covered included updates on:
  - HB23 [illegible] - Scope of Bridge & Tunnel Enterprise
  - SB23-200- Automated Vehicle Identification System
  - HB23-127- Double Fines Speeding Trucks Steep Grade Zones
  - HB23-1233- Electric Vehicle Charging Parking Requirements
  - HB23-1102 Alcohol & Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement
  - SB23-268- Ten Year Transportation Plan Information
  - SB23-280- Hazardous Material Mitigation
  - SB23-283- Mechanisms for Federal Infrastructure Funding

8. Legislative Report (State SB 23-1101 and Federal Legislation) Herman Stockinger and Jamie Grim CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations (OPGR) ([Video Timestamp 02:19:40](#))

- Conference Committee Report- Jamie Grim & Herman Stockinger, Office of Policy and Government Relations
- Federal Update: Not a lot of transportation things happening; They're in the middle of the debt ceiling negotiations; House made a proposal that would affect a lot of climate-related policies in the Inflation-Reduction Act & Pandemic Stimulus Program; These wouldn't affect IIJA funding but could impact newer programs related to EV's, climate, air quality. The Senate could differ on proposal(s).
- State: Conference Committee Report for HB23-1101 to consist of a study of TPR boundaries and planning processes.
  - Updates to boundaries have not been made in 30 years.
  - Amendment protects rural Colorado's transportation interests by mandating the number of TPRs cannot be reduced - 10 rural TPRs and 5 urban MPOs will remain the same.

- Amendment outlines multiple items to be considered and additional criteria were added to the study at recommendation of stakeholders in rural Colorado such as lane miles, frequent traffic, and truck vehicle miles traveled, but removed language analyzing “equitable representation” on STAC.
- Codifies the stakeholder involvement process, specifying there will be opportunity for public comment across the state on any study recommendations.
- The authority to change TPR boundaries remains with the TC.
- On or before Nov 30, 2023 Department should complete study report of:
  - TPR Boundaries
  - STAC Membership
  - TRAC membership
  - TPR Planning Process- consistency and transparency
- The Department shall submit the Study Report to TC and Transportation Legislation Review Committee on or before November 30, 2023.
- Following completion of the study and with consideration of its findings, TC shall initiate updates to the rules or boundaries before June 1, 2024.
- CDOT staff has begun gathering data and creating a mapping tool to assist in the analysis.
- HQ staff are attending TPR meetings to explain the Bill amendments and answer any questions STAC members may have until study is completed.
- CDOT will keep TC and STAC informed during the study process.
- Tentatively considering 5 virtual/in person hybrid public meetings across the state in late summer to present data and receive input, followed by 5 additional meetings in the fall to present draft findings and recommendations.
- The legislation mandates TC open the rule by July 1, 2024. However, to coincide with kickoff of statewide and regional plans, CDOT is expecting to advise the TC to open its rules in December or January in order for any rulemaking to be completed by the statutory deadline so that the planning process is not delayed.

9. Draft FY 2024-2027 STIP Overview (Action Item) Jamie Collins ([Video Timestamp 02:58:57](#))

- Jamie gave a brief overview of the STIP approval process including the STIP release for public comments and the public hearing during the April TC meeting. No major comments have been received from the public on the STIP.
- The TC is anticipated to adopt the FY 2024-2027 STIP this month for it to be approved by FHWA and FTA and become effective by July 1, 2023.
- CDOT Staff explained how transit projects and MMOF projects are STIP'd. Region Planners and or the DTD liaison to get that information.

10. Other Business - Heather Sloop, STAC Vice Chair ([Video Timestamp 03:14:32](#))

- The next STAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 1, 2023 and will be in person at CDOT HQ.
- Other Business - Heather Sloop, STAC Vice Chair
- A STAC Motion recommending the August, September and October meeting be in-person was approved unanimously.
- The next STAC meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2023 and will be held virtually.



## DRAFT Transportation Commission (TC) Meeting Minutes

### **Workshops and Regular Meeting Wednesday, May 17-18, 2023**

#### **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION WORKSHOPS**

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gp77vNFTtX4>

#### **Call to Order, Roll Call**

Nine Commissioners were present: Gary Beedy (TC Chair), Lisa Tormoen Hickey, Karen Stuart, Kathleen Bracke, Eula Adams, Yessica Holguin, Terry Hart, and Kathy Hall, Mark Garcia, with Commissioners Eula Adams and Commissioner Barbara Vasquez excused.

