



Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region

Thursday, April 30, 2026
Hybrid In-Person and Via Zoom Video Conference

1) CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS – Meeting was called to order at: 1:34 p.m.

a) TPR Members:

- i) In-Person: Sue Hansen (Montrose County Commissioner), Michelle Nauer (Ouray County Commissioner), Carl Holm (Deputy Town Administrator, Town of Cedaredge), Gary Clark (All Points Executive Director), Jim Loebe (Town of Mtn Village, Transit & Recreation Director), Martin Schmidt (Gunnison County, Assistant County Manager for Public Works), Mike Lane (Delta County Commissioner), Carly McCowan (City of Gunnison, City Engineer), Colleen Hannon (Gunnison County GVTPR Appointee)
- ii) Virtual : David Averill (SMART), Joe Dillsworth (Town of Telluride, Transit Manager), Preston Neill (Town of Ridgway, Town Manager), Mel Yemma (Town of Crested Butte, Community Development Director), Michelle Metteer (City of Ouray, City Administrator), Robert Hurd (Hinsdale County Commissioner), Shea Earley (Town of Crested Butte, Public Works Director), Ty Barger (Ouray County, Road and Bridge Superintendent), Christopher Sheely (Telluride Express)

b) Region 10 Staff: Michelle Haynes (Region 10), Courtney Tribble (Region 10)

c) Colorado Department of Transportation

- i) **CDOT Region 3:** Jessie Spencer (Planning and Local Support), Angie Hainer (Local agency and Transit Project Manager), Nate Jean (Montrose Resident Engineer), Phil von Hake (Multimodal Transportation Planner/Liaison)
- ii) **CDOT Region 5:** Tim Funk (Environmental Specialist & Regional Planner), Tony Cady (Region Planning & Environmental Manager), Bridget McDougall (Local Agency Engineer), Annie Altwarg (Multimodal and Transit Liaison)
- iii) **Headquarters:** Brian Campbell (State Hydraulic Engineer), Hannah Marians (Policy Coordinator), Neysa Bermingham (Senior Planner), Michael Snow (Transportation Planning Specialist), Hannah Marians (Program Coordinator)
- d) **Guests:** Kim Bollinger (GM of Destination Systems), Heather Carlson (Colorado LTAP), Susan Baillargeon (Program Director Front Range Community College), Lisa Pool (Senator Hickenlooper's Office), Jean Millard (Colorado LTAP, Grants & Finance Coordinator)

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES for November 13, 2025 GVTPR Meeting:

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve minutes: M/S: Michelle Nauer/. None opposed.

3) Presentations and Funding Updates

a) LTAP (Local Technical Assistance Program) – Heather Carlson (Director for Colorado LTAP), Susan Baillargeon, Jean Millard

- i) Federal Grant Program through the FHWA with partnership from CDOT and Front Range Community College for Workforce Development: Road Scholars I, II, III. Offer 2 Training seasons: March- May, September – November with about 2500 people trained throughout the year. Most of the participants that are going through the program are already working in the field. 1/3 of the cost and 1/3 of the time can be cut through Credit for what you already know. Some are 1 credit and some are 6 credits.
- ii) Safety Circuit Rider Program: Sanjiv Gupta can do a deeper dive into the counties of our region. They have some county data on traffic fatalities.
- iii) If you have an idea for a project there is a checklist to start the funding opportunity request. The team can provide assistance for grant, cannot write the grant for them, but will review. Once an award is awarded LTAP can help assist through the management of the grant.
- iv) If you have staff that would like to consider the program, Susan Baillargeon can meet in person as needed.

b) TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) Update – Neysa Bermingham (Active Transportation Grants Coordinator)

- i) State & Federal Multimodal Funding: SRTS, Safe Routes Activating Communities Program (yet to be released), TAP, HSIP Highway Safety Improvement Program (Closed currently), MMOF
 - ii) USDOT Programs: Safe Streets and Roads for All, Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program. BUILD- Reconnecting Communities Pilot
- (1) Safe Streets and Roads for All – Applications open and due by May 26th @ 5pm EDT

