



**Region 10**

**Executive Committee Update  
September, 2022  
No Meeting**

**Attached:**

- 1) Draft Minutes of August 25, 2022, meeting (to be approved at Oct 2022 meeting)**
  
- 2) REPORTS**
  - a. Executive Director/Financial Report**– Michelle Haynes
  - b. Small Business Resource Center**- Nancy Murphy
  - c. Business Loan Fund**-Dan Scinto
  - d. Community Development**-Trish Thibodo
  - e. Community Living Services** – Eva Veitch
  - f. Regional Broadband**-Corey Bryndal
  - g. Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee**- Vince Rogalski
  
- 3) NEXT MEETINGS**
  - a. Executive Committee: October 27, 2022 Region 10 Conference Room
  - b. Board of Directors Meeting: TBD Noon-3 p.m.
  - c. BLF Committee: TBD 10 a.m.
  - d. AAA Regional Advisory Committee: December 2, 2022, 10-1, Region 10 Conf Room
  - e. Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region: October 13, 10 a.m. via Zoom



1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:04pm.
  - a. **Staff:** Michelle Haynes (R10 Director), Trish Thibodo (Community Development), Eva Veitch (Community Living Services), Nancy Murphy (Small Business Resource Center), Dan Scinto (Business Loan Fund), Corey Bryndal (Broadband Project Director), Courtney Rodwell (Program & Office Assistant)
  - b. **Board Members:** Kris Holstrom (Chair, San Miguel County), Roland Mason (Past Chair, Gunnison County), Mary Bachran (Town of Paonia), Ben Tisdell (Ouray County), Roger Rash (Montrose County), Dave Frank (City of Montrose), ested Butte), Kristie Borchers (Hinsdale County) Linda Riba (Montrose County) Vince Rogalski (GVTPR), John Clark (Town of Ridgway), Michael Bacani
  
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
  - a. Additions: Round Table

**Motion to approve agenda: M/S: Dave Frank/Roger Rash as accepted.** None opposed.
  
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for July 28, 2022, Board Meeting**
  - a. **Correction:** Add Roger Rash to the Attendance list.

**Motion to approve: M/S: Dave Frank/Roger Rash as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  
4. **Business Items:**
  - a. Olathe RISE Construction Contract
    - i. Subcontractor bids are back. Came in higher than expected. Stryker reduced their Contractor’s fee. We removed the Walk-in cooler, food truck setups and appliance allowance to get contract down to about 1.2 million in the new final budget. We have \$965,000 set aside and so that leaves us about \$235,000 under budget. We do believe that we will be able to make up those short comings. We do have about \$1.2 million in our operations and we are looking at \$165,000 budget and we are looking at how we can repurpose that from furniture and equipment to construction. We have talked with Montrose County and they are looking at committing about \$100,000 from their budget next year. We have talked to Olathe about waving the permit fees. We have also talked with DOLA about supplemental funding.
    - ii. Asbestos abatement is finished and construction expected to begin soon.

**Motion to approve signing of Construction Contract with the \$265,000 short fall.: M/S: Roger Rash/Roland Mason as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  - b. Employee Handbook Approval
    - i. Reviewed in detail at last month’s meeting. New additions include: Public Health & Leave, Telecommuting, Cybersecurity, Whistleblower Policy,

**Motion to approve Handbook.: M/S: Dave Frank/Linda Riba as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  - c. Audit Engagement Letter Approval
    - i. Scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> to begin.
    - ii. Kris: is there a standard on how often you change your auditor. Michelle: They recommend 3-5 years. We did bid it about 6-8 years ago and every other bid that came in was twice as high. Although we did not change firms last year, we did have a new audit team. We should consider bidding again next year.

**Motion to approve audit: M/S: Roger Rash/Dave Frank as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  
5. **Reports:**
  - a. **Executive Director/Financial Report** – Michelle Haynes
    - i. These are draft year end financials. Of note for the financials:
      1. Broadband assets we are looking at those increasing next year. We are working on a sustainability plan for broadband. Working on our prices and contracts.

