



COLORADO

Department of Transportation

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DATE: May 3, 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 first regular session of the 72nd General Assembly finishes tonight at midnight and overall it was another successful one for CDOT. Over the 120 days, transportation issues did not rise as high as during past sessions, however, legislators still dedicated \$695 million to the department in continuing and new funding. In addition, CDOT will examine a number of policies over the interim including, a workgroup to study how companies such as Uber and Lyft, peer-to-peer car sharing and other new applications impact the environment and existing transportation systems. Other studies our engineers will undertake include whether to transport hazardous materials through the Eisenhower Johnson Memorial tunnel, enforcement of traction law along the mountain I-70 corridor, CDOT's use of consultants on projects, and disparity in procurement contracts.

Legislation

CDOT worked on 32 bills this session that directly or indirectly impacted the department, its employees, and the state's transportation network. Below are summaries of a few bills heard during this final week of session.

Senate Bill 19-262 (General Fund Transfer to HUTF):

The Joint Budget Committee dedicated \$100 million for transportation statewide in this year's budget. They introduced this separate budget bill to distribute the funding through the existing HUTF formula because they cannot do in the Long Bill. The \$100 million will be distributed \$60 million to the state, \$22 million to the counties, and \$18 million to the municipalities. This bill passed both chambers unanimously.

Senate Bill 19-263 (Delay of Transportation Ballot Measure):

As part of a compromise last legislative session on transportation funding, legislators agreed to refer a ballot measure asking for \$2.3 billion in bonding revenue for roads for the 2019 election. Regardless of voters' understanding or approval, if this \$2.3 billion ballot measure got on the ballot for the 2019 election, it would delay the payment of \$500 million from the Senate Bill 267 funding from two years ago. The Treasurer would not issue the funds to CDOT until after the election, since if the ballot measure passed the SB267 funds went away. With SB-263, the ballot measure stays the same, but is pushed one year. This protects the \$500 million for the 2019 construction season. The bill also began allocations of \$50 million to CDOT to help pay for the long term debt from the SB267 certificates of participation.

Senate Bill 19-239 (Study of Emerging Transportation Sector Technologies):

This bill directs CDOT to convene a working group of experts to study the impacts of new and emerging technology and business models impacting the state's transportation systems. The workgroup will study how companies such as Uber and Lyft, as well as peer-to-peer car sharing and other new applications, impact the environment and transportation network. The group will also examine how increased online ordering of goods impacts the number of traditional and non-traditional home deliveries. Finally, the group will examine possible fees placed on companies that could address these growing impacts. The group will form recommendations in a report to CDOT and the department will report these to the legislature early in the 2020 legislative session.