



Transportation Matters Summit

Amazon is famous for leaving an empty chair at every meeting to represent the customer. Where does the customer sit in transportation? Transportation touches everyone's lives, impacting safety to economic vitality to personal travel experience. With this in mind the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) CDOT hosted the third annual Colorado Transportation Summit on November 1st with the focus of the meeting being the Customer Experience in Transportation. Over 600 transportation professionals, along with state and civic leaders gathered for the half day conference. CDOT showcased how technology and best practices in transportation around the country can elevate and possibly even transform the customer experience.



Tom Gebhardt from Panasonic addresses the Transportation Summit

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper; Tom Gebhardt, President of Panasonic Automotive Systems Company of America and Executive Officer of Panasonic Corporation and CDOT Executive Director Shailen Bhatt were the featured speakers during the sold out event. ...cont. on page 2

FASTLANE Grants

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced October 28 that the U.S. Department of Transportation's Build America Bureau is soliciting project applications through December 15 for up to \$850 million in a fiscal year 2017 round of what the USDOT calls Fastlane grants. It uses money set aside in the Highway Trust Fund under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act to help pay for high-priority freight and highway projects across the country. The FAST Act authorized the program at \$4.5 billion for fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

The USDOT awarded \$759.2 million to 18 projects in the 2016 round, notifying Congress of its selections in July and issuing the awards in September. By starting so soon on the next round, for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1, the department can push more funds out to state DOTs and other recipients sooner. Already, plenty of projects are waiting for funds. The department said when it opened up the 2016 grant round earlier this year it received 212 applications seeking \$9.8 billion in funding.

The program is aimed freight and highway projects of national or regional significance. 90 percent of the grant funds are reserved for "large" projects seeking at least \$25 million in grant funds. "Small" projects must consist of at least a \$5 million grant. The minimum project size for large projects is \$100 million. FASTLANE grants may be used for up to 60 percent of future eligible project costs. Other Federal assistance may satisfy the non-Federal share requirement, but total Federal assistance for a project receiving a FASTLANE grant may not exceed 80 percent of the project costs. ...cont. on page 2

Summit *....cont from page 1*

A major highlight of the Summit was when Tom Gebhardt announced Panasonic's plans to partner with CDOT to build a connected transportation program in which real-time data would be shared across vehicles, infrastructure and people to improve safety and mobility on the road. Panasonic has been a trailblazer in building connected transport and developing smart cities in Japan. This will be the first time they apply this integrated, intelligent automotive and traffic management technology to a connected transportation program in the United States.

Working with its CDOT and other partners, Panasonic will focus first on connecting cars and the transportation system on I-70, one of the nation's most challenging corridors, as part of the state's RoadX program, Colorado's investment in technology and systems with the aim of making roads crash-free, injury-free and delay-free. Tom's comments were also live streamed from the Summit and garnered another 300 viewers to the live stream.

The keynote addresses were followed by a panel Discussion moderated by Paul Trombino, Executive Director, Iowa Department of Transportation. Panel participants included Tom Gebhardt; Ognen Stojanovski, Director of Government Relations with OTTO; Josh Raycroft of Hyperloop One; Monali Shah, Director, Intelligent Transportation with HERE; and Gilbert Gagnaire, Director General of Easy Mile.

For more information on the Summit and to view presentation and pictures from the event visit: <https://www.codot.gov/summit>

FASTLANE *....cont from page 1*

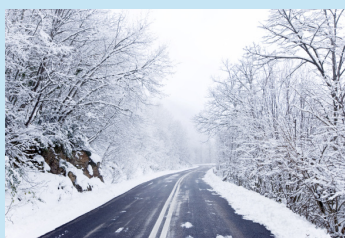
Of the 18 grant awards made in the 2016 round, the average FASTLANE grant award was \$42 million and the average non-FASTLANE match was 62 percent. There was only one project awarded over \$100 million and four over \$60 million.

Eligible applicants include States, Metropolitan Planning Organizations that serve an urbanized area with a population of more than 200,000, local governments, special purpose districts with a transportation function, federal land management agencies that apply jointly with a State, and tribal governments. Applications must be submitted by 8:00 p.m. EST on December 15, 2016. For more information visit:

<https://www.transportation.gov/build-america/fastlane/fastlane-ii-notice-funding-opportunity>



Winter Driving



Snow, ice and freezing temperatures will eventually return to Colorado and when they do we want you to be prepared. Visit CDOT's comprehensive travel website COTrip.org for the latest up-to-date travel and weather information as well as traffic cameras, route information and travel alerts. We want everyone to arrive safely at Grandmother's house...or wherever your final destination might be.