

Resolution #TC18-01-19

Establishing a portion of the department's unfunded transportation needs and approving, with conditions, a draft list of projects the department would fund if new revenue became available.

Approved by the Transportation Commission on January 18, 2018.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly declared in enacting the Funding Advancement for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery Act, §43-4-801, *et al.*, that continued economic vitality of the state, its residents, businesses and visitors requires a safe, well-maintained, integrated, multi-modal transportation system accessible across all parts of the state and provide for the efficient movement of people, goods, and information; and

WHEREAS, the primary sources of funding for the state transportation system include state and federal motor fuel taxes that have not been increased for over 25 years and continue to lose much of their purchasing power as they are not indexed with inflation and less revenue is generated per vehicle as vehicles become more fuel efficient; and

WHEREAS, when the General Assembly created the Department of Transportation (the "Department") in 1991 it declared, pursuant to §43-1-101, C.R.S., the department was necessary to provide strategic planning for statewide transportation systems to meet the challenges to be faced by Colorado in the future; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly further declared, pursuant to §43-1-106, C.R.S., the department's creation was necessary to obtain the greatest benefit from state expenditures by producing a statewide transportation policy to address statewide transportation problems faced by Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly charged the Transportation Commission, pursuant to §43-1-106, C.R.S., with assuring that the preservation and enhancement of Colorado's environment, safety, mobility and economics be considered in the planning, selection, construction and operation of all transportation projects in Colorado and to do all things necessary and appropriate in the construction, improvement and maintenance of the state highway and transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, transportation advocates across Colorado and in the nation are working to provide new revenue for Colorado's transportation needs and desire an articulation of Colorado's transportation needs in the form of projects and priorities that may be funded should new revenue become available; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly approved and the Governor signed Senate Bill 17-267 which requires the State Treasurer to issue Certificates of Participation to fund transportation projects in the amount of \$1.88 billion over four years; and

WHEREAS, the Department has worked with planning partners across the state to create a Transportation Development Program that includes a list of high priority unfunded and underfunded projects and the attached list was generated from that effort; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission declares the enclosed projects to be the Department's top construction priorities should new revenue become available in 2018; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission intends to utilize SB 17-267 funds to help draw down the state's unfunded transportation need by selecting projects from the enclosed list; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission reserves the right to refine the list from time to time to reflect better cost estimates, changing priorities, or to better coincide with funding that is expected to become available; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission applauds all transportation advocates for working to find solutions to Colorado's most pressing transportation needs.

Herman Stockinger, Secretary
Transportation Commission of Colorado

Date