



# TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

**DATE: FEBRUARY 2021**

Vince Rogalski, Chairman

Gunnison Valley TPR

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## **CDOT Update on Current Events (Informational Update) – Shoshana Lew, CDOT Executive Director**

In addition to other 10year program projects over the past year, CDOT has completed the **state's largest ever investment in rural roads**, Central I70 and I25 North projects, as well as Revitalizing Main Streets and Safer Main Streets program that have boosted the state's economy through hundreds of local projects.

## **Federal and State Legislative Report – Andy Karsian, CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations (OPGR)**

- a) Potential exists for another \$1.8 trillion federal stimulus package that includes \$30 billion for transit; the specific highway program funding proposals are not yet known.
- b) Funding of other federal competitive programs are also likely, and staff are preparing to identify strong candidate projects should they become available.
- c) State legislature resumes this week under strict pandemic protocols and is likely to be considering several emerging technology fees, including EV and transportation network company fees (e.g., Uber, Lyft), as well as possible index fees atop the existing gas tax.
- d) CDOT is pushing for an increase of the existing \$150k spending limit to \$500k to allow more CDOT flexibility and efficiencies especially in rural maintenance operations. These increases are not intended to supplant existing urban maintenance contracts, but will most benefit rural areas where material transportation costs are very high and road maintenance is an excessive patchwork.
- e) Quantifying and budgeting of Greenhouse Gas emissions are being considered to mitigate the impact of transportation construction projects.

- f) Bills are also to be considered in the utilization of green materials in both horizontal and vertical construction.

**SB 267 Recap - Rebecca White, Director, Division of Transportation Development; Kay Kelly, Chief, Office of Innovative Mobility; and David Krutsinger, Director, Division of Transit and Rail**

- a) Staff presented an overview of the changes in funding amounts that have occurred over the past year and a half along with the highway and transit project funding amounts region-by-region.
- b) In March, staff will present STAC with options to consider for use of the SB267 Year COP funds. In April and May, STAC will finalize the project list, which is about the time we expect the Year 3 funds to be issued.
- c) The goal is to achieve overall regional equity in the SB267 program through the assignment of Year 3 COP funds to projects considering that projects in some regions such as the North I-25 project have advanced in earlier phases.
- d) While the existing federal stimulus funds have advanced many projects within the original 10year program of projects, those funds were allocated equitably across the state irrespective of the SB267 program, so as to achieve the stimulus programs goal of boosting the economy statewide.

**STAC Discussion:**

Some concern was raised as to the continued use of the RPP formula for ongoing distribution of subsequent new funding sources. While the SB267 funds distribution has sought to balance old and new versions of the RPP formula which alternately favor rural or urban areas, it is not used directly as the distribution for SB267 funds. Rural stakeholders continue to express desire to look at making changes to the RPP formula for one that more favors rural parts of the state. Meanwhile, STAC and staff acknowledge the long history of developing this formula and the extensive efforts it would require to reach agreement on a new one.

**Greenhouse Gas Roadmap Update - Kay Kelly, Director of Innovative Mobility and Theresa Takushi, Greenhouse Gas Climate Action Specialist**

- a) The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Roadmap was issued in January.
- b) Staff presented an overview of CDOT's recommendations for implementing the strategies and directives in the roadmap and are conducting outreach to seek input on its priorities

and strategies.

c) Staff will ensure that STAC members are notified by email of the upcoming outreach meetings to seek stakeholder input, particularly programs that target large employers in the state. STAC Discussion: Some parts of the state are concerned that some programs will be detrimental to more rural parts of the state that do not have access to the same alternative transportation choices available in large urban areas. CDOT intends to find a balance in these policies that acknowledges where these alternative choices may not exist, while not incentivizing people who do have alternative choices to locate far from those alternative choices.

**TO: THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FROM: MIKE GOOLSBY, REGION 3 RTD DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED RESOLUTION #12, OHV TRAVEL IN HINSDALE COUNTY**

### Purpose

Adopt a resolution in place of the previously approved #TC 18-07-17 that will reflect a time extension of the resolution with the same terms as agreed upon with CSP, Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City.

### Action

TC 18-07-17 allowed CDOT to enter into an agreement with Lake City and Hinsdale County to allow OHV travel on a segment of SH 149. General terms of the agreement included:

- The route starts at MP 73.11 (Ocean Wave Dr) in Lake City and travels south to MP 69.85 (CR 30) with no deviations
  - Total length of the project was about 3.26 miles
  - The program lasted for the summer seasons (May through Sept) of 2019 and 2020
  - A final report on the program was required of the applicants, Lake City and Hinsdale County Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City are requesting a time extension in this program for another three years of implementation.

Other terms in the resolution would remain the same.

### Background

Over the course of the past several years, CDOT Region 3 has been working with the Town of Lake City and Hinsdale County to implement Resolution #TC 18-07-17 that allows CDOT to designate a section of state highway as open to OHV travel. Through this time period the group has worked closely on implementation details as well as public questions and concerns. At present, all parties agree that the program has successfully implemented and has been conducted safely.

### Next Steps

Upon approval of this resolution, the Region is committed to continue to work with CSP, Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City to refine the implementation of the program.

**The decision on this item and its Resolution #12, has been postponed to a future date.**

**Transportation TPR Meeting**  
**NEXT MEETING NOTICE TPR meeting April 8, 2021**  
**Region 10 at 10am to Noon**  
**Possible Video Conference Only**