2. SBA TA Grant we did not expend that to draw it down in full, so some was deobligated, and revenues/expenses are less than budgeted.
  3. RSVP Grant is relatively new, and we have faced some challenges with allowable expenses, so is less than budgeted.
- ii. Received first estimate for this building, we planned on \$600,000 and it came in at about \$700,000. We have not yet had the conversation with them about where some savings on that project would be. WE have borrowed about \$530,000. If this number stays where it is we may be short on that. We should have better numbers next month. We have not paid Stryker for soft costs, if we decide to not move forward we would have to pay those costs.
  - iii. Parking lot at our building is finished and the construction at the neighboring police building is almost finished.
  - iv. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>. We are working on an invite list and we will have an online RSVP.
- b. **Small Business Resource Center** – Nancy Murphy
- i. SBDC has put together a small business legal aid program.
    1. Limited to small businesses, They can have one meeting a year and they can only talk about a topic once a year.
  - ii. Have the Gunnison Grand Opening on Tuesday Sept 13<sup>th</sup> at our Gunnison Office.
- c. **Business Loan Fund** – Dan Scinto
- i. **Action Item:** Charge Off Bad Debt for High Desert Mechanical, our policy states that we have to charge it off, we do not have to send it to collection right away.  
**Motion to approve Loan Charge off Loan #1508 in \$18,342.27: M/S: Ben Tisdell/Jim Gelwicks as accepted.**  
 None opposed
  - ii. **Action Item:** USDA IRP Discussion
    1. Intermediary Lending Program: utilize for advancing funds in the GAP funding. Real estate acquisition of funds. There are several other BLFs in the region that have utilized this program. It will expand the types of loans that we can offer to small business start ups.
    2. Quarterly application process, would look at applying for funding in January for the \$400,000.
    3. Program funding can grow to up to \$1 million.**Motion to approve application for IRP: M/S: Ben Tisdell/Roger Rash as accepted.** None opposed
  - iii. Activities & Inquiries: 11 loans are currently in the pipeline to process for \$1.5 million. These are a variety of business in a few areas
    1. Excavating business, car wash, brewery (Montrose), sign company, two hotels, a beauty shop, coffee roaster (Hotchkiss), dog wash business.
  - iv. CDBG: an additional \$430,000 was approved and that helped to close a loan for Smith Fly Designs for \$160,000 which will help ring 12 jobs.
  - v. Additional funding source available to us for startup business: we do have access to about \$430,000 and some of that is grant money for purchasing tools for education. Subgrantee through Region 9
- d. **Community Development** – Trish Thibodo
- i. Roadmap to Recovery: We are inviting public land managers to our next meeting. Inventory of land use and infrastructure needed. We are applying for an OREC grant for that.
  - ii. New state of Colorado Tax Credit through DOLA for rural areas for 35% tax credit for people who contribute to homeless and housing projects.
  - iii. Regional housing data project: working to develop some living data. They will be presenting at the October board meeting.
  - iv. Visitor Information from Data Contractor: Main street data, tourist data, county and subcounty data. They will be presenting at our Nov/Dec board meeting.
- e. **Community Living Services** – Eva Veitch
- i. Approval for Sole Source for Consumer Directed Care Contract. We have looked at several options to assist with this program—this is the only feasible option we have at this time.  
**Motion to approve Sole Source to apply for EZCP: M/S: Dave Frank/Ben Tisdell as accepted.** None opposed
  - ii. Soft Launch for the consumer directed care program will be Sept 1 beginning in our most rural areas.

- iii. Survey cards have gone out for the statewide aging survey (on green cards). Some of the links did not work, we have let them know that there are also. A third party survey company sent them out and we have received hundreds of them back.
- iv. Have started community conversations, Gunnison was fruitful, have been to Paonia. Need a contact in Marble & Somerset. Did a zoom with some of our board members and it wasn't bad doing it that way so we could try a zoom for Ridgway. I can also try again to do one in person
- v. One conversation in Lake City got us a Lake City RAC member.
- vi. State Unit on Aging onsite audit happened last week and it went really well.

f. **Broadband – Corey Brynda**

- i. Have had some difficulty accessing the fiber through CDOT on I-70-- DOLA grants were based on being able to access CDOT fiber and as we have gotten farther along in the process it has become more challenging. There are a couple of agreements between CDOT and the private companies is that CDOT can lease to government entities and because we are a nonprofit we are running into some issues. The agreements also say that they cannot be used for commercial use. We are trying to make the case that we are really accessing the fiber for community development more so than for Commercial development.
- ii. 4 new 100 gig circuits going into Telluride. It gives us some flexibility to lease to a phone company in Telluride
- iii. New IRUs in Ouray County. They are fiber assignments from a fiber company that we have purchased leases on.
- iv. Met with Gunnison County and got direction to work on the long-term solutions for redundancy.
- v. Worked to identify local matching funds to get smaller communities connected through DOLA that are along the routes. We currently have funding to get fiber from Denver to Junction, Junction to Montrose, Gunnison, and then Durango
- vi. Submitted a letter of intent to the Colorado Broadband Office for 4 separate middle mile projects partnered with local ISPs for last mile access to about 4000 addresses for each project.

g. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee – Vince Rogalski**

- i. Wildlife crossings being activated along the highway.
- ii. Next STAC meeting we will be discussing elections and Vince is up for another term.

6. **Round Table;**

- a. **Kris Holstrom:** Sunnyside project is not quite done but people are moving into the Tiny House portion. Norwood is in its lottery phase. Tourism Data: Kira Skinner has been hired. Compost and food waste reduction grant through the state is something we are working on. We had Senator Hickenlooper visit the Uncompahgre Clinic and talked about the challenges associated with that: housing, retention and costs. All Points
- b. **Dave Frank:** September 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a ribbon cutting for the new police facility.
- c. **Roger Rash:** Construction everywhere--the admin building is being remodeled currently, with asbestos abatement finishing up. This will be the new admin building for the clerk. Construction will go out to bid on the old courthouse. Substation in the West End for the sheriff by Hopkins field is in motion. Chipeta and Hwy 550 stop light is a go with a 60/40 split between the County and City on cost, and we are working on the engineering. We have entered budget season and we are reevaluating salaries to help retain our people. Airport is coming together and if you want a tour Roger can get that set up. Looking at completion in Mid-Summer. Like others we are experiencing supply delays, specifically on electronic components.
- d. **Jim Gelwicks:** Gunnison is 90% complete on the Rebuilding Streets of palisade on the northwest corner of the City. Energy efficiency report on all city buildings. We are working with the county and CDOT on an access plan that will complete access areas on Hwy 50 and 135 and combine multi-modal and safety components. We have had several accidents and one fatality. We had interest in our housing at Lazy K along Comichi and Hwy 550 for a total of 55 units, we have sold 7 units and we have the next lottery on 11 units in November. Our City Manager is moving to the County Manager and will be leaving later this fall.
- e. **Roland Mason:** We have had 4 interviews for a new ED for the Gunnison Housing Authority and should be making a decision shortly. Airport is about 90% complete, we anticipated it to be finished beginning of July and we have been experiencing supply chain issues and it should be complete by the end of the year. We did have a record season over the summer over the last 30 years. County has hired a chief financial officer. Sales tax was up about 20% across the county in June and it will be interesting to see what the numbers are for July & August. We have had a lot of rains throughout the summer season and has kept the fire danger low. Blue Mesa reached about 43% full and they have decided to not drain it this year like they did last year. It will go down to about 20% this winter.
- f. **John Clark:** Space to Create project is looking at a move-in date of October 1<sup>st</sup> and we won't be having the grand opening until spring. Successful Summer Concert Series and the numbers have been down. It is down compared to