#### **Budget Workshop (Jeff Sudmeier and Bethany Nicholas) Timestamp 00:01:09**

**Purpose and Action:** Requested the TC to adopt a resolution for these 11th Budget Supplement requests:

- Division of Transportation Development - \$850,000 from the 10-Year Plan Program funds in order to address air quality monitoring for applicable 10-Year Plan projects, as required by Senate Bill 21-260 (SB21-260) and Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 43-1-128.
- Region 1 - \$10,515,896 – 10-Year Plan Program -A transfer of savings from the Central 70 project to I-70 PPSL is requested in order to provide funding for a claim award resulting from recent arbitration.
- Region 3 - \$4,095,000 – TC Contingency Reserve – CO133 Bear Creek Culvert Failure – Funding is requested from the TC Contingency Reserve in order to address the failure of 72” corrugated metal pipe (CMP) type culvert on Highway 133 Mile Marker 16.2 (located between the Town of Paonia to the South and the Town of Somerset to the North).
- Cost Escalation Fund - \$4,095,000 – TC Contingency Reserve – CO 133 Bear Creek Culvert Failure – Funding is requested from the TC Contingency Reserve in order to address the failure of 72” corrugated metal pipe (CMP) type culvert on Highway 133 Mile Marker 16.2 (located between the Town of Paonia to the South and the Town of Somerset to the North).

#### **Discussion:**

##### **Air Quality Monitoring Request**

- In terms of where the \$850,000 for the 10-Year Plan would come from, potentially in the future, the TC would receive a request for these funds but right now we’ve identified four projects in the 10-Year-Plan that are moving forward that will trigger the air quality monitoring requirements in Senate Bill 260. Asking to allocate \$850,000 of the existing 10-Year Plan funds to do air quality monitoring activities for those projects because those costs were not built into the budget for those projects.
- The concept is to have one project for air quality monitoring to cover the monitoring equipment and services needed for all four projects.

#### **Transportation Commission Consent Agenda (Herman Stockinger) Timestamp 00:11:48**

**Purpose and Action:** Herman described the process and what is typically covered in the TC consent agenda items and what to anticipate for this month’s TC Regular meeting. The TC monthly notes cover the specific resolutions passed by the TC under the consent agenda. They mostly cover actions related to intergovernmental agreements (IGA’s), which are included in the powers and duties of the Executive Director and the Chief Engineer under Section 43.1.110, it also includes the authority of the CDOT Chief Engineer or Executive Director

to represent the Department in negotiations with local governments concerning intergovernmental agreements. But those intergovernmental agreements are not effective without approval of the TC. The other resolution on the consent agenda is the Policy Directive related to fuel controls. CDOT has policy directives that are adopted by the Commission. Statute lays out the broad formulate general policy under the power of the TC, and then we have procedural directives that are under the authority of the Executive Director that directs the Department how to implement or enforce the policy directives.

**Discussion:**

- John Lorme, CDOT Director of Maintenance and Operations, provided an overview of the fuel control practices currently occurring at CDOT, and how vendors are used to monitor fuels, including electrical expenses for EVs.

**TPR Boundary Study Update (Herman Stockinger and Jamie Grim) Timestamp 00:17:39)**

**Purpose and Action:** To provide an overview of the TPR Boundary Analysis provision in SB23-1101. This is informational only.

CDOT is impacted by the legislation in two ways. The bill includes a provision requiring Transportation Planning Regions to add a transit agency representative as a voting member to the TPR board. It also includes the amendment requiring CDOT to analyze the TPR boundaries in a study and provide recommendations to the Transportation Commission on or before November 30, 2023. This legislation directs the Transportation Commission to review these recommendations and open the rules governing the TPR boundaries. It does not mandate that the Commission adopt the recommendations.

In anticipation of the passage of the bill, CDOT staff began traveling to the TPRs to give legislative updates in person and answer questions. So far, staff has given updates to the Central Front Range TPR, Gunnison Valley TPR, Intermountain TPR, Northwest TPR, South Central TPR, Southeast TPR, and Southwest TPR (virtually). Before the end of June, staff plan to attend the San Luis Valley TPR, Upper Front Range TPR, and Eastern TPR meetings. A description of the two conference committees associated with the HB 23-1101, and what revisions occurred with the bill over time were presented. The requirements related to TPR boundary review and the contents of a plan and the data required to review prior to suggesting any boundary revision options to present to the TC, most likely in November. Following the study the Rule Making process is anticipated to begin June 1, 2024 to align with the development of the 2050 Statewide Transportation Plan.

**Discussion:**

- A comment raised was to coordinate with the local communities on this work as well. It was explained that Direct Lew is considering doing a survey for local community input on the subject. Stockinger answered one of the things they're thinking about that was Director Lew's suggestion is maybe doing a survey and getting it out to those folks. In addition Herman and Jamie have met with folks outside the TPR process and some are not showing up to a TPR meeting because they feel disenfranchised. Need to know that too because that's going to be instructive on whether or not boundary changes are needed.. Given the state is now having TPRs dole out state funds and some of them do not have bylaws that dictate a voting process for how the state funds go out, is problematic. This becomes a financial and legal risk for TPRs and for CDOT. Since CDOT has the fiduciary responsibility for those funds, and to make sure they're expended in a proper way. These considerations are important to look at and to confirm that TPRs are relevant and current.
- A concern raised by a Commissioner was the involvement of the local communities in transportation decisions, as many do not participate. We need to figure out a method to involve them more.

- Another concern raised was that the composition of the STAC could change to have less rural representation. The maintenance of 10 TPRs and 5 MPOs is required from the bill and will keep 10 rural areas across the state.
- Commissioner Bracke noted the importance of this study and evaluation to ensure the proper transportation priorities consider needs appropriately across the entire state.

