

**Final**  
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Date: 09/25/2015

ATTENDANCE

Time: **01:10 PM to 02:30 PM**

Place: Field Hearing

This Meeting was called to order by  
Representative Tyler

This Report was prepared by  
Matt Kiszka

Becker J.	E
Buck	E
Carver	E
Cooke	X
Coram	X
Esgar	X
Garcia	E
Kraft-Tharp	X
Melton	X
Mitsch Bush	X
Moreno	X
Neville P.	E
Nordberg	E
Scott	E
Todd	E
Winter	E
Baumgardner	X
Tyler	X

X = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent, \* = Present after roll call

Bills Addressed:	Action Taken:
Call to Order	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
Briefing from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
Briefing from the Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
All Points Transit	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
Public Comment and Committee Discussion	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only

**01:10 PM -- Call to Order**

Representative Max Tyler, Chair, called the committee to order, and asked the members of the committee to introduce themselves.

**01:15 PM -- Briefing from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)**

Dave Eller, CDOT Region 3 Transportation Director, and Tracy Trulove, Public Information Officer, CDOT, presented to the committee on transportation issues in Region 3. A Region 3 fact sheet was distributed to the committee (Attachment A). Mr. Eller discussed key projects that had been completed in the region in recent years, as detailed in the attachment. He discussed the cash management of Region 3 and the safety measures that had been implemented on local roads and highways. He responded to a question on a bypass project in Glenwood Springs. Mr. Eller spoke to additional projects that are currently underway in the region. Committee discussion ensued on key transportation infrastructure projects throughout Region 3.

**01:30 PM -- Briefing from the Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region**

Kathleen Sickles, Town Administrator of Cedaredge, presented to the committee. Ms. Sickles discussed the transportation challenges of the Gunnison Valley TPR (GVTPR), funding needs for infrastructure projects within the TPR, and safety concerns in the region surrounding wildlife accidents and bicycle use of roads with minimal shoulders. Ms. Sickles spoke to the All Points Transit service in the area, which provides rides for senior and disabled citizens, as well as general public transit services.

**01:35 PM -- All Points Transit (APT)**

Sharon Fipps, Executive Director, and Rex Swanson, Board President, All Points Transit, presented to the committee on the transportation services provided by APT throughout counties in the region. Ms. Fipps discussed the increasing demand for the service from growth in the senior population in the area. She said that the region was expecting 74 percent growth in its senior population in the next 10 years. She said that reliable transit represents quality of life for people, especially senior citizens, which depend upon it for numerous reasons. Ms. Fipps responded to questions from the committee on whether APT receives Medicaid funding for the medical transit services it provides.

Darcy Arnold, Senior Accountant, APT, discussed how APT was struggling to initiate conversations to establish an APT revenue stream from Medicaid funding. Committee discussion of Medicaid funding for medically-related transit ensued.

Ms. Fipps explained the importance of Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery (FASTER) Act moneys for the APT service and the region. The APT representatives responded to questions on the anticipated growth in Colorado's senior population, whether APT is unique to the region, the cost of rides and subsidies for senior citizens on APT, APT's service schedule and service area, and the vehicles used by APT.

**01:53 PM**

Mr. Swanson discussed the relationship that APT has with the city of Montrose and Delta County. Representative Thurlow joined the committee and introduced himself.

**01:55 PM -- Public Comment and Committee Discussion**

Glen Davis, Montrose County Commissioner, came to the table and presented to the committee on the economic problems of the region, focusing on lost jobs in the coal and dairy industries. He said the area is losing its younger population to jobs in the Front Range, and that this demographic is being replaced by older citizens. He discussed the safety issues of the commute from Montrose to Telluride, including wildlife deaths and road accidents, especially during the winter.

Commissioner Davis said that he is not opposed to overpasses for pedestrians and wildlife, but that the stretch of highway from Montrose to Ridgway and on to Telluride is in serious need of development to accommodate the traffic flow of seasonal tourism industry workers. He asked the committee to consider prioritizing this highway for state funding. Committee discussion ensued on the TPR process and state funding options for transportation infrastructure development.

Commissioner Davis discussed the development of a regional trail system from Montrose to Moab, Utah, in partnership with regional counties, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service. He spoke to current funding and prioritization of statewide transportation projects.

**02:13 PM**

Art Goodtimes, San Miguel County Commissioner, addressed the committee, speaking to the intended development of a Regional Transportation Authority in San Miguel County, the need to address the repeal of the authority in 2019, the criticality of infrastructure in the area, and difficulties faced by municipalities and counties within the TPR process. Mr. Goodtimes responded to questions on the loss of commercial status for the Telluride airport.