COVID years but not in comparison to 2019. Enacted a moratorium on some new development while a bunch of projects are in the pipeline that need to be completed.

- g. **Kristie Borchers:** We are working with Gunnison Housing authority on some combined housing situations. We are utilizing some of our contribution project status as an incentive. Soft opening of the HUB, tomorrow, that is a coworking space/business center that businesses or digital nomads can utilize.
- h. **Michael Bacani:** Gearing up for winter. Purchased free market housing to house government workers and to house essential workers in town. The couple units that we purchased were a couple million. There is no approval on our housing project due to a building issue and that is 22 units for the homestead development for affordable housing.
- i. **Ben Tisdell:** CDOT Region 5 completed their 28 miles of resurfacing so you can now drive from Ouray into Montrose without major delays. 2 mile of shoulder work around the Cemetery. Paradox Community Trust, rural homes project, in with 14 units complete in Ridgway by December with a similar project in process in Ouray for 20 units with the hope of up to 70 with an updated septic/sewer system. Funding for Community Wildfire Protection plans are coming through the pipeline as the have not been updated in about 10 years. West Region Wildfire Council is helping with those.

7. **Next Meeting:**

- a. Executive Committee Meeting September 29<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-3pm – Hybrid Option

8. **Meeting adjourned 2:22pm**

- a. **Motion to adjourn: Ben Tisdell/Roger Rash.** None opposed.



## Executive Director Update September 2022

### No Action Items

### Informational Items:

- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event: **Sept 29 4-6 p.m. at Bridges/Remington's. There will not be a Board/Executive Committee meeting in September.**
- Signed contract for Olathe remodel project. Current construction shortfall is approximately \$135,000. We are requesting USDA move funds from operations to construction to cover the remaining budget and will search for additional funding for operations. Montrose County will consider an additional funding request in 2023, and the Town of Olathe is considering waiving the permit fee for the project.
- Contractor is receiving bids from sub-contractors for final estimate for addition/remodel at 145 S Cascade building. Current estimates are close to budget, but with no contingency budgeted.
- Waiting on contract from state for IIJA Project Manager position. Will open and begin recruitment when we have notice to proceed.
- Hosted meeting for PUC Communications team Sept 14.
- Hosted meeting for Co Broadband Office Sept 28.
- Setting up meeting with WAPA (was Sept 20—moved to Jan 13) to discuss fiber access for Gunnison County. Working with BB Director on project financial sustainability. Working with CDOT on access fiber on the I-70 corridor.

# SBRC Board Report

September 29, 2022

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## What's New

- Region 10 hosted the national SBDC accreditation team on Wed, Sept 21. Follow up comments will be provided to the State SBDC Lead Center next week, with a final report available in February 2023. The network will have one year to correct any findings.
- We have applied for the Town of Telluride's CCAASE grant again this year.

## Of Interest

- Olathe Program Manager Ann Bradford is onboard, and things are progressing!
- Nancy attended the national SBDC meeting in San Diego the first week of September—making some good connections and getting fresh ideas for programming.
- National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15- Oct 15) gave us the opportunity to do further our Spanish language outreach:
  - ✓ Callie presented at the Gunnison Inmigrantes Unidos meeting on Sept 1. This is a group of Spanish-speaking immigrants in Gunnison who meet monthly to share information and resources.
  - ✓ Bilingual SBDC consultant Susan Welk Valdez attended the Festival Agricola put on by the Western CO Rural & Migrant Coalition on Sept 10.
  - ✓ Callie also represented Region 10 | West Central SBDC at the Hispanic Heritage Celebration in Gunnison on Sept 17.
- We held our Gunnison satellite office grand opening on Tues, Sept 13. Thank you to our board members, Roland Mason and Jim Gelwicks, for attending. We also had chamber directors and businesses from Gunnison and Lake City join us!
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter SBRC Advisory meeting is Thurs, Oct 6, 10-11 a.m.

