



COLORADO

Department of Transportation

Office of Policy and Government Relations

DATE: February 12, 2016
TO: Transportation Commissioners, Executive Director, Executive Management Team, Branch Managers, and Office Directors
FROM: Andy Karsian, Office of Policy & Government Relations
RE: Weekly Legislative Report – 2016 Session of the Colorado General Assembly

Overview

Another very busy week at the legislature, which included the hundreds of thousands of Bronco fans streaming through and past the Capitol. The view from the West steps of the Capitol of the vast ocean of orange celebrating was fun to see.

As of today CDOT is tracking 32 bills for possible direct or indirect impacts to its employees, the department or the state's transportation network. In the next few weeks legislators will vote on these bills while preparing to introduce the next round of legislation.

Legislation

Senate Bill 16-122 (More Oversight of CDOT). This bill seeks to provide the General Assembly with additional oversight of the Dept. In the Senate Committee CDOT testified on concerns about the redundant reporting processes and the legislative approval for lease purchase agreements on real and personal property. There was no testimony in opposition, and only one witness testified in support because of his concerns with how CDOT treated motorcyclists. The sponsor laid the bill over for a week for further discussion with CDOT.

House Bill 16-1031 (Modify Transportation Commission Boundaries). The Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC) brought this bill forward which creates a study to examine a variety of factors to see if it is time to modify the current commissioner boundaries. The last time the boundaries were set was more than twenty years ago. The sponsor brought an amendment that deleted the requirement for public meetings around the state during the interim, and clarifies that the study will not make specific recommendations, rather provide specific information for the TLRC to then review. Commissioner Gilliland testified to CDOT's support of the bill in committee. The bill passed 12-1 with the sole no vote because of the loss of public meetings.

House Bill 16-1172 (CDOT Efficiency and Accountability Committee). The House Transportation committee unanimously approved this bill which addresses a FASTER audit finding. The Efficiency and Accountability Committee is a statutory committee that stopped meeting in 2013. This bill reinstates the committee and adds new members.

If you have any questions on these or any other legislative issues please contact Andy Karsian at 303-757-9073. Weekly memos and our bill tracking chart are available online at: <http://www.coloradodot.info/about/governmentrelations/state-government-liaison>.

