



# TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

**DATE: MAY 2023**

Vince Rogalski, Chairman

Gunnison Valley TPR

[vrogal@montrose.net](mailto:vrogal@montrose.net)

## **At the TPR Meeting on May 11, Representative of CDOT will be at the meeting to discuss this issue.**

Legislative Report – Herman Stockinger and Jamie Grim CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations (OPGR)

- HB 1101 update - Bill on TPR Boundary Revisions - there is new proposed language, went to second conference to add additional edits. They are close to reaching an agreement.
- HB 1233 (EV charging) - CDOT to authorize EV charging in CDOT right-of-way. Currently there is a federal prohibition on federal highways.
- HB 23-1276 Scope of Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise - Expands scope of the Bridge and Tunnel Enterprise (BTE) so they can use funds to do on other non-poor rated bridges and bundle bridge maintenance work where it makes sense.
- HB 23-1267 - Doubles fines of speeding trucks on steep grades and establishes steep grade zones.
- HB 23-268 - Proposes new reporting requirements for CDOT related to the 10-Year Plan including more project information and a requirement for a report to the Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC).
- Several STAC members expressed concerns with SB 23-213 and transportation elements included. STAC members expressed support for removing transportation language from the bill. Also concerns about potential negative impacts to rural areas of the state as an unintended consequence of the bill.

## **Jamie Grim was able to give us review of the material below at our TPR meeting May 11, 2023.**

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.

## **At the STAC meeting, it was recommended to approved the 24-2027 STIP.**

Draft FY 2024-2027 STIP Overview - Jamie Collins, CDOT STIP Manager

- 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.

## **The Transportation Commission on May 18 with Resolution #8.**

## The New Long Range Plan (2050)

Preparatory Program Distribution Discussion - Marissa Gaughan & Aaron Willis

- CDOT is reviewing program distribution as a lead off for development of the 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.

### To move this process along:

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.

Just a note: The New conference Room at Region 10 is Fabulous.

**Transportation TPR Meeting**  
**NEXT MEETING NOTICE TPR meeting**  
**August 10, 2023**  
**In-Person**  
**From 10am to NOON**  
**REGION 10**