

YOUR
TRANSPORTATION
PRIORITIES



South Central TPR Planning Orientation Meeting January 23, 2025



Common Transportation Planning Acronyms

- ATP Active Transportation Plan
- CDOT Colorado Department of transportation
- CDOT DTR Division of transit and Rail
- CDOT DTD Division of Transportation Development
- COG Council of Governments
- GHG Greenhouse Gas
- MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization
- PD Policy Directive
- RPC Regional Planning Commission

- RTP Regional Transportation Plan
- SC South Central
- SHSP Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- STAC- Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee
- STIP Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
- SWP Statewide Transportation Plan
- TC Transportation Commission
- TPR Transportation Planning Region
- 10YP Ten Year Plan



Key CDOT and TPR Staff Introductions

- 1. SCTPR Chair Mitch Wardell, Huerfano County Commissioner
- 2. SCTPR Vice Chair (Decision to be made at the February 20, 2025 SCTPR meeting)
- 3. RPC Membership and Areas of Representation
- 4. TPR Administrator and STAC Rep Brian Blasi
- 5. CDOT Region 2 Staff
 - Region Transportation Director Shane Ferguson
 - South Program Engineer Jennifer Sparks
 - Maintenance
 - Planning Unit & Local Agency Program
 - CDOT HQ Staff



Planning Orientation Meeting Agenda

- 1. Introduce Key CDOT and TPR Staff to New Participants
- Statewide Transportation Planning Process Key Stakeholders & Planning Documents
- 3. South Central Council of Governments vs. South Central Transportation Planning Region Regional Planning Commission
- 4. Request for SCTPR Draft Bylaws Review
- 5. Review and Status of the SCTPR 2050 Regional Transportation Planning Process
- 6. Preparation and Next Steps for SCTPR Meeting #3
- 7. Solicit and Answer Questions and Comments from New Members



Planning Orientation Meeting Purpose

Orient new participants to the transportation planning process required to develop the SCTPR 2050 Regional Transportation Plan

Introduce new TPR members to the Regional Transportation Planning process

Seek concurrence on proposed vision, goals and focus areas based on TPR Member input

Provide a SCTPR 2050 RTP Development status update Prepare TPR members for Meeting #3 that will establish 2050 RTP priority projects



Statewide Transportation Planning Process Key Stakeholders Key Planning Documents



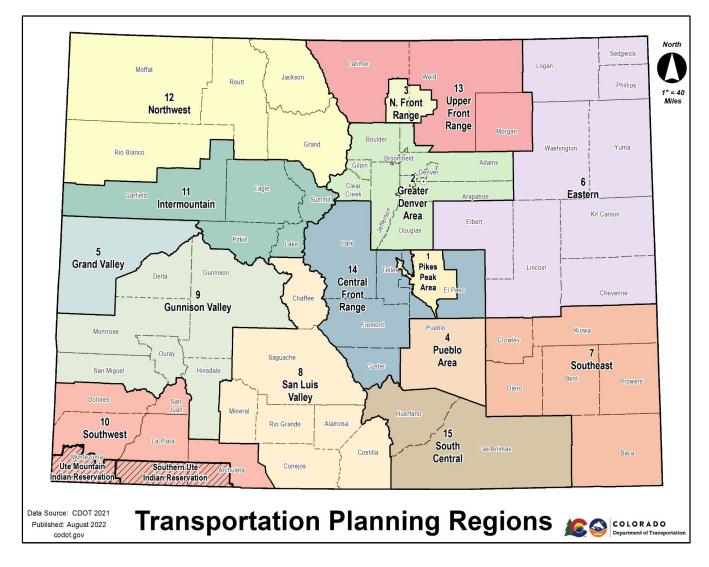
Multimodal Planning at CDOT

- CDOT conducts multimodal planning activities and outreach to identify what Coloradans want from their transportation system and what projects best deliver that vision.
- We work to envision our future transportation system, how we may fund it, and how we measure success.
- Today's Preparation = Tomorrow's Success.
 We are dedicated to preparing Colorado's transportation system for the future through planning, analysis, and innovation.





