

Transportation Commission August 17 - 18, 2016, CDOT Headquarters Auditorium, 4201 E. Arkansas Ave, Denver, CO 80222

Transportation Commission (TC) Workshops

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Note: Materials for specific agenda items are available at <https://www.codot.gov/about/transportation-commission/meeting-agenda.html> by clicking on the agenda item on the schedule provided at this site.

Asset Management Budget Workshop (Josh Laipply)

Purpose

Summarization of the staff recommended FY 2019-20 Asset Management Planning Budget for TC consideration.

Discussion and Comments

- A TC member wondered why the surface treatment budget was decreased; the Chief Engineer explained that a shift in funds was decided as a trade-off, with funds being funneled to geohazards in an effort to be prepared for these types of events.
- A bridge in Pueblo that is eroding (critical scour) was raised as a concern; the Chief Engineer explained that bridges under that category are managed by the Bridge Enterprise (BE).
- TC members requested more detail on how asset funds are subdivided under categories.

Annual Budget Topics Workshop (Maria Sobota)

- A draft budget for FY 2017-18 is being prepared for TC adoption in November 2016.

Transportation Commission Regular Meeting

Thursday, August 18, 2016

Roll Call

- Commissioner Barry was excused. All other nine Commissioners were in attendance (with Commissioner Gifford on the telephone).

Audience Participation

- Mike DelCupp, CDOT Division of Transportation Development, requested TC members to consider soundly the choice of the location for the new headquarters (HQ)/Region 1 building. Mike presented crime statistics and suggested that crime should be considered in making a decision on location.
- Jim Andrew of Summit County expressed his appreciation to Mark Imhoff and the Division of Transit and Rail for the SB 228 funds to help with financing improvements for the Frisco Transit Center. The multimodal character of the facility was described in detail, and how transit center improvements will enhance the connections to shopping, and improve circulation and general access to the area.

Comments of Individual Commissioners

- Commissioners commented that the telephone town halls went very well and thanked CDOT staff for their support. Commissioners noted they are still receiving comments from constituents expressing their excitement for this new type of public engagement.

- Several TC members along with the Executive Director and other staff attended the C-470 groundbreaking ceremony.
- Club 20 is hosting the state senate representative debate on September 10th in Grand Junction.
- Express Toll Lanes (ETLs) are working well along I-25.
- Improvements on I-76 are progressing well and should finish in 30 days.
- Executive Director was recognized for his response to the tragedy in Trinidad and condolences were expressed by Commissioner Thiebaut.
- I-25/Cimmaron and I-25/Pueblo projects are coming along well and are appreciated projects.
- A mention of all the surface treatment projects occurring out west was made – lots of good work is being done.
- TIGER Grant for I-25 North for \$15 million was awarded; all staff and communities up north who contributed to this application were recognized and appreciated.
- Resurfacing of Wolf Creek Pass is impressive and a great improvement.
- A meeting occurred with State Representative J. Paul Brown, Region 5 Regional Transportation Director (RTD) Mike McVaugh, and Commissioner Zink that was fruitful.
- The RTD dinner was held last night and appreciation from the TC Chair to Commissioners Zink and Hall for attending was noted.

Executive Director's Report (Shailen Bhatt)

- Dave Eller recognized for his team's work on along I-70 to shorten an anticipated road closure of two days down to one.
- Thanked all of the North-I-25 partners that worked on the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant.
- Attended and enjoyed the C-470 groundbreaking ceremony.

Chief Engineer's Report (Joshua Laipply)

- *ENRMountain States* awarded CDOT for Best Highway and Bridge Projects 2016 evaluating projects in Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, and the Dakotas. Projects were Twin Tunnels and a tie for bridges for US 6 bridges, and US 36 Express Toll Lane bridges (ETL). See: <http://www.enr.com/blogs/9-talk-of-the-rockies/post/39984-enr-mountain-states-announces-2016-best-projects-winners> for more details.
- Colorado's Lieutenant Governor, Donna Lynne, was given a tour of the I-25/Ilex interchange in Pueblo that was greatly appreciated; recognized Karen Rowe, Scott Baldwin and staff for their work to make the tour a success.

High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE) (David Spector)

HPTE Board Discussions

- Monitoring of US 36 ETLs – process in place is working well.
- RAMP development funding is under consideration.
- I-25 North Segment 2 doing well for now.
- C-470 groundbreaking occurred.
- Interagency agreement underway for HPTE and CDOT regarding C-470 (lender is TIFIA).

HPTE Tasks out of scope with CDOT

- Sensitivity for tolls and revenue being evaluated for segments 7 and 8 along I-25 N using a stated preference survey.
- Exploration for options to transition from HOV2+ to HOV3+.
- Amendment of the HPTE/CDOT scope is occurring now.

Invitation

- Extended an invitation to the International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association conference to be held in Denver, Colorado, September 11th -14th. The Executive Director will be attending. See <http://ibtta.org/events/84th-annual-meeting-exhibition> for more details.

