



DATE: April 7, 2019
TO: Transportation Commissioners, Executive Director, Executive Management Team, Branch Managers, and Office Directors
FROM: Andy Karsian, Office of Policy & Government Relations
RE: Legislative Update

The annual debate to finalize the state budget finished this week in the House of Representatives. Legislators debated the budget over the last two and a half weeks during which they proposed a number of amendments. One of the biggest conversations centered around transportation funding. For more details, see below.

Legislation

As of today, CDOT is tracking 29 bills for possible direct or indirect impacts to CDOT, its employees, and the state’s transportation network. Below are summaries of a few bills introduced or heard this week.

Senate Bill 19-207 (Annual State Budget Bill – Long Bill):

The budget debate in the House differed significantly from the Senate’s last week. After caucusing to prioritize amendments to the Long Bill, the House came with more than 90 amendments. It is tradition that when the budget passes the first chamber, the second chamber strips all the amendments and changes from the first chamber and starts with a clean budget bill to amend as they see fit.

One of the stripped Senate amendments included the \$106 million new general fund transfer to CDOT. Thursday morning, House members submitted formal requests for budget amendments, and Amendment 10 added the \$106 million back in to the budget. Democrats did not agree with the amendment as they did not see where the funding would come from and were concerned about impacts to higher ed and K-12 education. When it came time to debate Amendment 10, the House went into recess for about an hour while leadership and other members negotiated on how to move ahead.

Once the House reconvened, the Majority and Minority leaders presented Amendment 10a together. The amendment, described as a compromise amendment, dedicated \$70 million to CDOT for transportation projects through a footnote. The footnote promises the General Assembly will find \$70 million. Legislators expressed their desire to spread the funding to the state, locals and the multimodal fund, and if that occurs, they will need to introduce legislation specifying the allocation of the funding.

These new bills will be introduced once the Joint Budget Committee finalizes the Long Bill next week. They will decide which amendments stay on the budget and which come off. The chart below summarizes the current funding scenarios. General Funds TBD represents the amount the JBC will allocate next week.

Current Funding Scenarios	SB1	SB1 (late bill)	SB267	General Funds	General Funds TBD	HB1258 (DeBruced funds)
	\$150M	\$50M	\$500M	\$30M	\$70M	TBD
CDOT share	\$105	\$50	\$500*	\$30	TBD	60%*
Multi-Modal state	\$3.5	---	---	--	TBD	---
Multi-Modal locals	\$19	---	---	---	TBD	--
Local Share	\$22.5	---	---	---	TBD	40%
Urban	---	---	\$375	---	TBD	---
Rural	---	---	\$125	---	TBD	---

*SB267 funds include 10% share to transit; HB1258 includes a 15% share to transit