### **Glenwood Canyon Structural Update (Roland Wagner and Jason Smith) Timestamp 00:31:56)**

**Purpose and Action:** Region 3 is providing information to the TC regarding the need for future funding for deferred maintenance of various assets in Glenwood Canyon, including tunnel assets, pavement resurfacing, modular bridge joints and structural guardrail. No action is required at this time and the presentation is informationally only.

- Glenwood Canyon asset management has been underfunded for several decades, and funding will be needed to repair various assets that require routine maintenance.
- The canyon and burn scar areas have continued to stabilize after the 2020 Grizzly Creek wildfire and 2021 massive debris flows. As the canyon stabilizes and improves over the coming years, this provides reduced risk for delivering asset management projects and opportunities for needed projects to be contracted.
- A RAISE federal grant was applied for in February 2023, this grant included requests for modular bridge joint and structural guardrail replacements in Glenwood Canyon.
- A PROTECT federal grant application process was recently announced with submission due in August. Development of the grant application has commenced and the Glenwood Canyon scope for this grant is currently modular bridge joint and structural guardrail replacements.
- Region 3 will also advise the TC on the status of current federal grant applications for deferred asset maintenance

#### **Discussion:**

- Anytime work is done in the canyon, CDOT has to work with the forest service which is not typical for the other construction we do across the state.
- A Commissioner requested an estimate of the total cost to repair the canyon and the answer was \$249 million with inflation, cost, escalation and everything.
- Jeff Sudemeier, CDOT Chief Financial Officer, noted that the short answer is no - we don't save up set aside a bit year over year. We have our ongoing asset management programs which we use. The Regions usually plan 3 or 4 years in advance sort of what those projects are going to be. The challenge with the asset management programs is that they're generally not funded at the level that allows us to do really significant amounts of asset work like this. CDOT tries to sort of chip away on this as best as we can.
- A commissioner commented we need a way so that there could be forecasting to say it's not just \$240 million needed now, but a way to anticipate its going to be X amount 5 or 20 years from now if there could be a way. Several Commissioners saw the need for this type of analysis, recognizing the age of the Canyon's infrastructure.
- It was explained that CDOT does this type of analysis on a program level compared to a corridor level. CDOT has asset management modeling where we look at asset inventory current condition, look at performance curves at level of investment. The challenge is always there's not enough funding to allocate to all those assets to meet desired performance objectives on all those assets. In terms of funding in the Canyon, the fortunate part is that the bridges and tunnels qualify for the BTE program, if the state of repair is eligible.
- A Commissioner asked for an estimate of how much it would cost to just buy only the joints for replacement in the Canyon that are needed, not including construction and replacement. It was explained that the cost of joints alone would be roughly \$10 million. Materials will be a quarter of that-

maybe \$2-\$3 million. Joints are dealt with on an emergency basis with a certain amount of funding to put a project together, and do one lane closures to get several of them at a time, with fewer overall impacts to the customers.

### **Winter 22-23 Season Overview Brief (John Lorme) Timestamp 01:12:42)**

**Purpose and Action:** To provide an informational briefing on the Division of Maintenance and Operations (DMO) post winter season operations.

- The 2022/23 winter season was a tough winter by any standard, with record snowfall totals reflecting a steady procession of winter events throughout much of the season. Despite challenging conditions, reduced staffing, increased operational costs, CDOT met its overall performance target for the season, measured in terms of how often crews meet their individual targets for the time it takes to restore roads to bare-lane conditions after a winter event.
- The 2022/23 winter saw many days of high winds and gusts that caused blowing and drifting, increased avalanche hazards, and back-to-back storms that led to more plow miles than in recent years.
- In the face of rising de-icer product costs, high fuel prices and other challenges, CDOT spent \$115 million on winter maintenance in 2022/23. The department's commitment to environmental stewardship helped keep costs from rising higher; training programs and integration of innovative technologies helped operators use equipment and de-icers efficiently and incorporate alternative methods when appropriate.

#### **Discussion:**

- Commissioners commended John Lorme as his team for the good work done by this Division and recognized the great tour of the Golden Traffic Operations Center.
- Commissioner Bracke asked about the additional roadwork coming to patch potholes, etc. A list of those repairs is forthcoming. Commissioner Beedy noted that the funding is not new money, but a commitment of existing funds.

### **Fee Based ROW Access for Fiber Progress Update (Allie Axley and Jonas Durham) Timestamp 01:35:30)**

**Purpose and Action:** CDOT is providing an update on the proposed, simplified fee structure and improved process to facilitate access to CDOT rights of way for the deployment of broadband as mandated by Colorado Executive Order D-2022-0023 and Senate Bill 22-083. This workshop is for informational purposes only.