FHWA Division Administrator's Report (John Cater)

- A new US DOT initiative is "Connect People to Opportunity" (see <https://www.transportation.gov/opportunity> for a video with more details) – this initiative recognizes that transportation plays a key role in providing the public access to opportunity via:
 - Providing access to jobs, education, etc.
 - Evaluation of past efforts to determine what worked and what didn't – then implement improvements that worked in the past.
 - Ensure decision making is an inclusive process.
- I-70 East is an example of a project following the "Connect People to Opportunity" initiative's intent.
- Support for the relocation decision for CDOT HQ/Region 1 was expressed.
- Yesterday, signed the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the US 50 Pueblo project.

Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) Report (Vince Rogalski)

Topics covered at the last STAC meeting included:

- STAC is pleased with progress pertaining to promoting bicycle/pedestrian transportation; new trend is E-bikes, but this raises concern over variations in local policies that guide their use – STAC believes a statewide approach to establishing policy may help. Other modes impacted would be equestrian and off-road vehicles using trails.
- STAC has formed a working group for alternative fuels to identify alternate fuels corridors in Colorado. Alternate fuels corridors would potentially provide the fueling facilities for alternate fuel vehicles (electric and Compressed Natural Gas [CNG]).
- CDOT needs to address the National Freight Highway Network and consider nominating additional intermodal facilities that support the movement of freight.
- Truck parking is a big issue in Colorado having rest areas with limited Wi-Fi access. One idea considered is to use chain up areas during the summer for truck parking, but Wi-Fi access would need to be provided for this option to work.
- STAC supports all three phases recommended for SB 228 transit funds being submitted for approval by the TC today.
- STAC desires to conduct a STAC workshop on September 23rd to discuss the role of the STAC in association with the TC – details are forthcoming once available. The TC Chair suggested a meeting with himself, the TC Vice-Chair and STAC leadership to discuss a workshop framework.

Act on Consent Agenda – Approved unanimously on August 18, 2016.

- a) Resolution to Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2016 (Herman Stockinger)
- b) Acknowledgement of Committee Assignments (Herman Stockinger)
- c) FY 2016 Roll Forward Requests (Maria Sobota)

Discuss and Act on the 2nd Budget Supplement of FY 2017 (Maria Sobota) - Approved unanimously on August 18, 2016.

- *Region 1* - \$2,000,000– I-25: 120th Ave to SH7 Managed Lanes, #4-5 – Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) HPTE Development Funds - Finishing design of Segment 3 from 120th to SH7 per the design for the original approved RAMP Application 4-5.

- *Region 1* - \$3,750,000– I-25: Monument to C470 Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL)– RAMP HPT Development Funds
- \$15,000,000– US85 /104th Ave Advanced Payment – TC Contingency Reserve Fund (TCCRF)- right-of-way (ROW) acquisition at US 85 and 104th and to conduct an environmental assessment and preliminary design for US 85 from I-76 to 124th.
- *Region 4* - \$775,000– SH 6 Culvert replacement (C-23-AV) – TCCRF- A roadway failure occurred on June 28, 2016, due to a failure of an irrigation culvert crossing SH 6 at Milepost 390.6 in Logan County.
- *Division of Highway Maintenance* – \$3,200,000– Equipment Purchase – TCCRF- A balance of \$6,135,188 in TC Snow and Ice Contingency Funds remained at the end of FY 2015-16.
- *Region 2* - \$2,460,000– SH 96 HASWELL EAST & WEST– Surface Treatment-Extend resurfacing project by 9 miles to the Town of Eads.
- *Traffic and Safety Engineering* - An additional request for \$1,000,000 from the Snow and Ice contingency surplus will be made by Traffic and Safety Engineering at a later date and is identified in the attached TCCRF Year-End Balance Projection.

Approve FY 2016/17 SB 228 Transit Projects (Mark Imhoff) – Approved eight to one on August 18, 2016.

- One TC member moved to table this submittal for consideration in September, but it was not supported by the other eight TC members present.

FY 2016 SIB Activity Report (Maria Sobota)

- For information only.

HQ/Region 1 Relocation Fund Approval (David Fox) – Approved unanimously on August 18, 2016.

- New location is Colfax and Federal, off of the West Line light rail corridor, with a total budget of \$83.4 million.
- Approximately 225 square feet/employee will be provided at the new site, and will accommodate 777 employees accounting for a 7 percent increase in staff over the next 10 years.
- New facility is on 3.5 acre site and will have parking for 500, with 400 being structured parking.
- Team anticipates getting the two existing properties on the market within the next 30 days.
- Several TC members expressed their support and the rationale behind their decisions of support.
- The new HQ/Region 1 building will be a long-term asset – like a bridge or highway, but will not take money away from projects using the proposed method of financing.
- Some issues have been found at the site pertaining to environmental remediation requirements. Using contingency funds to cover these costs. Will still have approximately \$4 million in contingency after other dollars are spent on remediation. Do not anticipate needing more budget for remediation activities.
- The Chief Financial Officer assured the TC that all the various scenario cost calculations indicate that CDOT will either break even moving to the new location versus renovating the existing campuses, or (worst scenario) pay slightly more for a more efficient, functional, facility that will last for the long-term (vs. short-term fixes to the existing properties).
- More details on the process used to arrive at the relocation decision and the TC decision to approve its funding via Certificates of Participation (COPs) is available at: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B31cv5WP0tJnOXBMVWR1dUI3Y1U?usp=sharing>. Certificates of Participation are a lease financing mechanism where a government entity enters into an agreement to make regular lease payments for the use of an asset over some period, after which the title for the asset transfers to the government.