

October 14, 2011

Mr. Vince Rogalski, Chair  
State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC)  
c/o Colorado Department of Transportation  
4201 East Arkansas Avenue  
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Allocation of Additional Funding in State and Federal Funding

Dear Mr. Rogalski:

On behalf of the Southwest Colorado Regional Transportation Commission (Southwest TPR), we would like to convey our concerns regarding the proposed allocation of the additional \$229.1 million in state and federal transportation funding. As I'm sure you know, there has been significant discussion about the methodology of how and where the funding should be allocated.

Recently there has been discussion about allocating funding to Region 1 and 2 for the Twin Tunnels and for the I-25 North (El Paso County) interchange. Our best information is that Alternative 4 is presently the preferred alternative that allocates \$60 million to the Twin Tunnels project and \$31 million to the I-25 project for a total of \$91 million essentially "off the top" of the additional funding. In addition, Region 1 and 2 also receive a full allotment of Surface Treatment and Regional Priorities (RPP) funding as well, as compared to the other Regions.

After much discussion at the regular September 30<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Southwest TPR, it was felt that it was fundamentally unfair for Region 1 and Region 2 to receive full funding for the Twin Tunnels and the I-25 projects AND to receive a full allotment (compared to the other Regions) of Surface Treatment and Regional Priorities funding too.

As a consequence, and by unanimous vote, the Southwest TPR offers for the STAC's consideration another alternative that is believed to be more equitable and is summarized as follows:

- Region 1 receives full funding of \$60 million for the Twin Tunnels project.
- Region 2 receives full funding of \$31 million for the I-25 project.
- Region 1 is only provided additional Surface Treatment funding to make them "whole" to the proposed 2012 funding (\$3.8 million).
- Region 2 is only allocated Additional Surface Treatment funding to make them "whole" to the proposed 2012 funding (\$6.1 million).

- Region 1 is allocated \$5.9 million in RPP funding to bring them to the full 2012 proposed level. An actual increase from the \$5.0 million in Alternative 4.
- Region 2 is allocated \$6.7 million in RPP funding to bring them to the full 2012 proposed level. This is an increase from the \$5.7 million in Alternative 4.
- As a consequence of the reduction in Surface Treatment funding for Regions 1 and 2, there is an estimated \$19.5 million available for allocation to Regions 3-6 and would be distributed equally according to the pre-existing incremental formula.

For additional visual clarification, please see the attached spreadsheet.

We hope the STAC will consider this proposal as a way to accomplish the funding of the two important projects in Region 1 and 2, as well as recognizing the other needs for Regions 3 through 6.

Sincerely,

---

Dewayne Findley, Chair  
Southwest Colorado Regional Transportation Planning Commission

cc: Stephen Parker, Chair  
Transportation Commission

Alternative proposed by SWTPR. Regions 3-6: ST increased 33% and RPP decreased 8%.

Funding Type	STATEWIDE	REGIONAL ALLOCATIONS					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
Surface Treatment	90.1	3.8	6.1	18.5	27.0	13.9	20.8
Twin Tunnels	60.0	60.0	-	-	-	-	-
Regional Priorities	34.4	5.9	6.7	4.4	4.8	2.9	9.7
I-25 (El Paso)	31.0	-	31.0	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>215.5</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>30.5</b>
<i>% of Total</i>		32.4%	20.3%	10.6%	14.8%	7.8%	14.2%