STAC/Planning Partner Engagement



- The idea-to-improvement planning process includes building strong relationships in every corner of the state.
- CDOT partners with Colorado's 15
 Transportation Planning Regions
 (TPRs) and two tribal nations to identify issues, look at data trends and patterns, and share ideas.
- A member from each TPR and tribal nation is elected to serve on the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC). STAC advises CDOT and the Transportation Commission on the needs of the transportation system in Colorado.



Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) Roles & Responsibilities

- Provide local and regional advice and recommendations
- Foster regional and statewide collaboration
- Advise on funding and budgeting
- Review and assessment of transportation plans
- Supporting public outreach and education
- Guiding and supporting transportation planning, policy and decision-making processes



Public Engagement

In addition to working with our planning partners, CDOT seeks input directly from community leaders and the public through:

- Community events
- Stakeholder meetings
- County meetings
- Local and elected official and community leader meetings
- Public surveys
- Online interactive maps
- Telephone town halls
- Social media and the CDOT website







Key Planning Documents

A Long-Range <u>Regional</u> Transportation Plan is developed for each of the 15 TPRs. The Statewide Transportation aggregates the themes from these regional transportation plans.

The Long-Range <u>Statewide</u> <u>Transportation Plan</u> is essentially the "mother plan" that identifies goals, focus areas, priorities over a time horizon of 20+ years. The statewide <u>transit plan</u> is created in tandem and integrated with the Statewide Plan.

The 10-Year Plan considers the goals, focus areas, and priorities from the long-range plans above and identifies specific strategic projects that best support that collective vision over the next decade.

The 4-Year Statewide Transportation Improvement Program represents all funded projects over a 4-Year time period.

These plans work together to take CDOT from a statewide vision to achievable reality.



South Central TPR SC Council of Governments (COG) vs. SC Regional Planning Commission (RPC)



Roles of the Regional Planning Commission?

- 1. Development and maintenance of Regional Transportation Plans (RTP).
- 2. Cooperation with CDOT in development of **Statewide Transportation Plans, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP),** and other statewide transportation planning activities.
- 3. Public Participation responsibilities:
 - **a. Establishing and maintaining a mailing list** of all known parties interested in transportation planning.
 - **b. Providing reasonable notice and opportunity** for public involvement in planning processes (TPR meetings, STIP, etc.)
 - **c. Seeking out and considering the needs of persons or groups that may be underserved** by existing transportation systems.
 - **d. Coordinating planning activities** with CDOT and other related agencies in development of SWP, STIP, etc.



Requirements of the RPC

As governed by statutes and by Transportation Planning Rules:

- Must be incorporated by an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) among county and municipal governments in Las Animas / Huerfano Counties.
- Each RPC member is permitted no less than one vote each
- RPC Chair must be elected annually
- The RPC Chair or their designee serves as STAC Representative
- The RPC may receive and expend State and Federal funds
- RPC may enact subsequent articles (bylaws, etc.) governing its business
- Member governments are explicitly exempt of liability for the RPC's activities



Council of Governments vs. the RPC

South Central Council of Governments (COG)

- Supports the common government interests within Las Animas and Huerfano Counties
- Levies its members for funding to support operations
- Each county holds one voting Board position
- Municipalities represented by one voting Board member per county
- Informally assumed the role as the RPC in 1993 by a motion of the Board.

South Central Regional Planning Commission (RPC)

- Formally Incorporated as a separate entity by IGA in 2017
- All IGA members are permitted one vote
- Has never levied its members for funding (CDOT funds its planning activities)
- Non-member governments may join (IGA) by completing a Certificate of Participation



Administrative/Financial Responsibilities of the RPC

RPC's Memo of Understanding (MOU) with SCCOG:

- SCCOG staff assume administration of the RPC's activities.
- Administers the RPC's finances and assumes its expenses
- Acts as the recipient of CDOT's Rural Planning Assistance (RPA) grant to reimburse the RPC's expenses.