## What's Coming Up

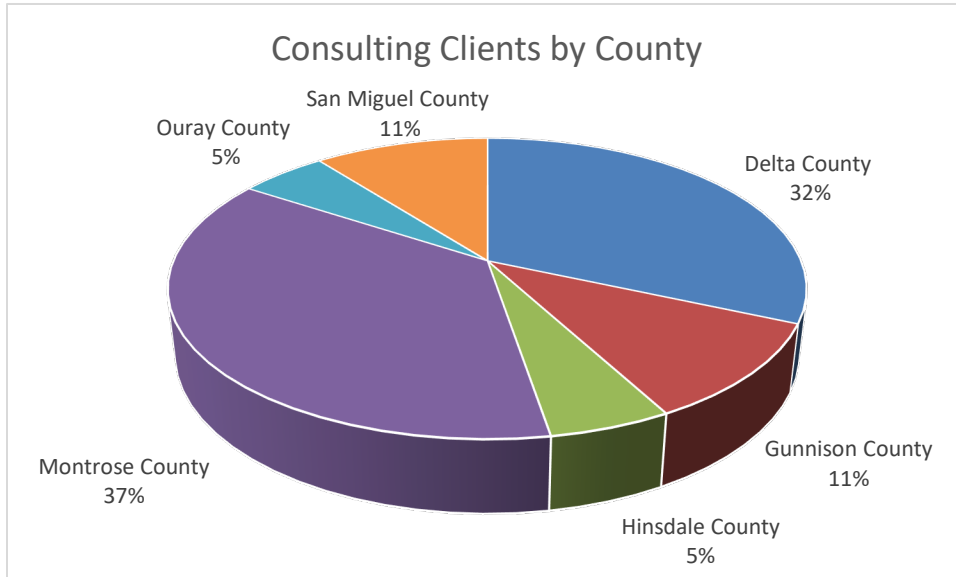
- Financial Leading Edge: Fine-tuning your business financials to meet today's economic challenges, 3-part series starts Thurs, Oct 13 and runs for three Thursday evenings—Oct 13, 20, and 27, 6-8 p.m.
- Workshops and Trainings
  - ✓ Finance Friday: The relationship between personal and business finance Fri, Sept 30 2:30-3:30 p.m.
  - ✓ SmartStart: How to start a business, Thurs, Oct 6, noon- 2 p.m., \$35
  - ✓ Finance Friday: Tax Deductions, Fri, Oct 28, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

## What's Ongoing

- Ongoing: New employee onboarding (Callie and Ann)
- Ongoing: Online and on-demand program/training development
- Ongoing SBDC meetings—bi-weekly network meetings, monthly committee meeting (operations)
- Ongoing SBDC network collaboration and program development meetings- every two weeks
- Ongoing SBDC consultant recruitment and training
- Ongoing Region 10 initiative meetings— RISE grant advisory
- Ongoing Region 10 marketing meetings- PR, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Gunnison Open House
- Ongoing website updates
- Client consulting meetings

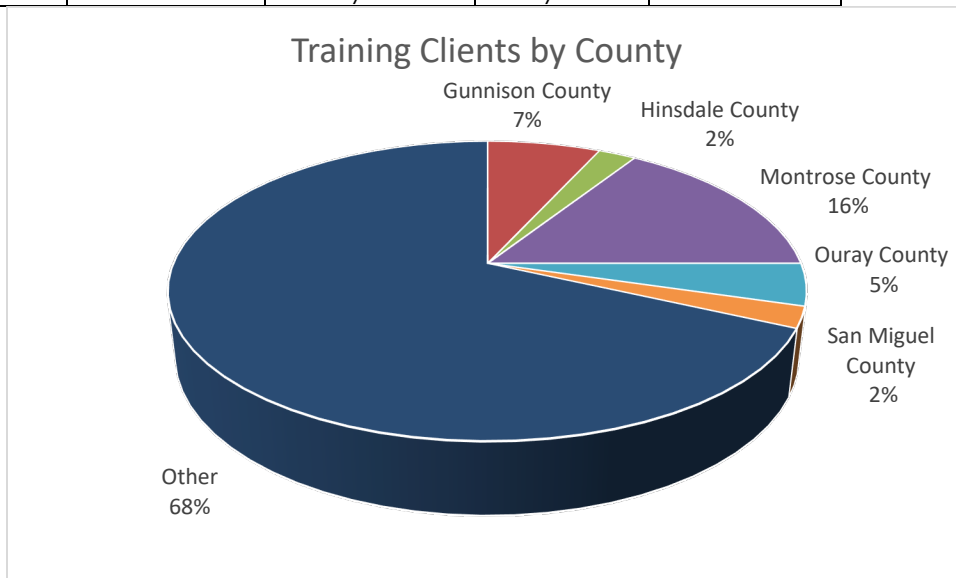
## August Consulting

2022	Clients	Sessions	Hours	Satisfaction
August	19	25	32	4.8



## July Trainings

2022	Attendees	Workshops	Hours	Satisfaction
August	44	7/9*	13/11*	5



\*on-demand





## **Business Loan Fund**

**September 2022**

### **Action Items/Activities/Inquiries**

#### **Action Items**

1. None

#### **Activities/Inquiries**

##### **Loan Closings**

- Closed Five Loans totaling \$215,000. Two in **Delta County** for \$100,000. The Delta Egyptian Theater and Hot Diggity Excavation. Three in **Montrose County** for \$115,000. motherfoodtrucker, San Juan Brews, and Pomona Brewing. We have two more loans approved and scheduled to close in the Month of September.