- (a) Strictly follow the NOFO and use terms/words that are included in the NOFO for your narrative.
- (b) You can develop an Area-Specific Action Plan if you do not already have one
- (c) Calculate the benefits, how does it connect to economic hubs, or increase safety.
- (d) Projects that you are prepared to execute
- (e) High benefit, low cost.
- (f) High value on higher than minimum match and strong local support
- (g) Truck and RV Parking as a safety component. CDOT has a freight planner that may better know the answer to that. Especially for our resort communities.
- (2) Transportation Alternatives Program (typically available once every 3 years)
 - (a) The current Surface Transportation Funding Bill is set to expire on Sept 30, 2026. This bill is what includes the TAP funding. Current plan is to release a call for projects in October.
 - (i) 4 Components: Pedestrian and Bike Improvements, Environmental Mitigation, Historic/Scenic Activities, Boulevard Improvements
 - (ii) Strategic Growth Elements:
 - 1. Neighborhoods, for rural areas these are the hot spots of pedestrian and bike areas like downtowns. This round of applications with a neighborhood center will be scored higher. Have a "Neighborhood Center" in place before applying. Timeframe for certification of Neighborhood Centers can vary based on the community. Likely many of the communities in the region could be designated as neighborhood centers.
 - 2. Growth Laws: there are 7 laws with 12 components that you are required to comply with for strategic growth. Go to the compliance dashboard to see if you are compliant with the laws. Those that are compliant will score higher.
 - (iii) In Planning for TAP CDOT is asking for a TAP Representative to evaluate projects for each CDOT Region. Meaning that the GVTPR should have a representative for 2 scoring committees. These committees will have a roll in determining how funds are spent.
 - 1. Conflict avoidance – If your community is applying for TAP you cannot score your own application.
 - 2. Maintain Confidentiality: not releasing information from the scoring committee before the awards have been announced.
 - 3. Time Commitment
 - a. Reviewing the guidelines, reading and reviewing applications, 2-3 meetings in the fall 2026 and spring 2027.
 - (b) Lisa Pool mentioned that Hickenlooper's office can provide a Letter of Support for federally funded projects.
 - (i) Fill out this online form - <https://www.hickenlooper.senate.gov/grants/> And then flag for Lisa Pool (lisa_pool@hickenlooper.senate.gov)
- c) **MMOF (Multi-modal Mitigation Options Fund) Update – Michael Snow**
 - i) The House and Sen HB 1399 Passed effectively eliminating the annual \$10.5 million general fund transfer to MMOF in FY 27, 28, 29. HB 1398 Shared Retail Delivery Fee also Passed that sought to keep the funding levels that are appropriate to Bustang (previously split 85% to the TPRs and 15% staying with CDOT) it changes those ratios to 70% for TPRs and 30% to the state.
 - (1) Keeps the MMOF allocations to a little bit over 50% of what they were previously.
 - (2) We are now working on guidance for the TPRs as these bills will affect the previous allocations.
 - (3) The GVTPR still controls the awarding of the funds as to how to make adjustments. You can leave the existing award amounts in place; if so, the funding that is awarded would be allocated from future years, which cannot be spent until those funds are awarded.
 - (a) Gunnison County (\$411,000 of a large project), All Points Transit & the Town of Nucla are the awards that are specific to this TPR. Also note, Cedaredge could be awarded a portion of the funds awarded to Gunnison for their Safe Routes to School if they did not receive full funding.
- d) **10-Year Plan – Phil Von Hake and Tim Funk**
 - i) Thursday, May 7th the final 10 Year plan will be presented to the STAC and then make recommendations to the Transportation Commission. Nothing in the Gunnison Valley 10 Year Priority List has changed other than the name of the Gunnison project. This does affect funds that will be available July 1, 2026. FY 27-36.
- e) **Legislative Update – Hannah Mariani (CDOT Headquarters)**

- i) **HB 26-1237 Transportation Safety Modifications** Bill, passed both chambers and will go to the Governor's desk. It reclassifies stopping or parking in a bike lane as a class B traffic infraction, modernizes traction requirements, and officially replaces the word "accident" with "crash" or "incident".
- ii) **HB 26-1076 Transportation Statutory Clean-Up Bill:** It refines transport operations statewide. Key updates include redefining "toll evasion", banning certain commercial vehicles from the left lane on portions of I-70, and eliminating CDOT's authority to make noise mitigation rules, among other administrative changes.
- iii) **HB 26-1127 Report After Fatal Car Crash:** requires County Coroners to report quarterly about the toxicology data. This is already data that County Coroners are supposed to report it just makes a statute related to how/when it needs to be reported.
- iv) **HB 26- 1101 Certifying Scrap Metal Sales:** passed chambers headed to Governor. It tightens regulations on the sale of scrap metals to crack down on the theft of copper wire and other utility/telecom infrastructure.
- v) **SB 26-141 Wildlife Collision Prevention:** scheduled for House Appropriations, \$5 opt-out fee to help support wildlife crossings. It is based similar to the Keep Colorado Wild program, it would be paid through the vehicle registrations and appropriated to CDOT.

