

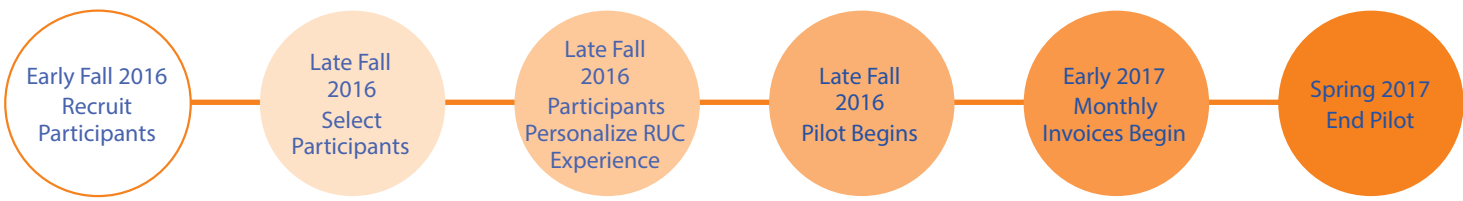


# RUC

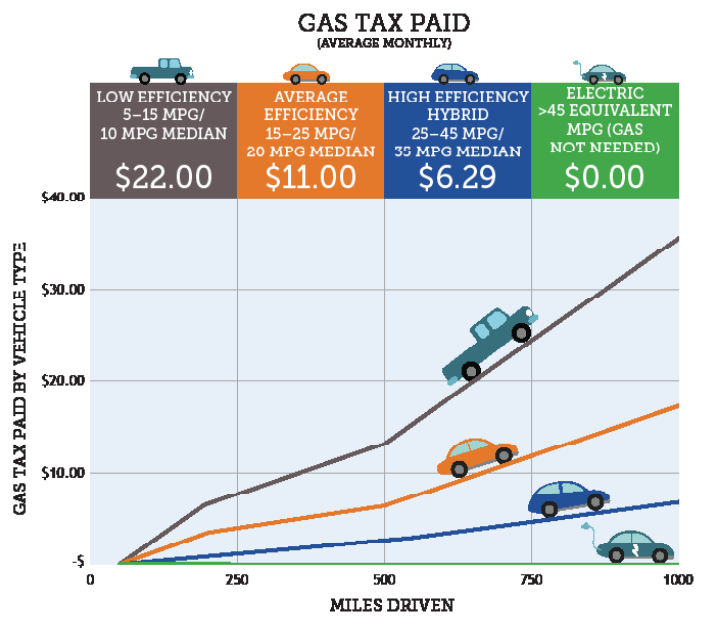
As we reported here in Interchange in September, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will begin administering a pilot project that will test the feasibility of a Road Usage Charge (RUC). This study is being conducted as part of ongoing research and evaluation of long-term, sustainable transportation-funding alternatives.

In a RUC funding model, drivers pay for how many miles are traveled instead of the amount of fuel consumed. In order to really know if RUC is viable for Colorado will be evaluating the concept. This research is being conducted in concert with 13 other Western States.

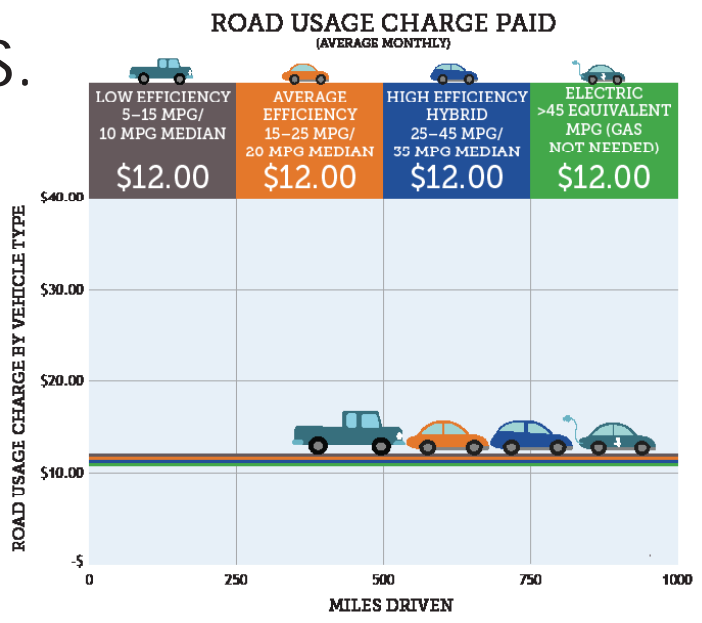
## How the Colorado RUC Pilot Program will work:



Currently, Colorado transportation revenues come from a 22¢ per gallon tax on gasoline. This is a fixed amount that does not fluctuate with the price of gas (indexing). The gas tax rate was last raised in 1991. \$1.00 in 2016 is worth approximately 57% less than in 1991. RUC charges drivers for what they use versus the gas tax which currently charges more for less fuel efficient vehicles and charges nothing for alternative fuel vehicles. Under a road usage charge, all types of vehicles pay an equal amount for the same miles traveled, which captures revenue not currently being collected under the gas tax.