##### **Loan Inquiries**

- In our Active Pipeline we have 7 applications in process. Two in the **West End of Montrose County**, two in **Gunnison County**, and 2 in **Delta County** and one in **San Miguel County**.

##### **Notables**

Instillation of new loan production and servicing software in moving forward.  
We have onsite training in October.

State Start-up Loan Fund went live September 1st

## **Loan Production Report**

Below is a summary of all loans closed from July1, 2021 to current (FY 2023)

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 (FY23)										
Loan Number	Amount	Date Closed	County	Jobs	Created	Jobs	Retained	Funds	Source	Funds Leveraged
3610	\$ 50,000.00	7/18/22	Gunnison	0		1		SBA VI		\$ -
1432	\$ 160,000.00	7/29/22	Montrose	8		8		CDBG		\$ 616,000
1089	\$ 160,000.00	7/29/22	Delta	6		4		RLF		\$ 320,000
3612	\$ 30,000.00	9/8/22	Montrose	1		0		SBA VI		\$ -
1090	\$ 35,000.00	9/8/22	Montrose	4		0		RLF		\$ -
3611	\$ 50,000.00	9/9/22	Montrose	3		2		SBA VI		\$ 132,050
3613	\$ 50,000.00	9/9/22	Delta	5		2		SBA VI		\$ 50,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$535,000.00</b>			<b>27</b>		<b>17</b>				<b>\$ 1,118,050.00</b>

## Community Development/EZ Sept 2022

**Action Items: None**

### Noteworthy:

- **Central San Juans High Alpine Roadmap to Recovery (Oct 2021 – Jun 2023) Hinsdale, San Miguel, Ouray, San Juan and Dolores Counties** – Three subcommittees are developing action items related to public lands on:
  - **Infrastructure assessment on public lands:** In partnership with the Alpine Team, Mountain Studies Institute and San Juan Mountain Association will apply for a [Colorado Outdoor Recreation grant](#) to conduct an assessment to focus on inventory of land use and existing infrastructure to identify needs, areas to encourage or discourage usage, etc.
  - **Hazard Mitigation** initial focus is on coordination of Emergency Managers for the High Alpine Roadmap region. They will expand the existing Southwest Emergency Managers group to include Hinsdale and Ouray Counties, and then bring in [DHSEM Regional Field Managers](#).
  - **Communication/Messaging to Visitors/Users:** will convene a work group made up of Destination Marketing Organizations, Chambers, County POI, Key non-profits and possibly State and Federal organization to work on creating visitor and user messaging. The workgroup initial tasks will be to help build content & identify the messages for the new (in process) website: [alpineloop.info](#).
  - **Alpine Team** will invite public land managers to their next meeting (September 16) to begin to inform and engage them in the project.
- **New Homeless Services Colorado Tax Credit** – DOLA will be administering the **new income tax credit** created by [HB 22-1083](#) in which donors that contribute to programs that provide appropriate housing and services to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness will receive a Colorado State Income Tax Credit. For rural areas this is a 35% tax credit. Note: *Region 10 will NOT be administering this program even though it is similar to EZCP. EZ Homeless projects will transition to this new program. New projects will go through DOLA for their donors to be eligible for this Colorado Income Tax Credit.*
- **Enterprise Zone**
  - **Administrators statewide meeting** – Courtney and I attended the EZ Administrators meeting in Silverton on Sep 22 – 23.
  - **Valley Housing Trust (Gunnison)** EZ Contribution Project approved by the EDC.
  - **Ute History Museum (Montrose)** is applying for a new project as their current project is ending.

### Informational/Ongoing:

- **Regional Housing Data Meta-Analysis (February – Oct 2022):** Consultants continue to conduct analysis and final report and recommendations should be available December 2022. Scope of Work was expanded to include economic impact modeling related to housing development.
- **Regional Data Project (February 2021 – December 2022):** Ongoing
- **[Regional Outdoor Recreation Product Summit](#)** – Taking place in Nov 2022 (**Montrose**) -Working with Colorado Outdoors to sponsor an Outdoor Recreation (ORec) Product Summit with the target audience being ORec Product Manufacturing Industry Cluster.
- **Region 10 RISE Innovation Center:** Construction begins Oct. 10, 2022.

- **Delta County** Employee Training: participating in the committee developing an employee professional development training program focusing on customer service, professionalism and soft-skills. Training will include a DISC assessment. First training cohort launches in Oct. 2022
- **West End** Economic Development Corporation (Nucla, Naturita, Norwood)
  - Attended Annual Meeting in **Norwood**
  - We are administering/managing a Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant for the West End to support transition work which began March 2022 – June 2023
  - Participating as an Ex-officio on their board of directors.
- **Delta County**- Continue to participate as an ex-officio member of the One Delta County Board.
- **RISE Steering Committee** – continues to meet on a monthly basis.
- **Delta Housing** – attended part one of three Delta Housing Discussions addressing affordable housing in the community.

