



TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

DATE: AUGUST 2022

Vince Rogalski, Chairman

Gunnison Valley TPR

vrogal@montrose.net

MMOF Match Reduction Funding Request

Providing a reduced or eliminated Match Funding Rate required for a Hinsdale County Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Option Fund project.

Approved by the Transportation Commission on August 18, 2022

Proposed Resolution #5

WHEREAS, the Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF), governed by Title 43-4-1103(1) of the Colorado Revised Statutes, requires a 50% Match Funding Rate, such that any project awarded funding requires an equal or greater match of funds from sources other than the MMOF; and

WHEREAS, Transportation Commission Resolution 2021-12-10 provides for reduced or eliminated Match Funding Rates below the requisite 50% on projects sponsored by certain counties and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Commission is also permitted to grant reduced match requirements on individual projects, when and if recommended by CDOT Staff; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission for the Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region, acting as the Local MMOF awarding agency, has voted affirmatively to support the elimination of the Match Funding required on an eligible project awarded to Hinsdale County and requests the Transportation Commission approve the same; and

WHEREAS, CDOT Staff recommend the Transportation Commission approve the proposed project match rate elimination as presented.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Transportation Commission approves an eliminated match funding rate requirement on the following project:

- County Road 30 Bike/Ped Lane Install and Chip Seal (Hinsdale County) – 0% match rate required

Grants available



Program Updates

- **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**
 - Projected call for projects will be Fall 2022 for fiscal years 2024-2026
 - <https://www.codot.gov/programs/planning/grants/tap-fiscal-years-2023-25>
- **Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF)**
 - Yearly call from TPR/MPO
 - <https://www.codot.gov/programs/planning/grants/mmof-local>
- **Revitalizing Main Streets (RMS)**
 - Allocation from State Legislature with two types of grants
 - <https://www.codot.gov/programs/revitalizingmainstreets>
- **Safe Routes to School (SRTS)**
 - Deadline Friday, November 4, 2022
 - Q&A session August 23, 2022
 - <https://www.codot.gov/programs/bikeped/saferoutes/grantapplication>

Other Grants:

CDOT Update on Current Events – Herman Stockinger, CDOT Deputy Director

- FHWA's Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) grant cycle is open; applications are due September 15. Local agencies are eligible but not the State. However, CDOT is open to discussing aid in eligible projects.

o **2022 RAISE Grant award announcements are expected within the next week or so. We have no word yet on the announcement of Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grants (MPDG)**

County Meetings are being Scheduled.

So far the only one scheduled for Region 3 is Montrose.

That meeting is set for October 10, 2022

I will let you know the dates of the of meetings when I get them.

Environmental Justice & Equity Branch Overview - Marsha Nelson, Chief Equity Officer

o In the Spring of 2021, SB260 created the Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Branch as well as the Chief Equity Officer position.

o The Branch has a Civil Rights and Business Resource Center with 2 elements: Project Delivery and External Programs.

o Some exciting initiatives and opportunities via the EEJ Branch include: Emerging Small Business (ESB), Connect2DOT, CDOT ESB Mentor Protege Program, etc.

■ The Mentor Protege program is not limited to DBEs (Disadvantaged Business Enterprises), ESBs are welcome too and EBS are Race and Gender Neutral.

o Environmental Justice (EJ) is another area of the Branch. It is an area looking to increase engagement and outreach to impact decision making. Opportunities exist to enhance use of GIS mapping to support project staff to engage with impacted communities as well as increased use of census data and a more robust statistical analysis in decision making.

o Workforce Development contains 2 elements, on the job training (OJT) Supportive Services (only for FHWA construction) and Highway Construction Workforce Partnership Grant - Commercial Drivers License Pipeline

o The Branch is charting a new course focused on integrating and connecting all of CDOT

■ EQUITY360 is a branch within the Office of the Chief Engineer and has the mission of developing the best and most efficient route to equity, inclusion, and cohesiveness. EQUITY360 will have 4 guiding principles: Proactive Compliance; Creativity and Innovation; Knowledge; and Humility and Respect.

o Combining varying regulations with varying scopes is a challenge that can be solved through collaboration wherein CDOT has an opportunity to be a national leader in equity, diversity, and inclusion.

