

Transportation Panel Recommendations

11/20/07

General Overview

- Gov. Ritter established the Transportation Finance and Implementation Panel in April 2007 to identify long-term sustainable programs and funding sources for transportation in Colorado.
- Colorado's gasoline tax, the primary source of transportation funding, has not increased since 1991. Since 1997, the legislature has allocated additional revenue from the general fund to supplement the gas tax in good economic years. However, the funding is sporadic, unpredictable and often utilized for other legislative priorities.
- The 32-member panel completed deliberations Nov. 15, 2007 after hosting meetings across the state. All meeting materials are posted at: www.colorado.gov/governor.

Investment Focus

- The first phase of the panel's recommendations focus on how future transportation dollars should be invested. The panel recommended the following investment focus:
 - Mobility investments in large corridor reconstruction projects statewide to address safety and congestion.
 - Shoulder improvements to address impacts of increased agricultural and oil-and-gas activities as well as bicycle, pedestrian and overall safety.
 - Transit enhancements in both our urban and rural areas to address human service/health access, jobs and recreation needs.
 - Environmental stewardship to mitigate impacts.
 - Bike/pedestrian enhancement, including safe routes to schools and to encourage reduction in vehicle use and provide safe walking environments.
 - Allocation for local governments to invest in roadways and transit, recognizing both are part of the broader transportation network.

Investment Recommendations

- The second phase of the panel's recommendations deal with funding thresholds and potential revenue sources:
 - Preferred threshold - \$1.5 billion annually
 - Additional options include \$2 billion, \$1 billion and \$500 million

\$1.5 billion Funding Sources Recommendation

Revenue Sources		
Revenue Source	Incremental Fee or Tax	Revenue Generated*
Increased Vehicle Reg. Fee	\$100 average fee increase	\$500 million
Increased Motor Fuel Tax	13¢ per gallon	\$351 million
New Daily Visitor Fee	\$6 daily fee	\$240 million
Increased Sales & Use Tax	.35% increase	\$312 million
Increased Severance Tax	1.7% effective increase	\$96 million