Draft RPC Bylaws Review



Draft Bylaws Review

CDOT staff reviewed and revised Bylaws for SCTPR RPC review and comment

- Added a voting Transit Representative to the RPC, in compliance with HB 23-1101 legislation
- Added text to cover virtual meeting and voting participation
- Modified quorum requirements to continue RPC business when members do not regularly attend meetings.
- Please review and provide comments to Brian Blasi and/or bring to the February 20, 2025 SCTPR meeting where these bylaws will be submitted for SCTPR RPC adoption.



Review and Status of SCTPR Regional Transportation Planning Process



Required Planning Factors

State Planning Factors

- Safety
- Fix-it first
- Modal connectivity
- Environment
- Land use considerations, corridor preservation, and military needs
- GHG emission reduction
- Mobility and multimodal choice
- Multimodal management plans
- Freight
- Transit

Federal Planning Factors

- Safety
- Preservation
- Modal connectivity
- Environment & planned growth
- Economic vitality
- Accessibility & mobility
- Resiliency & reliability
- Travel & tourism
- Security
- Efficiency

CRS 43-1-1103(5)

23 CFR §450.206(a)



Policy Directive-14 Planning Cycle Goals Guiding Principles for Plan Development & Implementation



Advancing Transportation Safety No matter your journey or travel method, Colorado is committed to providing you a safe and efficient transportation network so you arrive at your destination safely through a collaborative and shared vision for transportation safety in Colorado.



Fix our Roads

Prioritize strategic investments in Colorado's highways to improve infrastructure conditions through the state.



Sustainably Increase Transportation Choice

Provide alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel that increase mode choice and reduce air pollution from transportation for all members of the traveling public.



Setting the Stage Themes & Identification of Issues



Make Traveling Safer

- Rise in traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries since 2010.
- Overall goal of vision zero.
- Provide safer options for Vulnerable Roads Users (VRUs).



Fix our roads and maintain our current system

- 3.3% percent of interstates in poor condition Ranked 47th out of the 50 states.
- Public perception complaints and news stories
- Continue work and programs from the previous 10-Year Plan on poor interstates and rural road investments



Expand Transit Service to Coloradans

- Crucial initiative to help with Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction goals
- Strategic growth
- Reduces congestion
- o Provide options to everyone and all communities.



Reduce GHG emissions from the Transportation Sector

- Top sector for GHG emissions 28 to 30% of all GHG emissions.
- o GHG Planning Standard required reduction of 1.5 Million Metric Tons (mmt) and 1.2 mmt of emissions in new transportation plans.
- Overall goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050.
- Providing more options for the traveling public to reduce single occupancy vehicle travel



Plan Integration

Successful integration = Successful planning.

Without integrated planning, planning activities can become fragmented, resulting in confusion about priorities and use of resources. Some key planning areas that will be integrated within the scope of the Statewide Plan include:

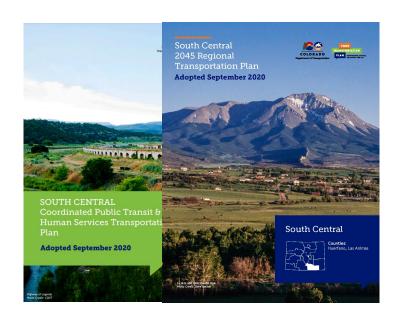
- Greenhouse Gas Mitigation
- Transit & Rail
- Safety Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- Active Transportation
- Freight
- Asset Management (CDOT Infrastructure Maintenance)

These are just a few of the key planning areas for integration.

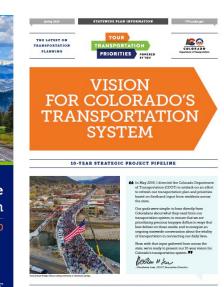
There are over 25 modal plans, functional plans, and topical areas that we will work to integrate throughout the planning process.