- In April 2023 the program manager intended to request action on the proposed fee structure. After receiving comments on the structures days before the meeting, the program asked to remove the approval from the agenda. A small subcommittee of commissioners volunteered to help with reviewing the received comments on the proposed fee structure.
- The subcommittee met on May 2, 2023 and May 9, 2023. The subcommittee will also meet the morning of May 17 and prepare additional information to update the entire Transportation Commission in the afternoon workshop.
- In this informational presentation staff summarized the subcommittee meetings and a proposed revision to the fee structure present in March 2023's Transportation Commission workshops.
- The ITS Fiber Development Team will return with a more robust workshop in June to review and request action on a proposed fee structure for right of way access

#### **Discussion:**

- Commissioner Hickey thanked the sub-committee members, Commissioners Hart, Garcia and Adams for their work to review the proposed fiber fee structure.

- The subcommittee revised the fee structure and reduced it by 60% in response to customer concerns.
- Commissioner Holguin requested staff track the administrative costs of the program to ensure fees collected cover expenses.

**Adjournment:** Approximately 3:02 pm

**TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING 9:00 am to 10:30 am**

Thursday, May 18, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnN0iaD7f5I>

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

Nine Commissioners were present: Commissioner Gary Beedy (TC Chair), Lisa Tormoen Hickey, Karen Stuart, Kathleen Bracke, Eula Adams, Yessica Holguin, Terry Hart, Kathy Hall, Commissioner Eula Adams, and Commissioner Barbara Vasquez were excused.

**2. Public Comments Timestamp 00:01:55**

- Three written public comments were submitted to the committee addressing concerns about the roughness of I-70 east of Wyman to the Kansas border.

**3. Comments of the Chair and Individual Commissioners Timestamp 00:02:24**

- Commissioner Kathleen Bracke was able to attend the north I-25 Coalition meeting and the North Front Range (NFR) MPO meetings, and attended the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) meeting as a transportation alternate along with Commissioner Holguin. The CDOTs presentation on Bustang was exceptional. The presentation on Bustang will be delivered to the TC in June. DRCOG shared an update on the work they are doing around an equity index at the RTC meeting. The index is to help generate data to evaluate projects that are coming forward. North Front Range MPOs doing a similar type of index.
- Commissioner Terry Hart would like to thank several groups of staff that the TC has been working closely with included Bob Fifer’s team from the CDOT ITS Branch, and Frank Spinelli’s team from the CDOT Audit Office. Commissioner Hart recognized Commissioner Hall for her leadership on the TC. CDOT experienced a very difficult winter and heading into a difficult spring with flooding and other potential hazards.
- Commissioner Yessica Holguin had the honor of attending the DRCOG’s Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategic Plan Focus Group, which focused on equity and transportation. Community members continue to highlight the request of ongoing community engagement throughout the project.
- Commissioner Kathy Hall and her group attended the Intermountain TPR meeting and were glad to see that all the towns and communities came together to hear what the TC had to say. The meeting was productive and communities came out pretty happy after.
  - The Central 70 project is now 99.9% completed. This project is very important to the health of Colorado’s economy.
- Commissioner Karen Stuart would like to thank Tammy Harriet of Smart Commute and Audrey de Barros of Commuting Solutions for setting up a bus tour with the Highway 7 Coalition to highlight this stretch of highway. Stuart would also like to thank Jamie Grimm for the wonderful presentation she put together that was used at the Adams County economic

partnership on a transportation forum. Jennifer Philips from CDOT DTR was recognized for attending the North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) meeting in April to give a presentation on the work the DTR is doing around the state.

- Commissioner Mark Garcia would like to thank CDOT construction workers for being diligent and getting the work down in such a short construction season in District 8.
- Commissioner Lisa Hickey was able to attend the Pike Peak Area Council of Government (PPACG) Board meeting in May to talk about the fiber fee structure CDOT is developing. Hickey would like to applaud CDOT staff for their hard work in analyzing what costs CDOT incurs.
  - The Commissioner attended the Military Access Mobility and Safety Improvement Project (MAMSIP) ribbon cutting ceremony down in Fort Carson. The project includes a large roundabout with an apron and new road to get into the gate.
- Commission Chair, Gary Beedy attended a Freight Advisory Council (FAC) meeting at the start of the month. They had presentations including railroad emergency response, hazmat operations, and training available to first responders and communities that have railroads cutting through your communities. The FAC also gave an update to the Statewide Freight Plan update and the FHWA Freight funding program. 4P meetings will be held Monday and Tuesday in Commissioner Beedy's District 6.

#### **4. Executive Director's Management Report (Shoshana Lew) Timestamp 00:31:06**

- There was a visit by the TC to see the failure of CO133 helping to show what the TC Districts specifically in CDOT Regions 3 and 5, are dealing with when it comes to the extreme weather patterns. The TC was able to get an emergency contract out quickly to help deal with the failure of CO133.

