

Transportation Commission Workshops were held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. The Regular Transportation Commission Meeting was conducted and was hosted at CDOT HQ Auditorium on Thursday, November 16, 2017.

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, or by clicking on links provided in this document. For the full agenda of workshops and sessions see the link presented above.

Transportation Commission Committee Meetings Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Joint PUBLIC Session: High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE)/Bridge Enterprise (BE) to discuss Central 70 Project

- Audience Participation; Subject Limit: 10 minutes; Time Limit: 3 minutes per speaker
Ann Elizabeth of Globeville spoke regarding the importance of providing the 10,000 people in Globeville employment opportunities that raise them up to middle class income levels. Appreciate the workforce development effort occurring now, please keep it going. Requested that all the good work and promised improvements associated with the Central 70 project continue and to keep in mind the members of the community surrounding this project.
- David Spector reviewed the key elements of the commercial close for 70 Central, and benefits (including technical innovations related to long-term handling of groundwater, and community involvement that includes a program for local workforce development). Two key documents of the commercial close include the Partnership Agreement between Kiewit-Meridiam Partners (KMP), the HPTE and BE, and the Central 70 Interagency Agreement Amendment between CDOT, HPTE and the BE. See links to documents provided below.
 - [Discuss and Act on Central 70 Interagency Agreement Amendment](#)
 - [Discuss and Act on Resolutions to Approve Project Agreement](#)

The BE and the HPTE Boards approved resolutions for the I-70 Interagency Agreement Amendment and for the Project Agreement for the Central 70 Project on November 15, 2017.

Priority Projects Analysis and SB 267 Approach (Deb Perkins-Smith and Herman Stockinger)

Purpose: To discuss proposed projects for the initial two years of funding anticipated under SB 267, an approach for development of a project list to support a proposed 2018 ballot measure, and future years of SB 267 funding.

Action: The Commission was asked to provide input on additional projects recommended for funding in the first two years of SB 267, and formalize this list.

Discussion:

- Mike McVaugh, Region 5 Transportation Director presented on the US 550/US 160 Interchange project. It is 1.7 mile length project with a \$75 million price to provide three travel lanes. Additional leveraging of costs of work done previously in the area, and to provide four travel lanes would bring the cost up to \$99 million.
- Commissioner Hofmeister noted that one needs to see this project site to understand its importance and this project's critical need.
- HB 228 initially allocated \$27 million for the US 550/US 160 interchange project, but this bill no longer exists and the needed matching funds for the four-lane project is \$54.4 million, after tapping/leveraging

other funding sources, including a FASTLANE grant of \$12.3 million from the US DOT. Need to report to the US DOT and confirm CDOT is committed to covering the required matching funds for this project.

- Commission is being asked to approve a resolution confirming CDOT's commitment to matching funds, with the flexibility to explore options for funding the match at a later time in spring (after grant application results and Certificate of Payment (COP) revenues are known). Potential funding sources discussed included SB 267, Surface Treatment, and the Commission's Contingency Reserve Fund.
- The Commission supported confirming the required matching funds for the US 550/US 160 Interchange project.
- Next Debra Perkins Smith shared a preliminary list of SB 267 projects, to eventually be presented to the Legislative Transportation Review Committee (LTRC). The selection criteria included: Screening – Project Readiness, Strategic Nature, and Stakeholder Support; and Evaluation – Leveraging Funds, Offsetting Debt Service Repayment [with spending on major Asset Management Projects], and Supports Statewide Transportation Plan Goals/Transportation System. In addition, another rationale for selecting these projects included geographic equity. All projects listed are from tiers 1 and 2 of the Development Program. Turns out that 72% of proposed projects can be considered urban and 28% can be considered rural, meeting the rural/urban criteria of SB 267.
- The Commission was requested to approve this preliminary list (Option A – longer project list) for the first two years of SB 267 projects and revisit next spring after grant awards are known and announced and the status of COPs that generate SB 267 revenues are better understood.
- The Commission discussed the project list with the intent of keeping in mind the potential to use the remaining third and fourth years of SB 267 funds to finance other projects not currently on the Option A list.
- Option A Tentative Project List for the first two years of SB 267 is presented below:

Project	Tentative SB 267 Commitment	Urban	Rural
US 50: Little Blue Canyon	\$9,500,000		\$9,500,000
US 550/160: Connection*	\$54,400,000	\$54,400,000	
I-25 Colorado-Springs Denver South	\$250,000,000	\$250,000,000	
I-25: North SH 402 – SH 56 (Segment 6)	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	
I-70: Westbound PPSL	\$80,000,000		\$80,000,000
SH 13 Reconstruction	\$60,000,000		\$60,000,000
US 160: Towaoc Passing Lanes	\$9,000,000		\$9,000,000
US 50: West of Pueblo	\$35,520,000	\$35,520,000	
SH 9: Frisco North	\$10,250,000		\$10,250,000
I-70 East: Failing Pavement	\$55,000,000		\$55,000,000
ADA Improvements	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000	

Right of Way Workshop (Josh Laipply)

Purpose: The purpose of the workshop is to discuss proposed right-of-way acquisition (negotiations), and moving forward with one proposed condemnation proceeding.