Plan Development











Adopted by
Colorado Transportation Commission
May 18, 2023



Regional Plans

Statewide Transportation & Transit Plans

10-Year Plan

4-Year STIP

Data Integration • Stakeholder and Community Input



2050 Statewide and Regional Plan Timeline

Draft Condensed 2050 Statewide and Regional Transportation Plan Development Timeline Version: 9/3/2024 2024 2025 TRANSPORTATION **Revenue Projections** Policy Directive 14 2050 Plan Development Activities Plan Integration **Public Involvement Strategy** Rural TPR Outreach TPR Meeting 1 TPR Meeting 2 TPR Meeting 3 TPR Meeting 4 **Public Involvement** Conduct Public and Stakeholder Engagement MPO Coordination 2050 Regional Transportation Plan **Public Review** Review and Adoption FHWA/FTA Review 2050 SWP Review and Adoption Adoption by Transportation Commission Update Project Database New 10-Year Plan Prioritize 10yr plan projects using PD 14 Covering FY 2027-2036 GHG Model Run of 10-yr Plan Projects Adoption by Transportation Commission



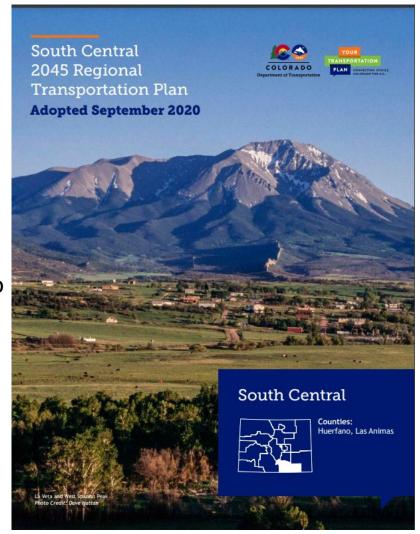
Status of RTP Development Schedule

Meeting # 1 (Summer 2024) - COMPLETE

- Discuss TPR mission & vision
- Changes/progress made since 2045 RTP Adoption
- Identify focus areas

Meeting #1 Purpose

- Established a set of guided conversations that helped the SCTPR develop their final 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
- Identified items that uniquely affect the South Central TPR and plan on how to address those items in the future.
- Set the stage for updating the next 10-year plan.
- CDOT Plans to host ~4 meetings to support the 2050 RTP Development Process.





Status of RTP Development Schedule

Meeting # 2 (Fall 2024) - COMPLETE

- Finalize focus areas; discuss performance measures
- Discuss/ update corridor & travel shed profiles
- Discuss priorities, how we may fund them, and how we measure success.

Meeting #2 Purpose

- To obtain concurrence (or changes to) the revised vision, goals, and focus areas
- SCTPR to make decisions on the approach that should be used to establish priority projects for 2050 RTP
- Selected approach will be executed between now and TPR Meeting #3 (February 20, 2025)



OVERVIEW OF VISION, GOALS, and FOCUS AREAS DISCUSSION



South Central TPR Vision of 2045 RTP

The South Central TPR will provide a safe, reliable, cost-effective, and accessible multimodal transportation system that accommodates and enhances the Region's high quality of life while preserving the environments that make Huerfano and Las Animas Counties great places to live, work, and visit.



South Central TPR Vision - Accepted Proposed Changes

The South Central TPR will provide a safe, reliable, cost-effective, and accessible, multimodal transportation system that supports other modes of transportation and accommodates and enhances the Region's high quality of life while preserving the environments that make Huerfano and Las Animas Counties great places to live, work, and visit.



2050 South Central Final Proposed RTP Goals

- 1. Provide multimodal options for the traveling public that meets all travel demands and maintain the transportation system efficiently.
- 2. Provide safe multimodal travel opportunities, and reduce the potential for wildlife and other crashes in the South Central TPR.
- 3. Minimize impacts to the Region's air, water, scenic view corridors, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat.
- 4. Invest in and function as a complete multimodal system with effective access, and connectivity, both within the Region and to the rest of the state.
- 5. Preserve and enhance the Region's overall economic health for individuals, local businesses, tourism, and commerce.
- 6. Support a safe and an efficient airport system that maximizes existing investments and meets interstate and intrastate travel and emergency needs while supporting Colorado's diverse economy.
- 7. Identify, evaluate, and prioritize options that enhance travel and can be implemented through existing or reasonably anticipated funding. Include multimodal options that are understood and supported by the traveling public.
- 8. Attract new transit passengers while continuing to serve existing passengers, and promote sustainability of the transit system for services provided by local, regional, and state transit providers.