#### **5. Chief Engineer's Report (Bob Hayes) Timestamp 00:33:50**

- Keith Stefanik was not present at the TC meeting as he was in Seattle representing CDOT at the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials ((AASHTO) conference. Bob Hayes stood in for him as the New CDOT Deputy Chief Engineer.
- The Central 70 Project has provided the TC with its last quarterly update for the construction phase of the project.
  - Back in August of 2017 CDOT selected Meridian Partners as the developer and maintenance provider for the Central 70 project for a 30-year term. Construction started in 2018 and 6 years later in February of 2023 CDOT partners have reached substantial completion of Central 70.
  - The project saw 20 new bridges being constructed and on those bridges new sidewalks were built to help connect communities back together. Improved north-south connectivity for the GES community. Over 2 million cubic yards of material was removed to build the viaduct. This work has brought the highway up to current standards in construction and safety.
  - Central 70, to the traveling public, is finished, but behind closed doors there is some paperwork and some project work needed to finish up.
- The local hire program exceeded expectations providing over 720,000 hours of work being conducted by people who lived in the zip code of the project area.

#### **6. Colorado Transportation Investment Office (CTIO) Director's Report (Nick Farber) Timestamp 00:42:24**

- Nick Farber provided an update of completed and ongoing projects of the CTIO. Two topics that were raised by the TC included a discussion on the Burnham Yard Plan and the status of the use of the dynamic toll pricing technology.

## **7. FHWA Division Administrator Report (John Cater) Timestamp 00:49:16**

- The Regional Local Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP) was held in Colorado this week. LTAP is a program that CDOT and the FHWA have funding in that is aimed at training local governments and providing them with a whole range of assistance. This can come in the form of but not limited to, how to maintain gravel roads, how to maintain guardrails, how to deal with pathment, and maintenance issues.
  - Funding for LTAP has increased over the past few years, allowing it to expand into areas as workforce development through Cell-TAP, Innovation, Safety, and grant assistance.
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) conference was held in Colorado this week. Several Officials from the USDOT were present at the NACTO conference including Deputy Secretary Joe Jurrin. Deputy Jurrin was excited to see what has been accomplished and going on for Colorado's DOT and was taken on a tour of Central 70. Commission Cater would like to thank David M. from CDOT for leading the tour.
- Federal Highway has a public magazine called Public Roads, which the latest edition houses a piece about Central 70.

## **8. Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) Report (Vincent Rogalski) Timestamp 00:56:25**

- One of the issues TPRs keep on running into is when money is given out, the TPRs do not get the projects done in time as the deadlines get overlooked. There have been about 5 projects from the original MMOF of 2020 that needed extensions.
  - MMOF funding must be obligated by December of 2024 and fully expended by December of 2026.
- Herman and Jamie went out to visit some of the TRP meetings around the state of Colorado, and STAC Chair Rogalski thanked them for taking the time to reach out to TPRs and help guide them regarding HB 23-1101 and SB 213.
- CDOT is reviewing a program distribution as a lead-off for development of the 2050 plan. STAC will update all forecasts of revenue and revisit TC and FHWA directed distribution methodologies for formula programs, including, RPP, MMOF, Metro Planning, STBG Metro, Carbon Reduction, CMAQ, TAP, FASTER safety. Colorado has a deadline of August 2025 to get the 2050 Statewide Plan done and compliant with the federal regulations.
- STAC made a motion recommending the RPP discussion be held in August and MMOF to be held in October and was passed by the STAC.
- STAC passed a motion recommending August, September, and October be in person meetings due to the subjects that are going to be discussed at these meetings.

## **9. Legislative Report (Emily Haddaway) Timestamp 01:03:00**

- Legislative session wrapped up this past Monday starting the Governors 30-day clock to sign all the bills that were passed in the past few weeks.
  - HB23-1233: Electric Vehicle Charging and Parking Requirements - is a bill setting various requirements for EV. This bill was passed and awaiting the Governor's signature.
  - HB23-1276: Scope of Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise (BTE) - this bill specifies that the BTE may repair, reconstruct, replace, and maintain a bridge that the department has rated as fair if the fair-rated bridge is included as part of a project to repair, reconstruct, replace, or maintain a poor designated bridge. This is one of CDOT's agency bills and has been signed by the Governor.

- HB23-1102: Alcohol and Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement - this bill expands programs to include both alcohol and drug-impaired driving and requires an appropriation of \$1.5 million from the State Highway Fund for allocation to local governments. This bill has passed the Legislature and is awaiting the Governor's signature.
- HB23-1267: Double Fines for Speeding Trucks On Steep Grades - this bill has passed both chambers and is headed to the Governor's desk.
- SB23-200: Automated Vehicle Identification Systems - is a bill concerning the utilization of automated vehicle identification systems for increased traffic law enforcement by certain jurisdictions. This bill has passed both chambers. The last step is to return the bill to the Senate for concurrence on House Amendments.
- SB23-268: Ten-year Transportation Plan Information - this bill creates new reporting requirements for each transportation project identified in the 10-year transportation plan. This bill passed the Senate, and is awaiting House Appropriations review.
- SB23-283: Mechanisms For Federal Infrastructure Funding - this bill requires that on July 1, 2023, the state treasurer is to transfer \$84 million from the general fund to the "Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act" cash fund. The bill also requires that on July 1, 2023, the state treasurer is to transfer \$5 million from the general fund to the state highway fund for use by DOT to develop comprehensive operational capacity (alternative transportation) projects. This bill has passed both chambers and is headed to the Governor's Desk.
- HB23-1101: Ozone Season Transit Grant Program Flexibility This bill expands SB22-180 and increases the flexibility of the ozone season transit grant program. It also creates a new statute for transit agency participation in regional transportation planning. An amendment was added in the Senate that includes a review of Regional Transportation Planning District boundaries based on population, as well as many other criteria, including highway corridors, safety and asset management considerations, commuting and other travel patterns, and transit-oriented-development. Both the House and Senate approved the final conference committee report and the bill has been signed by the Governor. The final version of Section 4 tasks CDOT with a study of the TPR boundaries.
- SB23-213: Land Use The bill is a package of various housing and land use related provisions, aimed at driving down the cost of housing by allowing more housing to be built in strategic locations. It is unclear at this time if these changes will pass.