STAC Discussion

- Is there opportunity for interaction between CDOT and local municipalities/agencies regarding equity and environmental justice? Yes. Local Agencies oftentimes have stronger relationships with local business and residents, relationships is an important aspect of this collaboration.
- Is there a metric to measure how much EJ there is on a given project? Yes, it is currently in the development stage.
- What does the robust training series for CDOT personnel on Transportation Equity and Environmental Justice expectations entail? There has previously been work done at CDOT to define equity.
- What does equity mean from a global perspective? Helping planners and decision makers by creating a training program that teaches them to see inequities and EJ in transportation.
- North Front Range MPO has a new Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) board that is happy to share expertise with and collaborate with CDOT's new EJ Branch.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Commission

CC: Shoshana Lew, CDOT Executive Director

Herman Stockinger, Deputy Executive Director

Sally Chafee, Chief of Staff

FROM: Tony Cady, Region 5 Planning & Environmental Manager

DATE: August 2022

SUBJECT: Colorado Investments in Wildlife Crossing Infrastructure

Purpose

Commissioner Vasquez requested an update on Colorado's efforts to address Wildlife Vehicle Collisions and improve wildlife habitat connectivity. The Pew Charitable Trust, one of Colorado's partners in this effort, will join the conversation to provide a briefing on the need for wildlife infrastructure investments in the state, highlight key projects that have been completed, and discuss funding provided by SB22-151.

Action

Informational briefing and potential request for a future Resolution. Information will be presented to the Commission on CDOT's efforts to address Wildlife Vehicle Collision issues across the State. Additionally, as CDOT staff works with our stakeholders defined in SB22-151 to develop a plan to expend the Wildlife Mitigation Funding provided within that legislation, we will return to the Commission with a Resolution asking for Commission support for the decisions made by the stakeholder group.

Background

In 2017 and 2018, a pair of secretarial orders issued by the U.S. Department of Interior directed federal land managers to work with states to protect big game species and their habitat across the west. In 2019, Governor Polis issued Executive Order D 2019-011, a complementary state directive, that reiterated that state's habitat conservation priorities and required DNR, CPW, and CDOT to work cooperatively together to reduce the risk of Wildlife Vehicle Collisions, and preserve habitat and migration corridors used by the state's big game herds.

Details

CDOT has been working to address Wildlife Vehicle Collisions since the 1970's. However, recent federal and state directives have increased the focus on these efforts in Colorado. EO D 2019-011 requires CDOT to coordinate with DNR, CPW and other stakeholders to accomplish several outcomes. These include public education, collaboration and process improvements to improve habitat conservation and reduce wild animal collisions.

The presentation will provide background on the issue that Colorado is attempting to address, provide a discussion on successful projects that have been completed across the state, and discuss the recently created Wildlife Mitigation Fund (SB22-151).

Key Benefits

While CDOT continues to invest in wildlife infrastructure, SB22-151 requires the department to coordinate with two main stakeholder groups to utilize funds within the Wildlife Mitigation Fund account. A general discussion on how department staff will approach fund utilization will provide the Commission with the needed background on these discussions.

Next Steps

Potential future resolution and further implementation updates.

Other Business - Vince Rogalski, STAC Chair

- o Discussions on the Election of the STAC Chair and Vice Chair. Their terms will expire in September, with elections scheduled for October at the in-person STAC meeting.
- o Vince Rogalski and Heather Sloop both expressed interest in reelection.
- o Next STAC Meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2022

Transportation TPR Meeting
NEXT MEETING NOTICE TPR meeting OCTOBER 13
VIRTUAL
From 9:30am to NOON