4) **Regional Construction/Maintenance Updates**

a) **Region 3 Updates (Nate Jean)**

- i) Projects in Design
 - (1) Design on Hwy 92 on Rogers Mesa, looking at construction in 2029
 - (2) US 550 Signals, ad in fall, two signals in Montrose that will likely be combined with the project of US 550 dual left turn lanes.
 - (3) 8 miles of Resurfacing along 135 in Almont, goes to ad this fall and construction in 2027
 - (4) Repaving US Hwy 50 on the bypass in Montrose, construction in 2028
 - (5) US 50 Cerro Summit, had some failing walls and consultant is selected for re-design with construction in 2028
 - (6) Middle & Lake Fork Bridge repairs, ad date in fall for final repair with some support for the added weight. Construction next year.
 - (7) Culvert repairs near Crawford for 6 culverts.
 - (8) Resurfacing project that is waiting for funds on SH 149 on Spring Creek Pass in Hinsdale County
 - (9) SH 348 Resurfacing will go to ad in May and a culvert replacement with it.
- ii) Current Construction Projects
 - (1) US 50 Cedar Creek Culvert is almost finished, and traffic will be moved into its final alignment in a few weeks.
 - (2) US 50 Culvert linings towards Cerro Summit
 - (3) US 50 Resurfacing as you come through Delta should finish in August at the latest.

b) **Region 5 Updates (Tim Funk & Bridget McDougal)**

- i) Local Agency Program – Completed Projects
 - (1) Bridge Replacement in San Miguel County funded from the Off System Bridge Program. Construction completed in Dec 2024 and closed out in Jan 2026. Replaced a truss bridge.
 - (2) Down Valley Connector was a planning grant awarded in 2021 with a planning study completed for a multimodal trail from Placerville Park up through Sawpit.
- ii) Local Agency Program – Active Projects:
 - (1) Nucla Mainstreet was awarded Revitalizing Main Street is in Phase 1 and they had been awarded funding for design for the project of sidewalks and it finished out in July 2025 and is currently in close out.
 - (2) Ouray Mainstreet was awarded a Revitalizing Main Street grant in 2022 and complete design. Construction on the project will begin this fall.
 - (3) Lawson Hill connector Trail was a TAP project awarded in 2023. They are pending advertisement for the project.
 - (4) Norwood School Sidewalks through Revitalizing Main Street in 2022 and they are working on finalizing design for authorization so that it can go to ad and start construction in the summer.
 - (5) Alpine Loop received a National Scenic Byways Program and is working with Hinsdale County to install 12 toilets.
 - (6) Mahoney Bridge was awarded an Off System Bridge grant and they are hoping to be under construction in the fall.
- iii) Local Agency Program – Shelved Projects (seeking construction funds)

- (1) SH 145 Meadows Trail Underpass was shelved at 90% design. It is an underpass at Lawson Hill with Mountain Village.
- iv) Maintenance Projects:
 - (1) West End SH 141 there are a few projects of Chip Seal because it is hard to get resurfacing dollars because of the low traffic on them.
 - (2) SH 145 has had a few miles of Chip Seal as well.
 - (3) SH 90 on the far West End of Montrose County received Chip Seal,
 - (4) Upcoming Chip Seal are: SH 141 in San Miguel County, US 550 in Ouray County on Red Mountain Pass, and SH 145 in San Miguel County in Telluride.
- v) Completed Projects
 - (1) Timber Bridge in Ouray County was completed
 - (2) Wall Repair on Red Mountain Pass in the tunnel to stabilize it. Will have closures at night after the 4th of July through October. 9pm-5am closures.
 - (3) Norwood Hill rockfall mitigation on the slope and this will require some closures. There will be some 3-hour holds for 20 days once it goes to construction with closures from 9am-12pm and then 1pm-3pm. Once the holds period is finished it will have one-lane traffic until it is completed
 - (4) Year 7 Bridge preventative maintenance overlaps with some of the Norwood Hill rockfall mitigation. If they can go to ad at the same time then they will be completed together, otherwise Year 7 bridge will go to ad for construction in 2028.
 - (5) Multimodal project on SH 145 in San Miguel County (Norwood, Sawpit, Placerville and Rico) for ad in 2027 and construction in 2028
- 5) Next meeting is July 30th.
 - a) Suggestions about having the CDOT Fire Mitigation Presentation for the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to adjourn: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Mike Lane. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

- 6) **Meeting Adjourned: 2:33pm**