

# **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY 2010-11 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Monday, November 16, 2009  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

## **10:00-10:45 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS**

## **10:45-10:55 DECISION ITEM #2: CASH FUND TRANSFER FROM LEAF TO GENERAL FUND**

1. The August 25, 2009 budget balancing package proposed transferring \$1.9 million from the Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (LEAF) to the General Fund in FY 2009-10, which would have effectively terminated LEAF-funded high visibility drunk driving enforcement events after the Labor Day event. Please discuss the plan for LEAF funds in FY 2009-10. Should the Committee expect a revision to the August 25, 2009 proposal?
2. Is there a standard cost for a high visibility drunk driving enforcement event? Does the number of events funded in a given year affect the revenue for the program?
3. Please provide quantitative performance information for the high visibility enforcement program. How does the Department determine the effectiveness of the program?

## **10:55-11:15 FEDERAL FUNDS AND ARRA IMPLEMENTATION**

4. Please provide an update on the status of the Department's federal funds. Does the State stand to gain or lose federal funds? How would proposals to raise the federal gas tax affect Colorado?
5. Please provide a general update on the use of ARRA funds and selection/prioritization of projects. How is the Department using the funds? How were projects selected and prioritized? Are there any purely dedicated federal projects?
6. Please provide additional detail on how the ARRA funds were allocated between CDOT and local entities. How were funds distributed? How are project selections handled for roadways through overlapping jurisdictions? Do the urbanized areas have complete discretion over their allocated funds?

## **11:15-11:35 FASTER DEFICIT REPORT/GENERAL TRANSPORTATION QUESTIONS**

7. According to the FASTER Deficit Report, the Department would need an additional \$545 million per year (above projected revenue levels) to sustain the current bridge, pavement, and maintenance conditions and \$761 million per year to meet the Transportation Commission's goals. Where does the Department propose to get additional revenues? If the Department does not anticipate sufficient revenues, what other options are available? For example, could

the Department save money by actually paying people not to drive to work or to drive to work at a different time, rather than trying to meet the current or projected demand on the system? Please discuss how the Department considers means of transporting people beyond traditional highways and roads; that is, what does transportation mean to CDOT?

8. What is the role of the High Performance Transportation Enterprise in the funding deficit issue? Would congestion pricing be an effective means to provide transportation alternatives and generate revenue? Should we be tolling on existing roads? Why or why not? What are the pros and cons of purchasing existing toll roads, such as E-470? Should the State consider doing so? Please provide an estimate of the cost of purchasing E-470 and how much revenue the project could generate for the State. Could the State purchase E-470, reduce tolls, and keep the project viable?
9. H.B. 09-1318 increased the weight limit for tandem and triple axle loads on state highways. Was the bill incorporated in the system condition and revenue projections in the Deficit Report? Has the Department done an analysis of the bill's impact on secondary roads? Would increased permit revenues offset the anticipated increase in wear and tear on the system?
10. Please discuss the Department's five year plan for projects and revenues. Is a limited capacity to manage and complete projects driving the Department's planning? Given more revenues, could the Department efficiently execute additional projects? Is the Department exploring further bonding using the authorities in FASTER to accelerate projects?
11. Please discuss how the Missouri model of privatization could apply to Colorado. Could following a similar model help address the transportation deficit in Colorado?

#### **11:35-11:45 7<sup>TH</sup> POT/TRANS BONDS**

12. Given the Department's revenue situation and that the ongoing 7<sup>th</sup> Pot projects are unfunded, has the Department changed the scope of any of the remaining projects?
13. The Department is paying approximately \$168 million per year in debt service on the TRANS bonds through FY 2016-17. How is the Department funding the debt service? Given the repeal of S.B. 97-1 and the decline in federal funds, how is that level of debt service impacting the condition of roadways in the State? Please provide data showing the condition of the system since the initiation of debt service payments. Can the Department quantify the role of the debt service in the system's deterioration?
14. What is the Department's plan for the \$168 million currently dedicated to debt service when the obligation ends? Does the Department intend to use the funds for maintenance of existing facilities or construction of new facilities?