Action: Prepare to act on agreed upon proposed acquisition authorizations and one condemnation proceeding at the regular meeting, based on discussion at today's workshop.

Six projects with property acquisition authorization requests for November 2017 include:

- Region 2:
 - SH 96 Bridge Structure K-17-F – Project Code 21011
- Region 3:
 - US 6 & I-70G Edwards Spur Road – Project Code 19944
- Region 4:
 - SH 14 “S” Curve in Sterling – Project Code 19664
 - I-25 at Vine Street Bridge – Project Code 20999 – ***This project on the list initially was pulled from the resolution for this month.***
- Region 5:
 - US 550 South Connection – Project Code 19378
 - SH 140 & CR 120 Intersection Improvements – Project Code 13004

No settlement documents this month.

One project being requested for approving condemnation proceedings includes:

- Region 3:
 - US 40 Craig East Bridge Preventative Maintenance (BPM) – Project Code 20753

Discussion:

- No comments were raised by the Commission on the projects presented above and resolutions will go to the Commission at the regular meeting for approval.

Resiliency Committee

Purpose: To present final results from the I-70 Risk and Resiliency Pilot Project and get feedback on proposed next steps.

Action: Accept final results. Provide feedback on next steps with regard to resiliency planning within CDOT.

Discussion:

- Aimee Flannery filled in for Lizzie Kemp who could not attend due to a family emergency.
- Risks and Mitigations analyzed in the pilot include (with each having an estimated cost associated with it):
 - Flood
 - Rockfall
 - High Wind and Related Weather
 - Bridge Vehicle Strike
 - Avalanche
 - Landslide
 - Total System Risk
- Recommendations from the pilot include:
 - Create a Base Risk Map of Colorado with assets displayed.
 - Develop a CDOT standard for risk assessments
 - Conduct case studies to test the analysis
 - Review CDOT policies, manuals, standards and models for funding allocation to Integrate analysis into other areas of CDOT aside from Asset Management.
- The I-70 Resiliency Pilot project assessed multiple assets against multiple risks along several segments of I-70 to determine criticality. Each risk factor was weighted equally at 16.7% – for six factors - AADT, AASHTO Classification, Freight, Tourism, Social Vulnerability Index (SoVi) and Redundancy.

- It was explained that various testing of weighting factors occurred, and that the equal weighting was the situation where the results made the most sense.
- Aimee Flannery noted that CDOT is at the forefront of risk analysis for resiliency as other DOTs only consider a few assets and risks where CDOT has multiple of each.
- Resiliency work group membership was diverse and other areas of CDOT identified uses for the resiliency analysis from this pilot in their day to day business for:
 - Planning
 - Asset Management
 - Design
 - Maintenance
 - Operations
- Josh Laipply explained the concept that CDOT is like an insurance agency that needs to invest in ways that lessen or buy down risk – having projects incorporate risk mitigation elements that substantially decrease risk based on a benefit cost assessment (BCA). A consultant is on board to take assets and identify for various mitigation techniques quantifiable cost savings /benefits of reducing risk.
- Johnny Olson noted that this analysis tool also helps to argue a case for grant submittals.
- A sample culvert mitigation project assessed in the resiliency pilot had a BCA of 23 for a \$1 million mitigation investment and 35 for a \$1.6 million mitigation investment.
- A sample rockfall mitigation project for fences had a BCA of 2.7 for fencing that would cost \$1.45 million and a BCA of 21.2 for a wall costing \$350,000.
- In Region 4 the Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) studies for SH66 and US 34 will consider incorporating risk analysis that was conducted for the I-70 Resiliency Pilot. Johnny Olson noted he plans on eventually incorporating this analysis in all his Region’s plans.
- Commissioners supported the concept of integrating this analysis into everyday business practices and continually adding on other risks and assets as information becomes available.
- Mike Lewis noted that the human-caused/security risk is not a risk included in this analysis and a discussion occurred regarding classified critical information that is in the possession of the Department of Homeland Security. A future consideration may be to add this risk, but it is still to be determined.

