

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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DATE: September 3, 2013
TO: Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee
FROM: Kurtis Morrison, Office of Policy & Government Relations
RE: Capital Development Committee FY 2014-15 Request

Action Needed

Recommendation to the Transportation Commission – approval of the attached resolution to formally request Capital Development Committee (CDC) funds for Hanging Lake Tunnel lighting infrastructure improvements.

Background

The CDC of the General Assembly is charged with prioritizing state departments' requests for funding to support facility maintenance and improvement projects. Projects receiving the CDC's recommendation are forwarded to the Joint Budget Committee for inclusion in the annual Long Bill. In recent years, Capital Development Funds supported correctional facility improvements, the History Colorado Center, the Capitol dome renovation, and various public college and university buildings.

Transportation Commission CDC Requests. Under state law, the Transportation Commission provides an annual capital construction request to the CDC, with a prioritized list of recommended state highway reconstruction, repair, and maintenance projects.¹ In recent years, as a consequence of the recession, capital appropriations fluctuated significantly due to lagging and unpredictable revenue collections. During this time, total capital appropriations for all departments, public colleges, and public universities dropped by two-thirds, and it became evident that a transportation request would likely go unfulfilled by the CDC. Consequently, for the past five years, the Transportation Commission opted not to submit any transportation requests. Now that revenue collections are both stronger and more stable, Department staff recommends that the Commission return to submitting annual project requests to the CDC.

FY 2014-15 CDC Request

As request amounts continue to far outnumber available CDC funds, Department staff recommends submitting a single high-priority request to the CDC – \$1.615 million for Hanging Lake Tunnel (HLT) lighting infrastructure upgrades.

HLT Lighting Upgrades: Project Summary. Currently, HLT is fitted with 1,592 eight-foot light fixtures. The lighting system is over 20 years old and obsolete. The lamps and ballasts used are no longer produced or available. Spares in stock are estimated to deplete within the year. Light lenses have deteriorated and are hazed and brittle, with up to 10% cracked or broken. Each week, CDOT replaces approximately 20 lamps, and 5 ballasts with new lenses to replace exposed fixtures from few remaining spares. This project will provide lighting upgrades throughout HLT. New equipment acquired will be fluorescent retrofit kits and new lenses. Project work will include fully engineered lighting design and installation of the new equipment. Once complete, there will be enhanced visibility for safer driving, as well as approximately ten percent in energy savings realized through higher efficiency lights.

¹ COLO. REV. STAT. § 2-3-1304(1)(a.5).

Resolution Number TC-_____
Adopting a request to the Capital Development Committee of the
General Assembly for FY 2014-15 Capital Construction Funds

WHEREAS, in accordance with C.R.S. 2-3-1304(1)(a.5) and C.R.S. 43-1-113(2.5), the Capital Development Committee of the General Assembly shall determine certain projects that may be funded with Capital Construction Fund monies for state highway reconstruction, repair, or maintenance projects; and

WHEREAS the Transportation Commission shall submit an annual request to the Capital Development Committee (CDC) for Capital Construction Fund monies; and

WHEREAS, such request shall consist of a prioritized list of recommended state highway reconstruction, repair, and maintenance projects based on statewide transportation improvement programs; and

WHEREAS, the Department developed a project list with a single high priority project, Hanging Lake Tunnel lighting infrastructure upgrades, with a request amount of \$1.615 million, which can utilize Capital Construction Fund monies during Fiscal Year 2014-15; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes that approval and funding of this project list are contingent upon available revenue and other statewide priorities for Capital Construction Fund monies as determined by the Governor and the General Assembly.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission approves a request of \$1.615 million for Hanging Lake Tunnel lighting improvements, and Department staff is instructed to submit the request to the Capital Development Committee for consideration and approval for funding.