#### **10. Act on Consent Agenda Timestamp 01:12:52**

A Motion by Commissioner Hall to approve, and seconded by Commissioner Hart, passed unanimously.

- Proposed Resolution #1: Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2023
- Proposed Resolution #2: IGA Approval >\$750,000
  - Correction: For the Breckenridge project in Region 3 it has been discovered that \$675,000 was in the state section when it should have been in the Federal Section.
- Proposed Resolution #3: Disposal: Parcel 1-EX High Street (Grand Jct.)
- Proposed Resolution #4: Disposal: Parcel 78 Rev-EX (Clear Creek)
- Proposed Resolution #5: Adoption of Policy Directive 6.0 "Fuel Controls for CDOT Fleet"

#### **11. Discuss and Act on Proposed Resolution #6: 11th Budget Supplement of FY 2023 (Jeff Sudmeier and Bethany Nicholas) Timestamp 01:14:24**

A Motion by Commissioner Bracke to approve, and seconded by Commissioner Hickey passed unanimously.

#### **12. Discuss and Act on Proposed Discuss and Act on Resolution #7: Tolling Operations and Maintenance IAA between CDOT and CTIO (Piper Darlington) Timestamp 01:16:42**

A Motion by Commissioner Stuart to approve, and seconded by Commissioner Holguin passed unanimously.



**13. Discuss and Act on Proposed Resolution #8: Adoption of the FY2024 - 2027 STIP (Jamie Collins and Darius Pakbaz) Timestamp 01:21:39**

A Motion by Commissioner Hall to approve, and seconded by Commissioner Hickey passed unanimously.

**14. Recognitions Timestamp 01:23:19**

- No Recognitions at this time.

**15. Other Matters (Chair Appointments Nominating Committee for New Officers) Timestamp 01:23:24**

- People that were asked to serve on the Nominating Committee for New TC Officers
  - Commissioner Hall
  - Commissioner Stuart
  - Commissioner Hart
- Commissioner Bracke recognized CDOT staff for including the transportation trends report in the packet and thanked CDOT DTD staff for their work on this.

**16. Adjournment** - Approximately 10:25 am.

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**COLORADO**  
Department of Transportation

# TPR Boundary Study

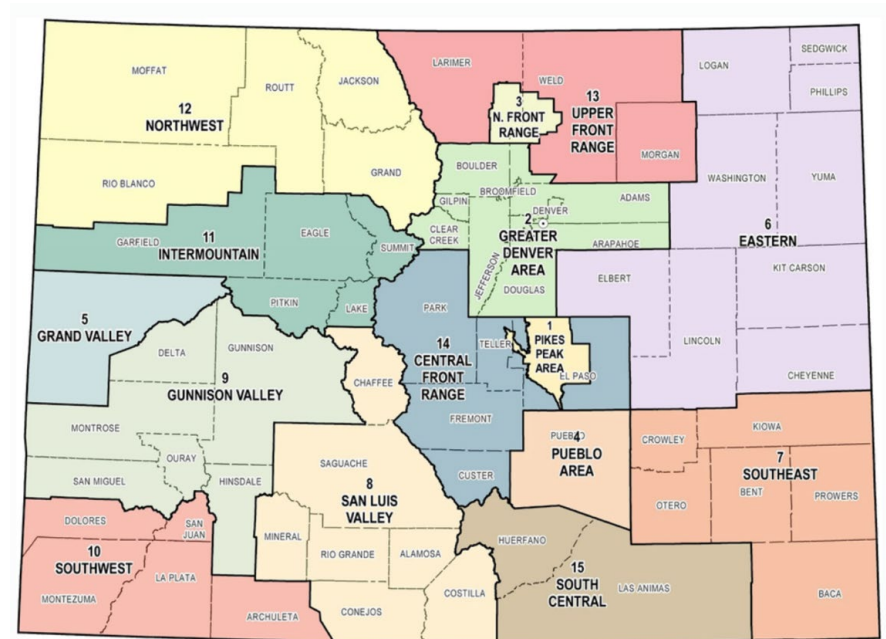
Southwest TPR

June 8, 2023



# TPR Boundary Study Provision

- HB 23-1101 was signed into law by Governor Polis on April 28
- The House passed the final bill on April 21
- The Senate passed the final bill on April 18
- The final version included the language developed in the second conference committee report
- The report included an additional freight factor for consideration, and removed language related to analyzing “equitable” representation on STAC.