Housing Committee

Purpose: Discuss a draft policy for employee housing in areas where housing costs are too high and/or housing is not available to CDOT maintenance staff in mountainous areas of the state.

Action: The Commissioners and other Housing Committee members are being asked to provide input on a recommended framework for a CDOT housing policy and to confirm the committee is moving in the right direction.

Discussion:

- Kyle Lester led the discussion. CDOT refers to a Cost of Living Analysis (based on school districts) that is put out every two years to identify areas with limited and/or affordable housing.
- A draft Policy Directive is in the process of being refined; three key options to provide maintenance staff with housing include:
 - Areas where housing is available but not affordable – CDOT to provide a stipend
 - Areas where no housing is available – work with communities to form public private partnerships (P3) and move CDOT out of existing ownership of housing where feasible.
 - Areas where no housing is available and 24/7 snow plowing is needed – put up workers in hotels temporarily until a more permanent solution is found.
- Kyle explained that a policy directive will provide the framework for a much more detailed procedural directive that would explain explicitly what costs CDOT is willing to pay, P3 formation process, process to

move CDOT out of home ownership, how to deactivate a stipend, and other factors considered in identifying and management practices for housing solutions.

- Key areas with housing shortfalls include Frisco and Telluride.
- Johnny Olson recommended contacting Ian Hyde from DOLA that worked on the Governors Resiliency Framework. This Colorado Resiliency Framework includes a sector on housing – this effort has funding and multiple agency participation.
- Mike Lewis mentioned there are both near-term and long-term issues with housing.
 - Housing is a key topic being discussed at the Governor’s Office
 - Need to investigate how to leverage with other state agency resources
- David Spector recommended getting a coalition together – HPTE could help. The Colorado Housing and Financing Authority (CHFA) was another funding source to consider.
- Commissioners supported this approach to moving forward. Getting a clearer schedule of tasks was also requested by Commissioner Scott.
- Kyle Lester noted that next steps will be to:
 - Refine policy for Committee review for next meeting
 - Develop a priority list of housing needs based on the Cost of Living Analysis study
 - Conduct a Right-of-Way inventory to determine areas for potential P3s.
- Mike Lewis noted that the work of the Housing Committee is also intended to close out a prior audit finding.

Transportation Commission Regular Meeting Thursday, November 16, 2017

Call to Order, Roll Call

- Nine Commissioners were in attendance, with Commissioners Connell, and D’Angelo excused.

Audience Participation

- Gary Ungerman of Castlerock Construction expressed his concerns regarding the amount of mega-contracts CDOT is considering. These larger contracts – over \$10-30 million make it difficult for smaller construction companies to compete for jobs and forces these companies to become subcontractors and/or seek work out of state to stay afloat. He requested CDOT to please consider this when selecting projects and making investment decisions.
- Amber Blake of Durango, and Patrick Vaughn representing the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) both expressed their strong support for the US 550/US 160 intersection project.

Comments of Individual Commissioners

- As this was Executive Director Shailen Bhatt’s last Commission meeting, all Commissioners recognized and thanked Executive Director Shailen Bhatt for his three years of service as Executive Director, and thanked him for his strong leadership and multiple accomplishments during his time in office.
- Mike Lewis was welcomed as the Interim Executive Director – Commissioners noted that they look forward to working with him.
- Mark Imhoff, due to retire in December, was recognized for his work as the Director of the Division of Transit and Rail and thanked for his service.
- Several Commissioners mentioned the success and their being impressed with the Transportation Summit with 1,000 people in attendance.
- Commissioner Hall spoke of the success of the Grand Avenue Bridge project and how over 3,000 people showed up to walk over the bridge after it opened two weeks early. The collaboration and community support of this project was a major accomplishment that was greatly appreciated. Kudos were raised to Region 3.
- Commissioner Hall also noted that city and county meetings are occurring and county commissioners overall appear to be content.

- Commissioner Hofmeister noted that the county meetings that he and Johnny Olson attended have wrapped up with the last two occurring in Kiowa and Hugo.
- Commissioner Gilliland recognized the Central 70 Team and its workforce development program.
- Commissioner Gifford noted that the City and County of Denver is interested in doing more P3 projects with a meeting inviting entities from around the nation to discuss opportunities for P3 projects.
- Commissioner Zink noted that Senators Gardner, and Bennett and Congressman Tipton have all expressed their support for the US 550/ US 160 Intersection project. Recognized Mike McVaugh for his work to rally support. Attended the ITS Global Conference in Toronto with the Executive Director. And there were multiple sessions on technology and policy – it was a very interesting event.