**Other:**

- **Economic Development Council of Colorado:** Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Events Planning Committee and Public Policy Committee. Currently planning the Oct 2022 Annual EDCC Conference taking place in Pueblo.
- **Western Workforce Development Board**
- **Regional Workforce Planning** – moved to quarterly with Montrose County School District, Technical College of the Rockies, Colorado SW Workforce and Colorado Mesa University – Montrose Campus.
- **Co-Action Project West Central Steering Committee** – participating in the career pathways two-year grant project which includes **Delta and Montrose** County School Districts, **Ridgway and Gunnison**. Project will develop career pathways for Health Care, Construction and Outdoor Education (tourism and environmental science).
- **Attended:** Allpoints Transit Friendraiser Event at Big B's in Paonia.
- **Prepping** – to present on a Brownfield Panel at the Colorado Planning Conference and will highlight the **Town of Hotchkiss** Public Works Building community engagement and Brownfield process.



## CLS Board Report September 2022

Action Item: None

### Noteworthy:

- At the request of Olathe older adults we held a special event 9/20 to encourage more attendance at the Senior Meals, the event was a great success.
- Community conversations have been held in Olathe, Cedaredge & Montrose. No one showed up in Telluride. Still no luck scheduling Marble or Somerset.
- We will have our annual State Ombudsman visit in October.
- I will be attending Fall Clinic at Montrose Health this to provide education to area physicians about our services.
- Launch of the consumer directed program will be Oct 1 with GT Independence managing the bulk of this. The initial focus will be on the areas outside of Delta and Montrose where the need is the greatest.

### Informational/Ongoing

- The Lake City conversation did result in a new RAC member welcome Dr. Dan McGee .
- New RSVP coord in Delta, still seeking one for Ouray.
- In process of launching a new state database! Let the fun begin.....
- This is the link to the Western Slope Aging Advocates Forum
- <https://actionnetwork.org/events/colorado-candidate-forum-older-adult-policy-west>

Join us, along with candidates for elected office and your neighbors, to learn more about the pressing topics of today and their intersection with our changing demographics. The hour-long, virtual event will specifically cover the following issues as they relate to older adults:

- **Workforce:** Older adults are becoming the fastest growing segment of our state's workforce. Learn about the needs of older workers and the opportunity this offers our economy.
- **Housing:** Colorado is facing a housing crisis. Hear about the specific implications for older adults.
- **Consumer protection:** Attempts at fraud and exploitation touch every Coloradan. We'll discuss these trends as they relate to older Coloradans.
- **Economic security:** The cost of food, health care, and utilities are significant for many Coloradans, particularly those with limited or fixed income. We'll cover how rising costs touch the lives of older adults.

**Next RAC meeting Dec 2, 2022 10-1 R10**



September, 2022

Corey Bryndal,, Regional Broadband Project Director  
Broadband Report to the Board

- Region 10 responded to Colorado Broadband Office's request for a [Letter of Intent](#). This was an online form submittal where staff identified the following priorities (1) statewide backbone completion (2) additional middle mile access into and throughout the Gunnison Valley and (3) collaboration with 4 regional ISP's for expanded fiber to the home development for up to 4000 un/under-served locations throughout Region 10. Hosting meeting with CBO Executive Director on September 28.
- Presented the Region 10 broadband partnership model at Just Transitions Broadband conference in Washington, DC.
- **DOLA EIAF Broadband** middle mile expansion plan is being reviewed. This allows for direct fiber connection into metro Denver and expansion south into Durango and Cortez. Region 10 is negotiating fiber agreements along Interstate 70 and south towards Durango and Cortez. Working with optical and routing vendors to finalize bill of materials. Significant challenges in accessing CDOT fiber are being discussed with CDOT and state partners. Alternative options with a private provider are priced higher than original expectations.
- Lake City IRU agreement and a Draft CNL + 1Gig circuit lease agreements have been completed. GCEA pole make ready is being pursued by **Visionary Broadband**. CNL improvements are slated to begin soon, and be operational by end of 2022. Fiber construction to start spring of 2023.
- Dark fiber into **Telluride** is ready for activation. Splicing between three cable owners is complete and test results have been received. We are seeing strong interest from ISP's in this route. Staff attempted to activate the line using existing and spare equipment as an interim solution while permanent optical switching systems could be ordered. Ultimately, we did not have enough equipment for the short term solution and have placed purchase orders to get permanent equipment ordered.
- **City of Ouray and Ouray County** has several new IRU's and construction is complete for the Ouray County portion near the Land Use building..
- Continuing to evaluate options for **Gunnison to Crested Butte** and **Mount Crested Butte** connection. Feedback pointed towards focus on long-term, permanent fix, with possible interim solution between Gunnison and Crested Butte.



