



# TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

**DATE: July 2011**

## MEETING SET

Gunnison Valley TPR meeting set for October 25 at Region 10 1:00 to 3:00pm.

## FUNDS AVAILABLE

### TRANSIT DOLLARS

*I sent this out earlier, but it bears repeating!*

Persons interested in transit services:

I am writing to inform you of CDOT's Call for Projects for FASTER Fiscal Year 2013 funding. As indicated in an advanced notice sent to you on August 31, we are announcing the availability of FY 13 State funding for transit and transit-related multimodal projects. FASTER Transit funds will be available for capital and planning projects. Projects are expected to be ready for implementation shortly after contracts are initiated in July/August 2012, and will require a 20% local match. There will be \$5 million available from the FASTER Transit Local share and approximately \$9 million from the FASTER Transit Statewide share.

**All applications will be due to CDOT no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on Friday, October 28, 2011.**

Applications submitted after the due date cannot be accepted. Applications must be submitted in an email to David Averill at david.averill@dot.state.us.co. After receiving an application, David will reply to that email to confirm receipt. If you submit your application to David but you do not receive a confirmation, you must assume it has not been delivered to him. You should call David (303-757-9347) if you do not receive a confirmation from David within one day of submitting your application before October 28. If submitting your application on October 28, you should contact him if you do not receive a confirmation within one hour of submittal.

We are looking forward to receiving another round of worthy transit and multimodal projects. If you have any questions, please contact David Averill at 303-757-9347 or david.averill@dot.state.us.co.

Tom Mauser  
Transit Programs Manager  
Colorado Department of Transportation

Division of Transit and Rail  
4201 E. Arkansas Ave.  
Denver, CO 80222

Phone (303) 757-9768 FAX 303-757-9727  
[tom.mauser@dot.state.co.us](mailto:tom.mauser@dot.state.co.us)

There are three documents available for the above. If you have not rec'd the original notice, please let me know and I will forward the notice to you. The documents are:

The Call for Projects Guidance for FY 2013 FASTER Transit Funds, which contains all necessary information about the funding and application process, including background information, project and applicant eligibility, threshold (minimum) and evaluation criteria, selection methodology and schedule.

The Application Tips provides useful information on how best to complete the application request.

The FY 2013 FASTER Transit Application form is what you'll use to request funding.

#### ENHANCEMENT DOLLARS

The following was rec'd from Region 5

September 29, 2011

Dear Gunnison Valley Regional Planning Commission and Others Interested in Transportation:

This letter serves as the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Region 5's call for federal Enhancement funding applications for fiscal years 2013 thru 2015 (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015) for the Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region (GVTPR). Enhancement applications must be prepared using the "Transportation Enhancement Guidelines – Colorado Supplement" dated October 10, 2000. These guidelines, which include the application form, can

be accessed on the CDOT website at:

[http://www.coloradodot.info/business/designsupport/bulletins\\_manuals](http://www.coloradodot.info/business/designsupport/bulletins_manuals)

The 2006 CDOT Local Agency Manual is also accessible through this same website. It provides a more in-depth overview of the requirements for awarded projects.

Applicants must contact the Region 5 Off-System Engineer, David Valentinelli, to schedule a pre-application on-site scoping of the proposed project. Mr. Valentinelli can be reached by phone at (970) 385-1416 or by e-mail at

[David.Valentinelli@DOT.STATE.CO.US](mailto:David.Valentinelli@DOT.STATE.CO.US).

The purpose of the site visit is to assess whether projects appear constructible and to consider applicable engineering and funding requirements. During this initial project review, the proposed projects will also be evaluated to determine if they appear able to comply with state and federal design criteria. Information from this project scoping should help the applicant produce a more

complete application and reduce CDOT's requests for supplemental information after its submittal.

We recommend scheduling a pre-application scoping to allow sufficient time for adjustments after the meeting, but not before a fairly detailed concept of the project is developed. All site visits must be completed by December 31st, 2011. Applications will not be accepted for projects for which the sponsor has not held a pre-application site visit with CDOT.

Enhancement Project Application Schedule:

Pre-application scoping meetings October 17th – December 31, 2011

Applications due January 31, 2012

CDOT review of applications complete February 29, 2012

GVTPR Enhancement Committee selection of projects March 2012 (date TBD)

GVTPR approval of selected projects April 2012

CDOT award letters sent May 2012

GVTPR Members

Funding Allocation by County and Tribe

The estimate of federal dollars available is below in Table 1. Please note that the actual amount of funding may change based on federal allocations.

TABLE 1. Estimate of federal dollars available in the Enhancement program.

FISCAL YEAR	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
GVTPR Region 5	\$61,050	\$125,700	\$125,700	\$312,450

The regional funding allocation for each transportation planning region (TPR) is based on the number of counties and Tribes in the TPR. This funding approach has also been used in allocating dollars between the TPRs in the STIP and Long Range Plan.

The regional funding allocation formula is as follows:

$$[(\text{Funding amount})/(\text{Total number of Counties and Tribes})] \times (\text{number of Counties and Tribes in TPR})$$

Please send a request for project applications to the names on the GVTPR mailing list by October 7, 2011, with a January 31, 2012 deadline for submitting applications.

Please mail applications, postmarked no later than January 31, 2012 to the following address:

Matt Muraro  
CDOT Region 5 Interim Planner  
3803 North Main Avenue, Suite 300  
Durango, Colorado 81301

Thank you for your interest in the Enhancement Program and please call me at (970) 385-1433 with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Matt Muraro  
Interim Planner  
CDOT Region 5

We will be discussing Enhancement funding for both Region 3 and Region 5 at the TPR meeting October 25.

#### New Transportation Commission Chairman elected

The Transportation Commission recently elected Steve Parker, of Durango, as its new chairman.

Parker represents the 13 counties that make up Commission District Eight, including Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Rio Grande, San Juan, San Miguel and Saguache. Parker succeeds Les Gruen as the chairman of the State Transportation Commission.

“Federal funding for transportation is uncertain right now, and I’m concerned that if Congress fails to provide adequate funding for the longer term, the state is going to bear this burden. It’s difficult to plan effectively for transportation when we don’t know what’s headed our way,” Commissioner Parker said. “If the USDOT would streamline federal processes, rules and regulations, that would allow us to use our limited funds more efficiently to meet our local and statewide needs. Given the bleak outlook for federal funding, I believe it’s going to take a full partnership with the business community, as well as our local government customers, to be able to build the transportation system that will keep our local businesses viable and communities economically healthy.”

Parker, who began his term with the Transportation Commission in 2001, served as chairman in 2004. He will serve a one-year term as chairman, through August 2012.

Parker is a career-banking executive and is on the Board of Directors for Alpine Bank in Durango. He and his wife, Dr. Geni Miller, live in Durango and are avid cyclists.

The Transportation Commission, statutorily authorized, consists of 11 commissioners representing specific districts. The Commission sets policy and makes funding allocation decisions for CDOT’s annual budget. The 11 commissioners are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Colorado Senate.

**Vince Rogalski, Chairman**

**Gunnison Valley TPR**

**[vrogal@montrose.net](mailto:vrogal@montrose.net)**