



Planning Connections - December 2018-January 2019

CDOT planning news you can use.

Commission Adopts Policy on Building Resilience

A huge rock fall closes I-70 in Glenwood Canyon for a week, requiring travelers to make 100-mile detours while workers remove the boulders and repair the highway. This is just one example of an event that compromised CDOT's resilience, defined as the ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, or more successfully adapt to adverse events.



February 2016 rock fall caused I-70 closure in Glenwood Canyon for a week. (CDOT photo)

On Nov. 15, 2018, the Transportation Commission adopted [Policy Directive \(PD\) 1905.0 "Building Resilience into Transportation Infrastructure and Operations"](#), which directs CDOT to support state resilience goals by incorporating resilience in strategic decisions about transportation assets and operations. The policy directive builds on the Department's efforts since the 2013 floods to formalize and encourage future resilience activities at CDOT so that the department can manage risks and successfully adapt to future challenges.

The Multimodal Planning Branch in the Division of Transportation Development is taking the lead to work with specific branches and programs to implement the vision in PD 1905.0. In December 2018, the Resilience Program in MPB launched a 2-year project to define a standard for risk assessments in Colorado. Another project that organizers expect will take a year to complete will begin in early 2019. That project aims to integrate resilience into core CDOT functions such as planning, asset management, operations, maintenance, and design and construction.

TSMO Now Mobility Operations; Leadership Changes for Road X Too

Transportation Systems Management and Operations is now Mobility Operations, but the mission remains the same for the next five years: to develop and deploy projects that deliver connected and autonomous mobility. This includes the infrastructure, operational strategies and connection of the CDOT system for data, vehicle to infrastructure (V2X), broadband, and wi-fi. *(Continued on p. 2)*

Under Chief of Advanced Mobility Amy Ford (who also leads the Communications Office and the Road X Program), Mobility Operations and Road X will work together to bring a new focus on sustainable mobility. Sustainable mobility includes advancing new modes of transportation, integration of different modes, trip planning, and smart truck parking.

Two people are helping Road X since the departure of Peter Kozinski: Rebecca White, assistant director of external affairs and programs; and Lisa Streisfeld, assistant director of mobility services. Most recently serving as deputy director of the Central 70 Project, Rebecca will manage communications and external outreach for Road X, “Workforce of the Future”, and Road X innovative programs such as the Bike and Pedestrian Safety Challenge and Rural Road Safety Challenge. She also will use her background in environmental sustainability in helping to advance vehicle electrification, solar energy generation, and electric charging stations. Lisa will bring her CDOT experience in planning, transit, performance management, project management, and operations on such efforts as Rapid Speed Transportation and new forms of infrastructure. She also will be involved with advancing mobility as a service and integration of first-and last-mile services, vertical takeoff/landing vehicles, and coordination of freight parking projects.

The Road X Program will work to enhance partnerships with the CDOT Regions and Headquarters divisions. Road X staff will solicit innovative project ideas from CDOT staff for development and implementation. Every project deployment allows CDOT to take one more step toward creating smarter roadways with more informed drivers.



This electric-powered bus was part of a Daimler tour in Portland, OR. Advancing such vehicles is among Road X's charges. (Photo courtesy of Lisa Streisfeld.)

Making the Case for Integrating Public Health in Transportation Planning

CDOT understands the importance of the link between public health and transportation. Transportation can help or block people from making healthy lifestyle choices, such as regular doctor visits, accessing jobs and schools, choosing healthy foods, and making modal decisions like whether to bike, walk, or take transit. All of these choices factor into the quality of life for Colorado's transportation system customers. To that end, for the first time, CDOT is including public health and equity in Colorado's upcoming 2045 Statewide Transportation Plan (SWP). *(Continued on p. 3.)*

Public health and multimodal organizations joined with CDOT to form a Public Health, Equity and Transportation Taskforce to outline ways to integrate public health concerns into the 2045 SWP. A [fact sheet](#) on public health and transportation was among the products of the taskforce.

Colorado Byways Providing Resources for Corridor Management Plans

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways (Colorado Byways) and the consultant firm of Joining Vision and Action (JVA) developed a guidebook, template, template instructions, training, and a training webinar about completing or updating corridor management plans (CMPs).