- Have activated Visionary Communications 5 Gigabit transport circuit between **Gunnison** and **Denver** using the new **Cottonwood Pass** path. We continue to receive requests for upgraded service to Gunnison County, which is challenging with the current service assets and lack of dark fiber.
- Within **Garfield County** and **Mesa County** seven communities have used local matching funds along with DOLA provided funds to develop lateral fiber and CNL facilities. The goal is to attach to the planned Region 10 fiber along Interstate 70. This route would also extend the Region 10 network to Denver were commercial sources of service, content providers and the Front Range Gigapop are. We have encountered challenges in obtaining access to dark fiber along Interstate 70 with both CDOT and Zayo and are working through options for interim and permanent solutions. Several ISP's have approached us to pre-lease CNL space in multiple communities along the route.
- Planning Western Slope meeting with **Front Range GigaPOP** and working with staff to submitting a Letter of Intent for equipment and labor needed to deliver FRGP services to the Western Slope communities. This LOI may result in future grant proposals to Federal funding agencies.
- Staff is working on plans expand visibility to the network and to identify and address service issues within the existing Region 10 network. A mix of new software, and partner services are being considered. The result should be improved uptime, timely software updates and better response to service impacting and ongoing maintenance needs. New routes are being added to Region 10's GIS system.
- Continuing to work with our neighbors to the south in **Region 9** and is working on projects in the region to develop redundant fiber routes with more capacity and connect to primary Internet sources for the Western Slope in general.
- DOLA responsibilities -in the "Technical Assistant" role, Region 10 staff continues to present broadband educational materials, review potential project applications, attend regional meetings and provide technical assistance for broadband development throughout our DOLA identified territory. Engagements include Pike's Peak Area Council of Governments, San Luis Valley Broadband Coordination Office, and others.
- Region 10 has established new working relationships with network operators in Utah including Strata Networks and Emery Telecom. We have learned of innovative an innovative conduit banking exchange system used by the Utah Department of Transportation and anticipate conversations with that organization. Elective placement of conduit in open trenches creates credits that can be exchanged for conduit assets donated elsewhere through Utah. This results in low/no-cost access to conduit along Utah roadways.



# TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

**DATE: September 2022**

**Vince Rogalski, Chairman**

**Gunnison Valley TPR**

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

## **Potential bills which may come up this legislative session**

**Legislative Report - Herman Stockinger, Andy Karsian, Jamie Grim, CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations (OPGR).**

- **Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC) met in August and discussed a total of 10 noted bills, including the following:**
- **A Bill looking to increase funding (about \$5 Million) for Rest Stops.**
- **Additional funding for off-system (non-CDOT) bridges (\$5 Million but not yet verified)..**
- **A bill to allow the state to use rest stops and state right of ways for EV charging.**
- **A bill to add stationary vehicles (not just emergency vehicles) on shoulders to the move-over law.**
- **Another Bill to clarify the traffic safety process of yielding to larger commercial vehicles at roundabouts.**
- **A bill from Bicycle Colorado deals with Automated Vehicle ID System usage and is seeking additional enforcement to protect cyclists.**
- **The TLRC will be meeting in September to discuss these bills.**
- **CDOT is also considering a proposed Bill that will add transit agencies as voting members to TPRs (Regional Planning Commissions). STAC discussion sought clarification on members who represent both local government and Transit Agencies, and/or a geographic political entity.**

**This last item is something we've talked about for a number of years. Clarification of this issue will help.**

## **10 Year Plan**

**At the Transportation Commission Meeting Resolution #12 was approved.**

### **Proposed Resolution #12**

**Instructing the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to dedicate new state strategic revenue received through Senate Bill 21-260, and new federal strategic revenue received through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act towards the approved 10-Year plan project list attached.**



**Approved by the Transportation Commission on September 15, 2022**

**WHEREAS, the Colorado Senate Bill 21-260 provides new, long-term and stable transportation funding to Colorado for the first time since the passage of FASTER in 2009; and**

**WHEREAS, the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was enacted in November 2021 and includes additional funding for surface transportation over a five-year period; and**

**WHEREAS, the Commission adopted a four year priority list of transportation projects for fiscal years 2020-2022 in November of 2019; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department has made significant progress in delivering the aforementioned list of priority projects for fiscal years 2020-2022 and has, as of the date of this resolution, \$380 million in project needs remaining to complete the fourth year of the original four-year project list; and**

**WHEREAS, SB21-260 requires the Department to update it's 10 Year Plan to be in compliance with the GHG Pollution Standard Rule; and**

**WHEREAS, CDOT has demonstrated that the updated Plan complies with the GHG Pollution Standard and the Commission has approved this compliance via its adoption of the September 2022 GHG Transportation Report; and**

**WHEREAS, CDOT has worked closely with its planning partners to update the 10-Year Plan and identify the next four year priority list for fiscal years 2023-2026 based on forecasted strategic funding from the aforementioned state, federal, and other sources in the amount of \$325 million per year on average over the next four years; and**

**WHEREAS, in conducting this update, CDOT staff ensured consistency with the Colorado Transportation Commission directed targets for regional equity, with 10% allocated off the top to transit as a minimum, 50% of the remaining capital investment prioritized to elements of surface treatment and bridge asset management, and 25% targeted to rural paving program investments for the areas of the state with sufficient rural road mileage to participate in the rural paving program; and**

**WHEREAS, the Colorado Transportation Commission recognizes the funding for the 10-Year Plan projects represent planning level estimates and must be delivered in accordance with policy directive 703.0 "Annual Budget, Project Budgeting and Cash Management Principles"; and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Colorado Transportation Commission approves the updated 10-Year Plan which includes full delivery of the FY19-22 project list and a new set of priority projects for FY23-26 as listed in the project tables attached to this resolution.**

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**Herman Stockinger, Secretary Date  
Transportation Commission**

## **Wildlife Mitigation Fund**

**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 30, 2022**

**SUBJECT: Senate Bill 22-151 Wildlife Mitigation Fund**

### **Purpose**

**Staff is seeking Commission support for the proposed utilization of Senate Bill 22-151 Wildlife Mitigation Funds, which will be appropriated in September of this year.**

