

**Get to Know
Archuleta County
Administrator
Greg Schulte**



Greg Schulte has been the Archuleta County Administrator since returning to Colorado in 2007. He was selected as Colorado County Administrator of the Year in 2009. Previously, Greg was with the City of Sacramento, California for 12 years. His transportation background includes work at the California Department of Transportation, the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency in Auburn, California and with a private firm focusing on traffic engineering and transportation planning.

Greg presently serves as Chair for the Southwest Colorado Regional Transportation Planning Commission. In addition to serving on the regional transportation commission, Greg has served on the San Juan Basin Board of Health, the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Executive Board, and assisted in the formation of the new Southwest Colorado Council of Governments.

A Colorado native and avid Bronco fan, Greg is thrilled to be back in his home state and living in Pagosa Springs with his wife Deborah. He also likes to ride motorcycles, mountain bike, ski and snow-shoe.

I-25 North Awarded TIGER Funds

In late June the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) announced the I-25 North Managed Lanes Extension and Express project’s selection for a \$15 million TIGER IV award. TIGER (short for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) is a Discretionary Grant program, which provides a unique opportunity for the U.S. Department of Transportation to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve critical national objectives.

This \$15 million award completes a \$44 million project that will add one new managed toll lane in each direction along one of the most congested stretches of Interstate 25.



The six mile long project is located on I-25 between US 36 just north of downtown Denver and 120th Avenue in Adams County. These new lanes will be constructed by converting the existing paved shoulder—getting the most benefit out of existing infrastructure at the least cost. The Regional Transportation District (RTD) has committed to expanding its express bus service along this corridor to reach a greater number of commuters who otherwise would drive into Denver, CDOT and the communities affected by this project have contributed extensive resources to this application, requesting TIGER assistance to complete a robust package of state and local funding. This project will reduce congestion for local industries who depend on I-25 to move their goods to market. *cont on page 2.....*

Federal Funds?

Just beating a June 30th midnight deadline, Congress passed a transportation reauthorization package with one day to spare. After meeting for over a month, the conference committee, charged with reconciling differences between the House and Senate passed versions of the Transportation Bill, hammered out an agreement. This spring, each chamber passed its own version of a new transportation authorization bill to replace SAFETEAU-LU. On June 28, the conferees and the House and Senate leadership reached an agreement; the bill was approved in the following days. HR. 4348, the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act” or “MAP-21,” provides transportation funding through September 2014, and reauthorizes federal fuel taxes through September 2016. MAP-21 also continues current funding levels with an adjustment for inflation, maintains the 80 percent to 20 percent split in highway to transit spending, and collapses the total number of transportation programs by approximately two-thirds.

For more information on federal issues contact CDOT’s Kurt Morrison at (303) 757-9703.

Upcoming Events

WASHTO Annual Meeting

July 7-12, 2012

Crowne Plaza in Colorado Springs, CO

E-Mail: <http://www.washto2012.com>

Colorado Transportation Commission Workshops/Meeting

July 18-19, 2012

CDOT Headquarters in Denver, CO

Website: Toni.Bircher@dot.state.co.us

National Conference of State Legislatures Summit

August 6-9, 2012

McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago, IL

Website: <http://www.ncsl.org>

Colorado Transportation Commission Workshops/Meeting

August 16-17, 2012

Strater Hotel in Durango, CO

E-Mail: Toni.Bircher@dot.state.co.us

TIGER *cont. from page 1.....*

The TIGER program is in its fourth iteration and enables the U.S. DOT to use a rigorous process to select projects with exceptional benefits, explore ways to deliver projects faster and save on construction costs, and make investments in our nation's infrastructure that make communities more livable and sustainable. "These are innovative, 21st century projects that will change the U.S. transportation landscape by strengthening the economy and creating jobs, reducing gridlock and providing safe, affordable and environmentally sustainable transportation choices," said U.S. DOT Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. "Many of these projects could not have been funded without this program."

Managed lanes offer a less congested alternative for high-occupancy vehicles and express bus service, while charging variable prices for single occupant vehicles based on overall demand. This project is the result of immense collaboration with the support of 24 project partners. Not only was Colorado one of the few recipients of a grant this year, the state was awarded the full amount requested - \$15 million.

Milestones Reached

Two major projects have reached milestones in their progress toward becoming reality. The Twin Tunnels Environmental Assessment (EA) will be available for public comment starting July 5th through August 4th, with a Public Hearing scheduled on July 25th at the Clear Creek School District office in Idaho Springs. The EA will also be available on the project website at <http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/i70twintunnels>. If approved, the project will widen the eastbound bore of the Twin Tunnels and Interstate 70 from Idaho Springs to the base of Floyd Hill to three lanes and address safety issues on the eastbound highway curves east of the tunnel. The EA also evaluates operating the additional third lane as a managed lane during congested periods.

The US 36 Express Lanes Project ground breaking celebration is scheduled for July 23rd at 2:30 at the 1st Bank Center in Broomfield. The Ames/Granite Joint Venture team was selected as the design-build contractor for this \$310 million project which will add an express lane in each direction of US 36 from Federal Boulevard to 88th Street for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) to travel free and solo drivers choosing to pay a toll. Other project elements include, replacement of four bridges over US 36, BRT improvements, and installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) for tolling, transit and traveler information. Additional information can be found at the project website at: <http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/US36ManagedLanes/federal-blvd-to-interlocken-loop>.

This Summer....The Heat is On!

The Heat Is On is Colorado's high-visibility enforcement campaign that combines increased DUI enforcement with a strong public awareness campaign during 12 enforcement periods throughout the year including July 4th and Memorial Day Weekend.



CDOT provides grants to law enforcement agencies statewide to conduct overtime DUI enforcement using state and federal funding. CDOT's Public Relations Office uses federal funds for media relations, advertising and community outreach.

CDOT's Office of Transportation Safety also provides federal grants for other impaired driving programs, including DUI courts, a traffic safety resource prosecutor and law enforcement coordinator, as well as training for law enforcement in the areas of drug evaluation and standard field sobriety testing.