# Key Points

- The amendment **protects rural Colorado's transportation interests** by mandating that the number of rural TPRs can not be reduced. There are currently 10 rural TPRs and 5 urban MPOs. This number will remain the same.
- The provision outlines multiple items to be considered and **additional criteria were added to the study** at the recommendation of stakeholders in rural Colorado, such as lane miles, freight traffic, and truck vehicle miles traveled.
- This amendment codifies the stakeholding process and specifies that there will be the **opportunity for public comment across the state.**
- While HB 23-1101 requires the Transportation Commission open the rules and consider any recommendations that the study may make, the **authority to change TPR boundaries remains with the Transportation Commission.**



# Statutory Requirements

**On or before November 30, 2023, The Department Shall Complete a Study and Study Report of:**

1. The boundaries of the Transportation Planning Regions (TPRs)
2. Membership of the STAC
3. Membership of the Special Interim Transit And Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC)
4. The Consistency and Transparency of the Transportation Planning Process Across the TPRs

In conducting the study, **The Department shall provide opportunity for public comment throughout the State** and consider input from stakeholders throughout the State.

The Department shall submit the Study Report to the Transportation Commission and to the Transportation Legislation Review Committee on or before November 30, 2023.

Following completion of the study and with consideration of its findings, the Transportation Commission shall initiate updates to the rules before **June 1, 2024**.



# Statutory Requirements (cont)

## Factors for consideration identified in legislation:

1. Highway and Transit Corridors and Transit District Boundaries;
2. Disproportionately Impacted Communities;
3. Vehicle Miles Traveled, Truck Vehicle Miles Traveled, Transit Vehicle Revenue Miles, and Lane Miles;
4. Population Trends;
5. Safety and Management Considerations;
6. Commuting, Commercial Traffic, Freight Movement, Tourism Impacts, and Other Travel Patterns;
7. Transit-Oriented Development and Access to Affordable Housing;
8. Levels of Air Pollutants, Criteria Pollutants, and Greenhouse Gas Pollutants;
9. Communities of Interest;



# Moving Forward

- CDOT staff has begun gathering data and creating a mapping tool to assist in the analysis.
- HQ staff are attending TPR meetings to explain the amendment and answer any questions TPR members may have. This will continue until the study is completed.
- CDOT will keep the Transportation Commission and STAC informed during the study process.
- Tentatively considering 5 virtual/in person hybrid public meetings across the state in late summer to present data and receive input, followed by 5 additional meetings in the fall to present draft findings and recommendations.
- The legislation requires the Transportation Commission open the rule by June 1, 2024.
  - However, to coincide with the kickoff of the statewide and regional plans, CDOT is expecting to advise the TC to open its rules in December or January in order for any rulemaking to be completed (rather than initiated) by the statutory deadline so that the planning process is not delayed.





- CDOT staff continues to meet with TPRs and others regarding the study.
- Developing a mapping tool with maps for each criteria and the ability to “layer” various requirements onto one map.
- Assessing TPR IGAs and Bylaws.
- Forming an Advisory Committee.
- Considering a survey to receive input.



# Advisory Committee

Name	Area Represented	Position
Anna Stout	Grand Junction	Mayor
Jonathan Godes	Glenwood Springs	City Councilor
TBD	RFTA	TBD
Tamera Pogue	Summit County	County Commissioner
Dick Elsner	Park County	County Commissioner
Keith Baker	Chaffee County	County Commissioner
Suzette Mallette	North Front Range MPO	Executive Director
Ron Papsdorf	DRCOG	Transportation Planning & Operations Director
Andy Gunning	PPACG	Executive Director
Kristin Stephens	Larimer County	County Commissioner
Terry Hoffmeister	Phillips County	County Commissioner

- Monthly update meetings with Director Lew and boundary study staff.
- Assist in determining content of “public meetings.”
- Assist in development of questions if a survey is conducted.



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## **Southwest Transportation Planning Region – Letter of Support Request**

### **Project Summary:**

Community Connections seeks a continuation of support from the Colorado Department of Transportation through the FTA 5310 program to operate its 2023 transportation program serving approximately 75 Montezuma and La Plata County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who have no other transportation options within the cities of Durango and Cortez.

Community Connections is the only not-for-profit organization and Community-Centered Board providing comprehensive services (eligibility and enrollment, case management and direct services) to a five-county area in Southwest Colorado. Community Connections provides services and supports to qualifying individuals with IDD based upon criteria outlined by Medicaid and the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Transportation is among the services Community Connections provides to adults with IDD to afford them equal access to their community and is a foundation of achieving our 10-year strategic community inclusion and social integration goal. FTA funding will support 2023 daily operations of 3 - 5 vehicles to transport 75 people in Durango (~50) and Cortez (~25) between our day habilitation program sites and community-based activities, and for those who require more individualized personal care services such as rides to work, to doctors' appointments and to grocery shop.

### **Approximate amount to be requested:**

Approximately \$30,000 is being requested from CDOT.

