

Richrath, Scott

From: Executive Director's Office
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 4:46 PM
To: *HQ-CDOT
Subject: Message from the Executive Director

Categories: Orange Category

Dear CDOT Employees:

Since I joined CDOT in mid-February, I have been asked several times about my vision for the department and for transportation in Colorado in general.

While I've been impressed with the remarkable things CDOT has accomplished, I do believe we can make significant improvements in business processes, procedures, rules, and regulations. We need to review all of our processes and, without sacrificing integrity, amend or eliminate those that are driving up operations costs and adding time to our projects.

I also believe that we can be even more creative in our planning and problem solving. For example, in view of our shrinking revenues and with the rising demand on our transportation system, the best solution to problems such as congestion may not be building system improvements, but instead finding alternative methods that are much more cost-effective.

Just as we will be working to improve and to identify new, viable solutions for long-standing transportation system challenges, we must also examine our department, how we are organized, and how we function. In any large organization such as CDOT, there is always room for continued improvement.

I believe we can accomplish this through self-evaluation, creative thinking, and problem solving. The best answers to challenges and questions involving CDOT and our state transportation system are within each one of us. I am especially optimistic that we will make necessary improvements because I believe our talented and dedicated CDOT workforce will know what we need to do and will not hesitate in getting it done.

I encourage you to share efficiency, cost-cutting, and innovative ideas with your supervisors. Please continue to look for new ways to improve your job performance and our collective effectiveness. This may include looking for more partnership opportunities with the private sector. It could also include ideas for reorganization within the department.

As we go through these processes, so will our counterparts in the federal government. During a recent visit to our congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., I heard several times that federal officials are interested in eliminating barriers created by their own processes, rules, and regulations. I welcome those kinds of changes.

I am optimistic about CDOT and the future of Colorado transportation, in no small part because of the experience, knowledge, and dedication of CDOT employees. In the face of shrinking revenues and the highest vacancy rates in department history, you have moved forward to help meet the needs of the traveling public. I commend you for that.

I will continue to communicate with you as often as necessary regarding issues and news that is important to you.

Don Hunt
Executive Director