**02:20 PM**

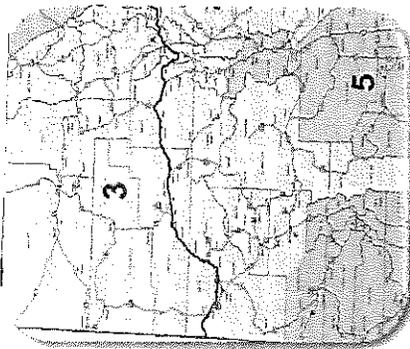
Doug Atchley, Delta County Commissioner, came to the table and discussed the importance of transportation infrastructure to Delta County's economy, economic drivers in the area, the loss of coal mining jobs in Delta County, the funding priorities of the Gunnison Valley TPR, and Delta County's regional transportation issues. Committee discussion ensued with Commissioner Atchley on the need for east to west transportation infrastructure in the state.

**02:30 PM**

The committee adjourned.

# Region 3 Fact Sheet

- Geographically the largest Region in the State
- 15 Counties
- Over 50 Municipalities
- 557 Full Time Employees
  - 2 Maintenance Sections
  - 3 Engineering Program Areas
- 706 Bridges
- 13 Mountain Passes
- 7 Tunnels
- 13 Rest Areas
- 5,161 Lane Miles of State Highways



**Northwest TPR Priorities**  
 Rio Blanco, Moffat, Routt, Grand and Jackson Counties

- SH 13 Wyoming to Rifle
- US 40 Craig to Empire
- SH 131 Oak Creek Canyon

**Intermountain TPR Priorities**  
 Garfield, Eagle, Pitkin, Lake and Summit Counties

- I-70 Mountain Corridor
- SH 9 North and South of I-70
- SH 82 Glenwood to Aspen

**Grand Junction TPR, Grand Valley MPO Priorities**  
 Mesa County

- I-70 Through Mesa County
- I-70 Business Loop
- US 6 Through Mesa County

**Gunnison Valley TPR Priorities**  
 Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale and Montrose Counties

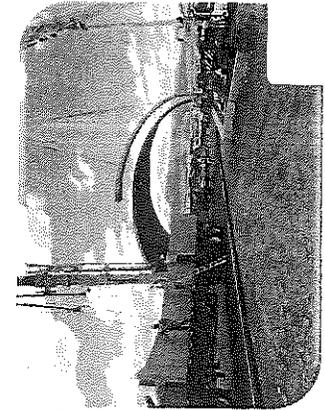
- US 50 Montrose to Gunnison
- SH 92 Austin to Hotchkiss
- US 550 Montrose



Region 3 Public-Public Partnership Project Status				
Project Name	County	Total Cost	RAMP Request	Status
SH 6/SH 13 Rifle Devolution	Garfield	\$5,600,000	\$5,600,000	Complete
I-70 Simba Run Underpass	Eagle	\$31,100,000	\$21,170,000	Design, Construction FY 17
SH 9 Frisco to Breckenridge: Iron Springs Phase	Summit	\$22,013,668	\$17,528,668	Under Construction
I-70 Eagle Interchange Upgrade	Eagle	\$9,887,365	\$3,500,000	Complete
I-70 Exit 31 Horizon Drive Upgrade	Mesa	\$5,778,000	\$4,423,000	Under Construction
US 40 Improvements in Fraser	Grand	\$1,950,390	\$1,394,458	Complete
SH 9 Grand County Safety Improvement Project	Grand	\$52,627,747	\$42,849,747	Under Construction

Region 3 RAMP Operations				
Project Name	County	Total Cost	RAMP Request	Status
I-70 Vail Chain Station Improvements	Eagle	\$6,200,000	\$6,200,000	Under Construction
I-70 Glenwood Canyon VSL	Garfield	\$296,800	\$296,800	Design (shell project CDC Application)

## Notable Region 3 Accomplishments



**Diverging Diamond Interchange/Grand Junction:**  
 This project won the 2014 CDOT/CCA Project Management Award in the category of Pavement Projects for \$3-6M category as well as other awards for Innovation and Quality.

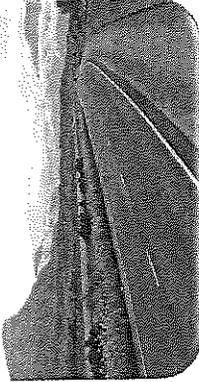
**SH 9 Grand County Safety Improvement Project (\$50.7M):** Region 3 awarded our largest RAMP Project this year. This project just erected the *FIRST* wildlife overpass of in the State of Colorado, with an additional overpass planned for next year. This is an outstanding example of a private entity and public entity concerned with the same issues as CDOT and wanting to *PARTNER* to help with the costs and accelerate project delivery. Private entities contributed \$5.8M to design and construction funding while Local Agencies provided \$3.4M.



