



Get To Know Michael Lewis

Michael P. Lewis has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), where he leads the department in planning for and addressing Colorado's transportation needs. Mr. Lewis oversees 3,300 employees statewide and an annual budget of approximately \$1.4 billion, guiding an organization committed to becoming the best DOT in the country for its customers. Before this role, he served as CDOT's Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer since May 2015. Before coming to Colorado, Michael was the Director of Rhode Island's DOT and board member of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority and Rhode Island Public Rail Corporation from March 2008-February 2015. Before his appointments in Rhode Island, he served as the Director of Boston's Central Artery Tunnel Project (The Big Dig) from April 2000 until project completion in 2007. Mike is a past President of the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and is a member of the National Academy of Construction (NAC).



Michael P Lewis

Join us in congratulating Michael on his new appointment.

The 101 on 267

During the 2017 legislative session, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 17-267 (SB 267). SB 267 addresses multiple policy areas including the hospital provider fee, K-12 education, TABOR spending caps, the senior property tax exemption, and last but not least, provides some new funding for highway infrastructure projects with a 10% set aside for transit. The bill authorizes the State Treasurer to issue \$2 billion worth of certificates of participation (COPs) for transportation projects and capital construction for higher education buildings. The state will sell \$2B worth of COPs and use the proceeds in the first four years for roads and buildings. The Colorado Department Of Transportation (CDOT) and the state will pay back the COPs over the next 20 years.

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Roadway Fatalities On The Rise

Roadway deaths in Colorado were up in 2017 to 615 compared to 608 in 2016.

Preliminary data shows an increase in deaths from crashes involving impairment and people not being properly restrained with seat belts.

The top counties for fatalities in 2017 were: El Paso County (67), Adams County (60), Weld County (55) and Denver County (44).

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SB 267 is anticipated to provide approximately \$1.88 billion to CDOT over four years, beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19. Proceeds to CDOT are for projects identified as Tier 1 in the 10-Year Development Program Plan, and at least 10% of the proceeds must be set aside for transit projects. The bill further requires at least 25% of CDOT's proceeds be applied to projects in counties with a population of 50,000 or less, as of July 2015. The initial recommendations for SB 267 total \$811,670,000 of the \$792 million available for highway projects in the first two years of SB 267 funding.

- US 50: Little Blue Canyon - \$9,500,000
- US 550/160: Connection - \$54,400,000
- I-25 South: Colorado Springs - Denver - \$250,000,000 (plus \$8,000,000 transit)
- I-25 North: SH 402 - SH 56 (Segment 6) - \$200,000,000 (plus \$10,000,000 transit)
- I-70 Westbound: Peak Period Shoulder Lanes - \$80,000,000 (plus \$5,000,000 transit)
- SH 13: Reconstruction - \$60,000,000
- US 160: Towaoc Passing Lanes - \$9,000,000
- US 50: West of Pueblo - \$35,520,000
- SH 9: Frisco North - \$10,250,000
- I-70 Eastern Plains: Failing Pavement - \$55,000,000
- Statewide: ADA Improvements - \$25,000,000

Some of these preliminary allocations have been made contingent on securing Federal grant funds. Once CDOT knows the results of those grant requests, the Transportation Commission may re-evaluate these assignments. Also, when the State Treasurer has completed the work of issuing the first two years of COPs, the Transportation Commission will work to identify the next priority projects for funding in the subsequent two years of SB 267 funds.

For more information on SB 267 funding contact Ron Papsdorf, CDOT Deputy Director of Policy & Government Relations at (303)-757-9105.

Bustang Expansion

On Tuesday, January 2nd CDOT expanded Bustang to serve communities in the Arkansas Valley along U.S. 50 between Lamar and Pueblo. Outrider will provide reliable and convenient regional bus service. Each 38 seat coach is equipped with restrooms, bike racks, free Wi-Fi (where available), power outlets and USB ports and the buses are handicap accessible. Outrider service will run once a day in each direction Monday through Friday. Other stops along the route include Fort Lyons, Las Animas, La Junta, Swink, Rocky Ford, Manzanola and Fowler. CDOT anticipates extending the Colorado Springs service to Pueblo later in 2018. Outrider is expected to expand its services in summer 2018 (tentative) between Alamosa and Pueblo, Gunnison and Denver, and Durango and Grand Junction. More information can be found on www.ridebustang.com