#### **11:45-11:50 FASTER REVENUES**

15. As discussed on page 17 of the FY 2010-11 Budget Briefing, the number of vehicle registration transactions in July and August 2009 is down relative to the same months in 2008, which is one factor driving an apparent shortfall in FASTER revenues compared to anticipated revenue levels. Does the Department have any insight into the reason for the reduced number of registrations relative to 2008? In addition, please outline the impact of a decline in the number of vehicle registrations on specific ownership tax revenues.

**11:50-12:00 OTHER QUESTIONS**

16. Decision Item NP-1 would transfer 82.0 FTE from the Department to the Governor's Office of Information Technology as part of the statewide consolidation of information technology staff. Please discuss the management of FTE affected by this transfer. Who is responsible for supervision, CDOT or OIT? How will those staff be supervised and managed and to whom will they be accountable?
17. Please provide an update on the operations of E-470 since the highway has converted to completely electronic tolling.
18. Please provide an update on the status of the new Division of Transit and Rail. What is the Department's plan for the new Division? Has the Department defined goals for the Division? How does the new Division interact with federal funds?
19. At last year's hearing, the Committee and the Department discussed the Department's plan to shift some additional work out of contracts and into the Department to sustain the Department's workforce. Please provide an update on that issue. How does that policy affect the private sector? Should the Department shift work "in-house" at the expense of the private sector?

**ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED**

**QUESTIONS COMMON TO ALL DEPARTMENTS**

Please provide:

1. Organizational charts for your department, showing divisions and subdivisions (with geographic locations).
2. Definitions of the roles and missions of your department, its divisions and subdivisions.
3. The number of current personnel and the number of assigned FTE by division and subdivision (with geographic locations), including all government employees and on-site contractors.
4. A specific list of names, salaries, and positions by division and subdivision of any salaried officer or employee making over \$95,000 per year in FY 2009-10.
5. A specific list of names, bonuses, and positions by division and subdivision of any salaried officer or employee making over \$95,000 per year who received any bonuses in FY 2008-09.
6. Numbers and locations of any buildings owned or rented by any division or subdivision (by location) and the annual energy costs of all buildings.
7. Any real property or land owned, managed, or rented by any division or subdivision (by geographic location).
8. List essential computer systems and databases used by the department, its divisions and subdivisions, with their actual FY 2008-09 expenditures.
9. Any actual FY 2008-09 expenditures over \$100,000 total from the department or from its divisions and subdivisions to any private contractor, identifying the contract, the project, and whether the contracts were sole-source or competitive bid.
10. The amount of actual FY 2008-09 expenditures for any lobbying, public relations, gifts, public advertising, or publications including:
  - a. expenditures for lobbying by public employees, contract lobbyists, or "think tanks;"
  - b. expenditures for lobbying purposes at other levels of government;
  - c. expenditures for lobbying purposes from grants, gifts, scholarships, or tuition;
  - d. expenditures for publications or media used for lobbying purposes;

- e. expenditures for gratuities, tickets, entertainment, receptions or travel for purposes of lobbying elected officials; or
  - f. expenditures for any public advertising. Include all advertising campaigns, including those that are not for public relations.
11. List of all boards, commissions, and study groups, including ~~all funding~~, actual FY 2008-09 expenditures, travel, per diem budgets and assigned FTEs.
  12. Suggest budget and staff reductions, including reductions in FTE and hours, by division and subdivision, that will reduce your department's total FY 2010-11 General Fund expenditures by 12.5% relative to FY 2009-10 appropriations before any adjustments that have been announced since the end of the 2009 session.
  13. Suggest budget and staff reductions, including reductions in FTE and hours, by division and subdivision, that will reduce your department's total FY 2010-11 General Fund expenditures by 25.0% relative to FY 2009-10 appropriations before any adjustments that have been announced since the end of the 2009 session.