# Region 3 Projects

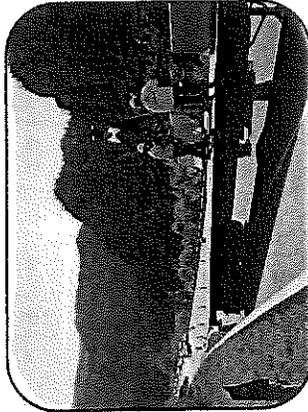
## I-70 DeBeque Canyon

**Cost:** \$11 million construction cost  
**Work:** Resurface pavement, replace center barrier, add/repair guardrail, repair bridge joints.  
**Improvements on:** 10.6 Centerline Miles; 42.4 Total Lane Miles; 12 Bridges  
**Average Annual Daily Traffic:** 19,627  
**Project Benefits:** Smoother service and drivability.  
**Duration:** April 2015 - October 2015  
**County:** Mesa



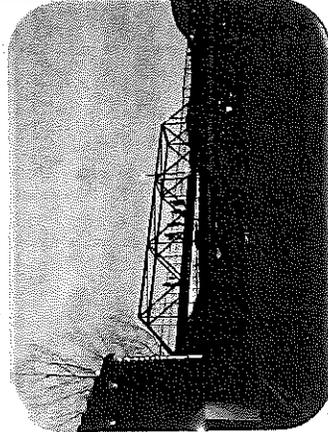
## I-70 Glenwood Canyon

**Cost:** \$9.9 million construction cost  
**Work:** MP 117.5-126.5 for a total of 9 miles. The work includes removal of existing asphalt and waterproofing membrane and placement of thin bonded polyester concrete overlay on bridge decks, bridge joint replacements, and bridge rail repair. The work also includes rock fall fence replacements.  
**Average Annual Daily Traffic:** 16,000-22,000  
**Project Benefits:** Safety improvements and a smoother roadway surface.  
**Duration:** April-October 2015  
**County:** Garfield



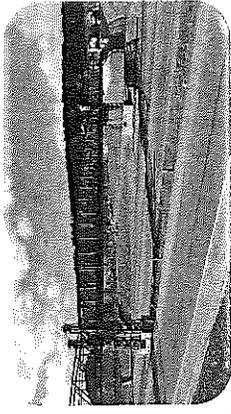
## SH 82 Grand Avenue Bridge

**Cost:** \$10 million budget Design & Construction  
**Work:** The SH 82 bridge project is the third CM/GC project in the Region and a priority for the Intermountain TPR. As the Region identified higher project cost than projected, we began outreach meetings with the City of Glenwood, Garfield County, Eagle County and other local governments within the Intermountain TPR, to identify other funding sources to supplement the budget (approx. 10% local). These partnership building meetings resulted in an additional \$10M generated in local support for this critical Bridge Enterprise project.  
**County:** Garfield



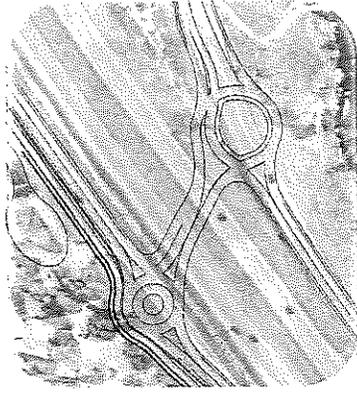
## I-70 Eagle Interchange

**1<sup>st</sup> RAMP Project delivered in Colorado**  
**Cost:** \$16 million total cost  
**Work:** This project partnered with the Town of Eagle to convert 4 traditional intersections to roundabouts and upgraded 1 existing roundabout on U.S. 6. It also upgraded pedestrian mobility by adding nearly one mile of sidewalk/multi-use paths with upgraded lighting and a pedestrian overpass over I-70. This was the FIRST Ramp project in Region 3 and in the State to be completed. The Town of Eagle split the cost of Design and ROW for a total of \$1.45M and then contributed \$3M for construction. Construction took 1.5 years and was completed on budget and on schedule in the Fall of 2014.



## I-70 Vail Underpass project

**Cost:** \$31.1 million Design & Construction (30% local)  
**Work:** The underpass will be built beneath I-70 between West Vail and Vail Town Center and provide a much needed safety improvement to pedestrian crossings. Major underpass construction is scheduled to begin in April 2016; however in preparation, CDOT will complete preliminary detour paving adjacent to I-70 this Fall. Construction will take 20 months from the April start, with completion in December 2017.  
**County:** Eagle



## I-70 Eagle County and Vail Pass Bridge joint repairs on 13 bridges and 5 Culverts

**Cost:** \$19.9 Million construction cost  
**Work:** This construction season R3 worked on several bridge projects consisting of rehabilitating bridges from Gypsum to Vail Pass. The majority of the work consisted of structural and deck repair, as well as work on the piers in the river. A different, innovative approach was used on several of the culverts by rehabilitating the existing structures by pulling new pipe through the culverts.  
**Duration:** April 2015 - October 2015  
**County:** Eagle

