

Division of Transit & Rail



TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION REVIEW
COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 5TH, 2011

MARK IMHOFF
DIRECTOR





CDOT's Mission

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To provide

the best multi-modal transportation

system for Colorado

that most effectively and safely moves people,
goods, and information.



Division of Transit and Rail

Responsible for planning, development, operation, and integration of transit/rail into state planning and to assist local governments. C.R.S. 43-1-117.5

working in coordination
with other transit and
rail providers to

plan

promote

and

implement

investments in transit
and rail services
statewide

Duties related to transit and rail services:

- planning
- developing
- financing
- operating
- integrating



Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC)

Ann Rajewski-TRAC Chairperson	Executive Director, Colorado Assn. of Transit Agencies
Tom Allen	Transit Director, South Central Council of Governments, Trinidad
Gary Beedy	County Commissioner, Lincoln County
Terri A. Binder	Citizen
Craig Blewitt	Mountain Metropolitan Transit, Colorado Springs
Richard M. Hartman	Director of Public Affairs, Union Pacific Railroad
Todd Hollenbeck	Grand Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization, Grand Junction
Jonathan Hutchison	Amtrak
David Johnson	Roaring Fork Transit Authority, Glenwood Springs/Aspen
Peter Rickershauser	OmniTrax
Matthew O'Neill	Colorado Municipal League, Windsor
William Van Meter	Acting Asst. General Manager, RTD Planning, FasTracks Team
James Souby	Colorado Rail Passenger Association
Michael E. Timlin	Greyhound
Bill VanMeter	Regional Transportation District, Denver
Scott Weeks	Denver Regional Council of Governments/Western High Speed Rail Alliance

TRAC Initiatives

- **Policy Input/Regular Transportation Commission Updates**
- **Proactive on all Transit/Rail studies and plans**
- **Transit Grant Award Process**
 - Both FTA and *FASTER*
 - Evaluation process and criteria
 - Improved transparency
- **Freight Rail Issues Identification**
 - Education
 - Economic Development
 - Shortline plight
- **Performance Based Planning**
 - Measurement Development



Transit Grant Overview

(Federal and State)

Grants

- 75 grantees
- 183 grants/year (apx)
 - 48 Operating grants/year
 - 125 Capital grants/year
 - 10 Planning grants

Transit Database

- Operating and financial stats
- Annual reporting to Federal Transit Administration
- Capital Needs Database 
 - Comprehensive statewide
 - Asset management system
 - Updated every grant cycle



FTA Formula Grants (Federal and State)

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A component

of

The

Federal

Authorization

Bill

SAFETEA-LU

Colorado Total

\$ 11.81m

5304

Rural Planning

- \$ 310k / Year

5310

Small Urban/Rural Capital

- \$ 1.69m/ Year

5311

Rural Operating

- \$ 8.37m / Year

5316/17

Specialized Small Urban/Rural Capital and Operating

- \$1.44m/ Year



Grant Application Process

FTA 5309 Discretionary Grant Competition (FFY 2011)

- Consolidated State Submittals (rural areas)
 - prioritized/first time
- Evaluation criteria and scoring vetted thru CASTA and other agencies
- Every application was given feedback
- Those not awarded were placed on 2013 *FASTER* Capital Needs Master List

5309 Grant Program	Total Applications	Prioritized Submittals	Submittal Date
• State of Good Repair	30	19	July
• Bus Livability	9	5	July
• Clean Fuels	4	2	August
• TIGGER	1	1	August
• Vets	4	4	September



State Grants

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**2013
Call for
projects
has been
made**

FASTER Transit

- \$5 million/year for local transit projects
- \$10 million/year for statewide transit projects
- 85 Projects (2010-2012)
 - 45 Organizations
 - 19 Towns /Cities
 - 14 Counties
 - 7 Non-Profits
 - 3 Gov't Councils
 - 2 Transit Authorities



Grand Valley Transit/Greyhound Facility

Getting more out of the existing system

U.S. 36 BRT/ Express Lanes (from I-25 to Interlocken)

- Jointly with RTD
- Managed lanes
- Bus Rapid Transit System
- Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Loan
- Anticipated completion by 2015
- Potential Public Private Partnership (P³) **(from Interlocken-Boulder)**



Improvements to U.S. 36 will cut travel times between Denver and Boulder by up to 25 minutes. (Planned)

I-25 Express Lanes (US 36 to 120th Ave) / PROPOSED

- Proposed TIGER III
- Improved express bus service + Park and Ride access
- Congestion relief
- Decades earlier than planned



SB 97-037 Annual Report

Potential Rail Line Acquisition

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Three priorities

**Submitted
to the
TLRC
this month**

1. Administer final purchase of Towner Line to V & S RR
2. Monitor status of the Tennessee Pass line
3. Monitor status of the Fort Collins Branch line



Towner Line

HB 98-1395

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- Contract Closing
Early October 2011
- Public outreach
on-going



-2040 Long Range Transportation Plan-

- Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan
- Statewide Transit Plan
- Interregional Connectivity Study
- I-70 Corridor Advanced Guideway System
Feasibility Study

Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan

- Establish Statewide framework for future rail system
- No public funds identified
- Public officials workshops/Public open houses- August 2011
- Plan recommendations in development
- Final report January 2012

Statewide Transit Plan

- Intercity and regional bus strategy
- Intermodal connections
- Work plan developed 1st quarter 2012

I-70 Mountain Corridor Advanced Guideway System

- Next phase of I-70 Programmatic EIS
- Higher performance transit AGS from C-470 to Eagle
- Technology, alignment and financial feasibility
- 1st quarter 2012-4th quarter 2013 (18 months)
- \$1.8 million *FASTER* transit funds



Interregional Connectivity Study

- FRA High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) funded
- Define Colorado high speed rail network and ridership forecasts
 - Ft. Collins- Pueblo
 - DIA-Eagle County
 - Connectivity with RTD FasTracks
- \$1 Million HSIPR Grant and \$1.5 Million *FASTER* Transit Funds
- 4th quarter 2012 – 3rd quarter 2013 (18 months)

Authority to “ Operate” Transit

- No operating funds

Regional/Commuter Bus and Rail Service

- FREX - Colorado Springs-Denver
- FLEX - Ft. Collins – Longmont
- I-70 – Mountain Bus Service
- Potential passenger rail



Railroad Interface

Facilitate local government and RR communication

- Railroad Communication Plan in development
- Overview of Railroad Regulation (whitepaper)

Exploring a short line RR low interest loan program

- Better linkage to Class 1 RR system
- Improve agricultural access to markets
- Economic development focus



QUESTIONS

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