VS.



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# Plow Etiquette

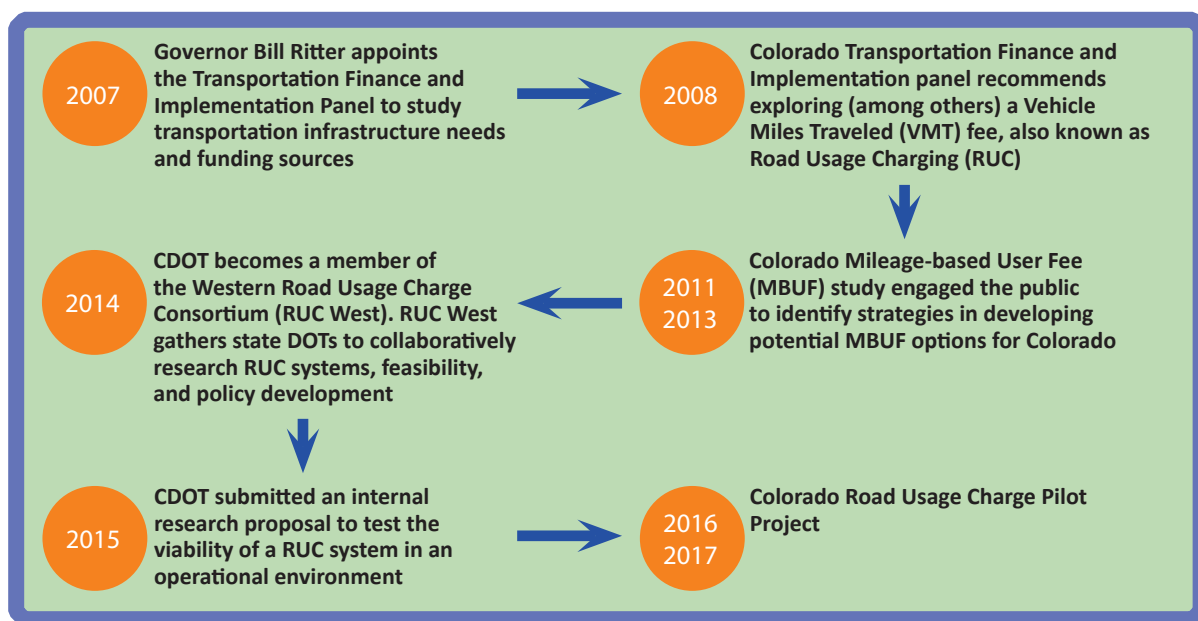
As we enter the winter season in Colorado it is always a good idea to brush up on your snow plow etiquette. Snow plows need space to work, so to avoid causing a crash, delays or being stuck in the snow, here are three dangerous maneuvers that motorists should avoid around plows:

1. Passing tandem/echelon plowing — Tandem/echelon plowing staggers multiple plows to cover all lanes and clear the entire roadway in one sweep. It is extremely dangerous for motorists to try and pass plows in this formation because you could encounter white out conditions and ridges of snow between lanes.
2. Tailgating — Plows need to drop deicer and sand, so make sure to stay back three to four car lengths of space. If you're too close, deicer and sand could hit your car. Be sure to leave space for sudden stops.
3. Passing on the right — Plows are designed to push snow, slush, rocks and other debris to the right of the plow, that debris can damage your car and temporarily blind you.



## RUC *.....cont from page 1*

The first steps toward researching and evaluating alternatives for sustainable transportation funding began almost 10 years ago under then Governor Bill Ritter with the creating of the Transportation Finance and Implementation Panel. CDOT is now beginning a 4-month statewide pilot program (December 2016 - April 2017) that will evaluate RUC for passenger vehicles.



A final report will summarize the findings of the pilot, and identify future recommendations after the pilot ends in Spring of 2017. For more information on the CDOT RUC program visit: <https://www.codot.gov/programs/ruc>