### **Does the proposal have a regional impact?**

Yes, it will benefit residents of La Plata and Montezuma counties with intellectual and developmental disabilities who have no other way of getting their personal care needs met and or to participate in community activities like other people without disabilities.

### **Has the proponent consulted with agencies that might have jurisdiction over decisions that could impact the implementation of the proposal?**

In preparing an identical proposal together in the past (which was successful and received funding) Community Connections staff consulted with former SWCCOG E.D. Miriam Gillow-Wiles; CDOT staff, TJ Burr, Brodie Ayers, and Kim Phi; City of Durango, Acting Transportation Director Sarah Dodson; Southern Colorado Community Action Agency staff, Chloe Jackson and Peter Tregillus; and Martha Mason and Gordon South at SWCI/Southwest Rides about the scope of the project. They have answered questions about regional transportation needs, planning efforts, and 5310 funding. CDOT staff supported CCI applying indicating no Community-Centered Board has ever applied for operating funding, though we are eligible.

### **What is the impact on the region if the proposal succeeds? Fails?**

If the project succeeds, Community Connections will receive half of the funding necessary to operate our transportation program. If it fails, we will have to seek other funding sources to continue to operate the transportation program.

**In what areas of the region, if any, will the proposed activity take place?**

La Plata and Montezuma Counties.

**Is one or more SWTPR member working on a similar activity or goal?**

Southwest Rides and Durango Transit have similar goals to support the transportation needs of people with disabilities in Southwest Colorado, but these efforts are not duplicative.

**If so, does this letter of support potentially support or undermine the Member activity/goal?**

I don't think so. We provide distinct, not overlapping, services.

**What other agencies are you requesting a letter of support from?**

Region 9, La Plata County, Montezuma County, Southwest Center for Independence and The Arc of Southwest Colorado.

DRAFT

## SOUTHWEST REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMISSION

August 14, 2022

Moira Moon, Transit Programs Unit Manager  
Colorado Department of Transportation, DTR  
2829 West Howard Place  
Denver, Colorado 80204

RE: Support for Community Connection's 5310 FTA Funding Request

Dear Ms. Moon and Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter on the behalf of the Southwest Transportation Planning Region (SWTPR) which met on August 11, 2022 and approved submitting this letter of support for Community Connection's application for FTA 5310 funds.

Community Connections' 5310 FTA funding request will help the provide more individualized services to clients, as having additional smaller vehicles at their disposal will allow for more individualized transportation to better meet specific needs. The organization provides transportation programming for clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Montezuma and La Plata Counties.

Your funding support of Community Connection's application for 5310 FTA funding will allow the program to continue to provide needed transportation services to individuals that depend on these services to meet their personal care needs and participate in the community. Please give this application your strong consideration.

Sincerely,



Sarah Hill  
SWTPR Chair

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Secretary Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: 2023 Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program Application for US 160 Critical Wildlife Connectivity Corridor

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of [organization], I am writing to express our support of the US 160 Critical Wildlife Connectivity Corridor project, located near the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) reservation in western Colorado. This project is a collaborative effort between the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and La Plata County and is critical to enhancing safety measures and prioritizing ecological preservation.

**POTENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS BELOW – PLEASE CHOOSE THE TOPICS MOST RELEVANT TO YOUR ORGANIZATION AND EXPAND**

US 160, in Southwestern Colorado, carries moderate-to-high rural traffic volumes, and bisects critical deer and elk ranges and migration patterns. This results in significant wildlife and vehicle conflict and high rates of wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs). To address this, the project employs a system approach, installing fencing and underpasses, and employing innovative solutions. The goals of the project are to establish a contiguous section that helps “close the gap” in wildlife connectivity; reduce WVCs; and improve safety for travelers.

Safety concerns have emerged due to high WVC rates, with WVCs accounting for over three-quarters of crashes along the corridor and up to 80% of all crashes in some segments. To combat this, the project will install wildlife fencing and underpasses.

This corridor is also crucial for maintaining wildlife viability. Recent declines in mule deer populations highlight the importance of preserving herd health, size, and movement within the project limits. By facilitating necessary migrations, this project serves as a step towards reversing this trend.

Driver warning systems to signal wildlife activity on the road are currently non-existent. The project will integrate Wildlife Detection Systems, ensuring drivers are alerted to potential wildlife on the roadway.

The area around US 160 is expected to see substantial population growth, creating the potential for increased conflicts between wildlife and vehicles.

Currently, there is only one dedicated wildlife underpass for big game along the corridor. This project will complete CDOT’s strategic plan to fully separate vehicle traffic from wildlife movements, through mitigation measures proven elsewhere in Colorado as well as new pilot technology.

**CONCLUSION PARAGRAPH BELOW. CONSIDER A SUMMARY STATEMENT THAT EXPRESSES THE NEED FOR THIS PROJECT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION.**

The US 160 Critical Wildlife Connectivity Corridor project will create safer, more sustainable infrastructure for both humans and wildlife. We appreciate your consideration of our application and look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Organization]

DRAFT