### **Action**

**This memo formally requests a Resolution from the Commission confirming support for the Department's approach for SB 22-151 funding utilization. During the August Commission meeting, staff presented information on CDOT's efforts to address Wildlife Vehicle Collision issues across the State, and our current work with the stakeholders identified within SB 22-151 to develop a plan to expend the Wildlife Mitigation Funding provided within that legislation. An approach for Fund utilization has been agreed to by both the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Commission concurrence on this approach is requested.**

### **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 the 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. This year, Senate Bill 22-151 (Safe Passages for Colorado Wildlife and Motorists) was passed, which created a cash fund for use by the Department to fund projects that provide safe road crossings for wildlife connectivity and wildlife-vehicle collision reduction.**

## **Details**

**During this Legislative Session, Senate Bill 22-151 was created in the State Treasury, and consists of money transferred from the General Fund and into the Colorado Wildlife Mitigation Fund. Funds are to be utilized for the full range of wildlife crossing needs identified in the Department's 10 Year Plan that include wildlife crossing components, or other wildlife passage opportunities identified by the Department, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance, or other identified stakeholder groups. Funds can also be used for matching funds for federal grant opportunities, and administrative expenses. The Department is required to consult with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance concerning the distribution of the money from the fund, prioritizing projects on the 10 Year Plan, projects identified in the state's Wildlife Prioritization Studies, with consideration of distributing money from the fund to project to fill funding gaps for wildlife needs.**

## **Current Agreement**

**SB 22-151 requires the Department to coordinate with two main stakeholder groups to utilize funds within the Wildlife Mitigation Fund account. The Department has consulted with both the Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance on a recommended approach for funding expenditures that follow the requirements set forth within the legislation.**

**This approach will:**

- Apply funding to several projects in active construction that have identified funding gaps. Funding will allow wildlife components to be added to the scope of work. These projects are identified on CDOT's 10 Year Plan, and identified as priorities within the state's Wildlife Prioritization Studies.**
- Apply funding to projects identified in 10 Year Plan and Wildlife Prioritization Studies that will go to construction in the next year that have a budget deficit.**
- Apply funding to initiate the design of two projects identified on the 10 Year Plan and the Wildlife Prioritization Studies.**
- Apply funding to the administrative costs of the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance**
- Preserve approximately 25% of the Fund as match for upcoming federal grant opportunities**

Pursuant to SB 22-151, the Department has coordinated with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance on the utilization of the Colorado Wildlife Mitigation Fund.

Below summarizes the generally agreed upon funding approach:

**Current Construction Needs**

**Project Description Funding Amount**

SH 115 Rock Creek Brdg, add fence to contract \$500,000

SH 13 Fortification Crk, radar detection Change Order \$150,000

SH 13 Fortification Crk, Zapcrete Change Order \$325,000

Sub-Total: \$975,000

**Upcoming Construction Needs**

**Project Description Funding Amount**

US 550 Billy Creek underpass/fencing cost escalation \$500,000

Sub-Total: \$500,000

**Potential Corridor Improvements**

**Project Description Funding Amount**

US 285 Wildlife fencing near Conifer, existing underpass \$500,000

Sub-Total: \$500,000

**Design for Future Improvements**

**Project Description Funding Amount**

I 25 Raton Pass Wildlife Mitigation Project \$750,000

I 70 East Vail Pass Wildlife Mitigation Project \$750,000

Sub-Total: \$1,500,000

**Administration/Studies**

**Description Funding Amount**

Colorado Wildlife & Transportation Alliance operating funds \$250,000

Sub-Total: \$250,000

Federal Grant Matching funds Sub-Total: \$1,275,000

TOTAL: \$5,000,00

**Proposed Resolution # X**

Commission support for prioritized wildlife corridors.

Approved by the Transportation Commission on September 15, 2022

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 22-151 created within the State Treasury a Colorado Wildlife Mitigation Fund, and authorized the transfer of \$5 million in state general funds into the fund; and

**WHEREAS, Senate Bill 22-151 designated the funds to be utilized for the full range of wildlife crossing needs identified in the Department’s 10-Year Plan that include wildlife crossing components, or other wildlife passage opportunities, or other wildlife passage opportunities identified by the Department, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance, or other identified stakeholder groups; and WHEREAS, the Department was required to consult with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Transportation Alliance concerning the distribution of money from the fund to prioritized projects; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department has consulted with partner entities as required and have determined a prioritization process for distribution of the funds as follows:**

- Apply funding to several projects in active construction that have identified funding gaps. Funding will allow wildlife components to be added to the scope of work. These projects are identified on CDOT’s 10 Year Plan, and identified as priorities within the state’s Wildlife Prioritization Studies.**
- Apply funding to projects identified in 10 Year Plan and Wildlife Prioritization Studies that will go to construction in the next year that have a budget deficit.**
- Apply funding to initiate the design of two projects identified on the 10 Year Plan and the Wildlife Prioritization Studies.**
- Apply funding to the administrative costs of the Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance.**
- Preserve approximately 25% of the Fund as match for upcoming federal grant opportunities.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission supports the prioritization process determined by the Department and wildlife stakeholders and supports the resulting project funding contained in Appendix A.**

**Herman Stockinger, Secretary Date  
Transportation Commission of Colorado**

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