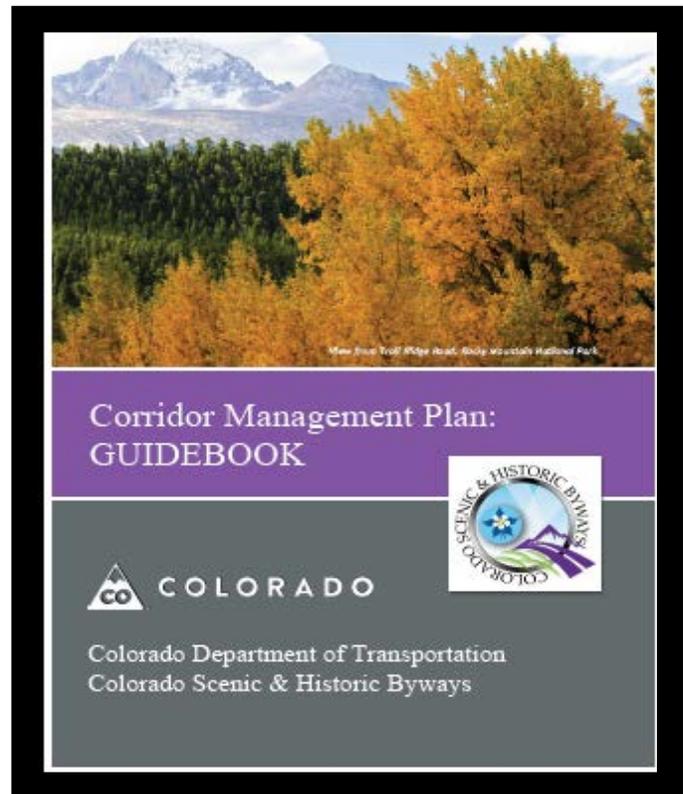
The 26 Colorado byways are required to have current CMPs outlining how communities will use, enhance, preserve, protect, and benefit from the byways. The CMPs describe goals, strategies, and responsibilities that help preserve and promote the byways. They also address any new developments that occur along the byway corridors.

The CMP template came from information collected through a review of best practices of other state programs and individual byways; a review of existing CMPs; and a survey of and communication with Colorado Byways leadership. This template includes detailed instruction for completing each section of the CMP, with links to resources to help byway groups find needed information to complete and update their CMPs. Colorado's CMPs should include the items listed in the Program Guidance for Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways.

In addition to the Corridor Management Plan Training, the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways program has the Colorado Grassroots Training and "Managing the Fast Lane: Mileposts for Byways Boards." Many other organizations also can use these resources. See this link for more information: <https://www.codot.gov/travel/scenic-byways/training-resources>

Updates in Brief

- **Economic Analysis Tool Purchased:** CDOT has purchased TREDIS, an interactive system of tools that provides benefit-cost, economic impact, and financial impact analyses to support transportation planning and project prioritization. Contact [Oana Ford](#) (before Feb. 28) or [Ermiias Weldemicael](#) if you are interested in learning how to use TREDIS.
- **Mobility Choice Blueprint Nears Completion:** CDOT, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), the Regional Transportation District, and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce joined efforts to produce the [Mobility Choice Blueprint](#), which is (*continued on p. 4*)



nearing completion. The blueprint is a study on how emerging technology and changing demographics will affect transportation within DRCOG through 2030. It recommends 34 actions for the various entities to take to prepare for the future.

- **Statewide Rest Area Study:** In January, the Transportation Commission will discuss funding options to address the approximate \$28 million needed to rehabilitate Colorado's rest areas. The cost to rehabilitate the rest areas came from the [Statewide Rest Area Study](#), which concluded that rest areas are important for safety, tourism/economic vitality, and public perception. Rest areas are now a separate asset category under Property Management.
- **Safe Routes to School:** Leslie Feuerborn, SRTS Program Manager for the past five years, retired in October. While CDOT has retained a SRTS coordinator since the program's inception, the departure of any staff provides for a time of reflection and possible reorganization. As such, CDOT has developed and posted a request for proposals for a consultant to focus on implementing the [Colorado Safe Routes to Schools Five-Year Strategic Plan 2017-2022](#), as well as the day-to-day activities associated with the program. The consultant should be selected and on board by the end of March. Meanwhile, the SRTS Advisory Committee is currently scoring the 21 applications received for FY 2019 and 2020. CDOT received approximately \$7.5 million in requests for the available \$5 million in funds. Most of the applications are for infrastructure projects.
- **Multimodal Planning Branch Interns:** Two interns have joined the MPB staff: Dan Chelist and Krista Flynt. A recent graduate of the University of Colorado at Denver, Dan is a geographic information system specialist who will be working on updating the Development Program and assisting with freight programs, including implementing the *Truck Parking Assessment*. Krista is a University of Colorado at Denver master's student in urban and regional planning. Krista's background in graphic design and marketing will help with interpretive signage for the CDOT rest areas and similar projects.
- **Kathleen Collins Recognized:** Kathleen Collins received the December award on Jan. 10 for respect and random acts of kindness. Tim Kirby, MPB manager, said Kathleen is always looking for ways to be of help to others - and circulates birthday cards for staff members.



Kathleen Collins
(Photo by Oana Ford)

Transportation Commission and STAC

- [Summaries](#) of recent Transportation Commission meetings are on the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) webpage.
- Notes on past STAC meetings are available [here](#) or from the STAC packets for the following month.

Thanks to the following persons for articles and updates in this issue: Oana Ford, Lisa Streisfeld, Rebecca White, Lenore Bates, Betsy Jacobsen, and Mike King. Please send suggestions for planning items to gail.hoffman@state.co.us. Copies of past issues of Planning Connections are available [here](#) under Planning Process.