Executive Director's Report (Shailen Bhatt)

- As this was his last meeting, Executive Director Bhatt was pleased to see the commercial close of Central 70 being approved.
- Transportation Summit is a big success.
- It was a great privilege to work with senior staff in Colorado.
- CDOT has an amazing team, and Executive Director Bhatt thanked the Commission for approving the big things accomplished.
- Can't teach caring... thank you for caring – both staff and Commission.
- Requested the Commission to continue to support the team after his departure.

Recognitions:

- ITS World Congress Hall of Fame Award was given to CDOT for its RoadX Program, which is implementing technology to save lives sooner.
- CDOT Hero Award - Andrew Mangold – Andrew while off-duty noticed skid marks in the snow veering off the road several feet down noticed a vehicle and found two women and an infant in the car. Got everyone up to the road and waited until ambulance arrived and the infant was taken to the hospital by the ambulance. After that, Andrew drove the woman to Silverton – a long drive - so they could get a vehicle to drive back to hospital to check in on the infant. Mike McVaugh recognized Andrew and Executive Director Bhatt honored Andrew by saying a few words of recognition and passing on to Andrew a leadership coin.

Chief Engineer's Report (Josh Laipply)

- Recognized the previous Chief Engineer, Tim Harris, for his service with a framed certificate.
- Several ribbon cuttings have occurred recently:
 - RoadX project
 - Grand Avenue Bridge
 - I-25 and Cimarron
 - SH 9
 - Arapahoe Road
- Mark Imhoff was recognized and thanked for all his work leading DTR:
 - Since Mark came on board DTR has doubled in size
 - COTRAMS has been a big improvement in processing grants
 - Bustang and Outrider being implemented
 - Retooled funding to cover more local transit operations
 - Southwest Chief and Front Range Rail Commission has been formed
 - Advanced Guideway Study completed
 - Etc.
- Recognized and thanked Shailen Bhatt for his accomplishments:
 - I -25 North
 - I-25 South
 - I-70 West

- Operations/Traffic Incident Management
- Noted that Shailen Bhatt's leadership engaged and inspired staff

HPTE Director's Report (David Spector)

- City and County of Denver is moving forward with establishing its P3 Office.
- HPTE Board elections result in a transition of leadership – Don Rostica will serve as chair with Commissioner Gifford as Vice-chair.
- Embarking on an Express Lane Master Plan (Statewide System Study) – a research and development project – the Request for Proposal was released on Monday.
- A HPTE financial document has been released.
- Central 70 commercial close and approval of Project Agreement happened yesterday.
 - Thank you to Tony DeVito and team.
 - Thank you to Shailen Bhatt for service.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Director Report (John Cater)

- Recognized and Thanked Shailen Bhatt for his service and leadership.
- Attended the Traffic Incident Management 2017 Regional Conference – theme was Progression, Innovation and Expansion – first responders attended from fire, police, safety patrols and NHTSA.
- Attended the Local Innovation Implementation Summit, with CDOT and LTAP sponsoring.

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

- After review of the draft budget, the STAC is interested to know what the impacts to the ADA program will be.
- STAC would like to see with budget revenues with planned expenditures also.
- Want more information about the bridge program aside from the Central 70 project – what other bridge improvements across the state are planned?
- Chief Engineer noted that 50 bridge projects across Colorado are planned in addition to Central 70. Noted that BE only has jurisdiction over on-system bridges.
- STAC recommends approving the SB 267 list of proposed projects for the first two years of the four year program.
- Local match required for the SB 267 is an issue to STAC as many local communities can't afford to provide a match.
- Colorado needs a statewide Asset Management Pool of funds. A list for these types of projects is needed too.
- STAC supports the RoadX Program and would like to see RoadX projects integrated into any ballot initiative project list, and define in future revenue streams.
- STAC supports the transfer of transit funds to operations, but has concerns for the future with reduced capital funding.
- STAC did not identify a source for the high revenue scenario for revenue projection, but agreed an additional \$300 million is possible from some unforeseen source. Recommend to the Commission to move forward with the high and low scenarios.
- STAC desires an update on the HQ/R1/R2 relocation (upcoming Commission agenda item today).

Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Briefing (Sal Pace and Jacob Riger)

- SB 17-153 was signed into law that created the Southwest Chief and Front Range Rail Commission
- Commission is housed under CDOT – CDOT hosts and convenes the meetings.
- Commission members include:
 - Two railroad industry representatives
 - Five representatives from Front Range MPOs.
 - One Regional Transportation District (RTD) representative
 - Two statewide passenger rail advocates

- Southwest Chief representative
- Non-voting members from CDOT and Amtrak
- Purpose of Commission is to:
 - Continue Southwest Chief Amtrak rehabilitation and expansion to Pueblo
 - Facilitate development of Front Range passenger rail.
 - Draft legislation by December 1, 2017 to facilitate the mission; however, the Commission will continue their statutory purpose beyond that date.
 - Has authority to receive and expend funds.
- Commission has been working on:
 - Commission appointed in July 2017.
 - Meeting since August 2017 – five meetings to date.
 - Two subcommittees and an ad hoc committee have been formed:
 - SW Chief Subcommittee
 - Front Range Rail Subcommittee
- Submitted a TIGER 9 Southwest Chief grant application October 16th.
- Briefed the Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC) on November 2nd – today’s presentation is very similar to presentation provided to the TLRC.
- Two more formal meetings scheduled, prior to the December 1st due date, to submit recommendations to the General Assembly.
- Recommendations from the Committee include:
 - Public Engagement to increase public awareness of key passenger rail issues, establish a Front Range Mobility Vision, and noted that comprehensive public engagement is critical.
 - Alignment decision is needed – Serve downtown Denver or DEN? Use shared existing rail corridors or green field development? Several options exist for alignments to the north and south of metro Denver.
 - Determine costs with alignments – including costs for pre-construction, fleet, operations, maintenance, and life cycle analysis.
 - Consider Potential Funding options – there is no one source, all partners and interested parties need to be contributing to make this happen. Will need ongoing dedicated funding sources. Examples of funding sources would include: Special districts, Regional Transportation Authorities (RTAs), federal, state, local, P3, private, and passenger fares will be included in funding option evaluation.
 - Jacob recognized and thanked CDOT’s Division of Transit and Rail for their contributions to the Commission.
 - Staffing is needed for the Commission to continue, a project manager type figure – may ask TLRC for recommendations.
 - Next steps to include: identification of public issues and needs via public engagement, determine the alignment, and meet federal requirements.
- Commissioner Stuart is a proponent of the Southwest Chief and Front Range Rail Commission and has interest in the alignment selected. Stressed the importance of Front Range passenger rail to connect to FasTracks. A SH7 /I-25 mobility hub to connect to NorthMetro Commuter Rail is desired.

[HQ/R1 Relocation Update \(David Fox\)](#)

- HQ/R1/R2 relocation is on time and within budget.
- Commissioner Stuart requested information regarding TDM strategies/ meetings with CDOT employees to encourage them to take transit to work.
- Commissioner Peterson recognized West Central Corridor TDM from Lakewood to Denver – and congratulated the team working on this.

Act on Consent Agenda (Herman Stockinger) – Approved with eight yeases and one no on November 16, 2017.

- a. [Resolution to approve regular meeting minutes of October 19, 2017 \(Herman Stockinger\)](#)
- b. [Updated Policy Directive 1055.0 "Snow Removal on State Highways" \(Kyle Lester\)](#)
- c. [Approval to Open OS/OW Rules 2 CCR 601-4 \(Kyle Lester\)](#)

Commissioner Hofmeister expressed concern over approving the updated Policy Directive 1055.0. Kyle Lester explained the resolution was a clarification that did not change the intent or particulars of the policy. Mike Lewis confirmed that a Commission workshop on PD 1055.0 is needed.

Discuss and Act on the 5th Budget Supplement of FY 2018 (Jeff Sudmeier) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

- Administration (line 80) increased by \$3.1 million.
- ADA Compliance (line 51) dropped to zero.
- Division of Aeronautics (line 94) increased by \$3.9 million.

Discuss and Act on Right of Way Acquisition Authorization Requests (Josh Laipply) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017 – pulled the I-25 at Vine Street Bridge project right-of-way acquisition request from the resolution.

Discuss and Act on Right of Way Condemnation Process Initiation Request (Josh Laipply) – Approved unanimously November 16, 2017

Discuss and Act on the Proposed FY2018-2019 Annual Budget (Jeff Sudmeier) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

Discuss and Act on SIB Interest Rate Mid-Year Update (Jeff Sudmeier) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

- Maintain 2.5% interest rate in Quarters 3 and 4 of FY 2017-18.

Discuss and Act to Modify FASTER Transit Distribution (Mark Imhoff) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

Discuss and Act SB 228 Transit Year 2 Projects List (Mark Imhoff) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

Discuss and Act on SB267 Project List (Debra Perkins-Smith and Herman Stockinger) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017

Discuss and Act on Central 70 Interagency Agreement Amendment (David Spector) – Approved unanimously on November 16, 2017