Note: CDOT Proposed - Based on Comments Received During Meeting #2 from SCTPR Members.



Final Proposed Focus Areas

2050 Focus Areas and Potential Modifications:

- Road Conditions
- Tourism and Local Economy
- Interregional Transit and Passenger Rail
- Freight and Rail
- Resiliency
- Environmental Mitigation



2050 RTP PROJECT PRIORITIES Preparation for SCTPR Meeting #3



Projects Overview/Background

Project Database - This includes all projects that were identified during the 2045 Statewide/Regional Transportation Plan development process.

TPR Priority Projects - The South Central 2045 RTP identifies Top 20 Priority Projects (in rank order, including 11 highway projects, and 9 transit projects).

10-Year Plan Projects - CDOT's strategic document that outlines the state's transportation priorities and planned investments over a 10-year period.

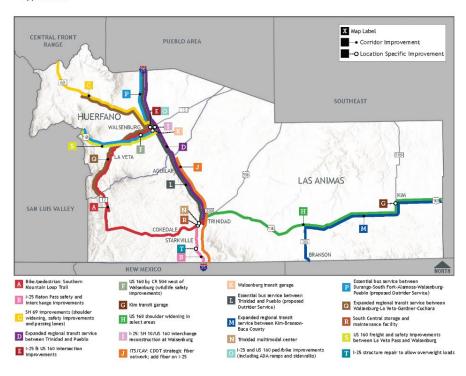
- FUNDED: 2019-2026 (first 8 years of the plan)
- UNFUNDED: 2027-2028 (last 2 years of the plan)



2045 RTP Priority Projects

South Central TPR's Top 20 Project Priorities

The top 20 projects for the South Central TPR are estimated to cost approximately \$190 million. The top project is the completion of the bicycle and pedestrian trail, the Southern Mountain Loop Trail, adjacent to SH 12 and a portion of US 160 approaching Walsenburg. The Planning and Environmental Linkages study for the trail is currently underway. Other top projects include improvements at multiple interchanges along I-25, the expansion of local, regional, and interregional transit services - such as providing increased connections to Pueblo - and the expansion of the state fiber network on major corridors such as I-25 and US 160. The project list reflects the Region's top priority projects, all of which are currently unfunded. The timing for project completion will depend on transportation funding availability. The full project list can be found in Appendix B.



South Central TPR Priority Project List

Map Label	Planning Project ID	Highway(s)	Project Name	Cost (\$M)	Primary Project Type	Additional Project Benefits	SWP Goal Areas		
А	1039	SH 12, US 160	Bike/Pedestrian: Southern Mountain Loop Trail	\$33.00	00	800	@00		
В	0013	I-25	I-25 Raton Pass safety and interchange improvements	\$12.00	•		000		
С	1037	SH 69	SH 69 Improvements (shoulder widening, safety improvements and passing lanes)	\$21.00	•	60	000		
D	1271	1-25	Expanded Regional Transit Service between Trinidad and Pueblo	\$1.15		⊕ ⊕	&		
E	1502	I-25	I-25 & US 160 Intersection Improvements	\$4.00	(1)	00	300		
F	1507	US 160	US 160 by CR 504 West of Walsenburg (Wildlife safety improvements)	\$1.40	•	Ø	•		
G	1044	US 160	Kim Transit Garage	\$0.50		9	(2)		
Н	1510	US 160	US 160 shoulder widening in select areas	\$20.00		€	1		
Ü	1036	SH 10, US 160, I-25	I-25: US 10/ SH 160 Interchange Reconstruction at Walsenburg	\$50.00	••	0	000		
J	1042	1-25	ITS/CAV: CDOT Strategic Fiber Network; add fiber on I-25	\$9.00		1	O		
K	1272	1-25	Walsenburg Transit Garage	\$0.67		9	€		
L	1273	I-25	Essential Bus Service between Trinidad and Pueblo (Proposed Outrider Service)	\$2.16		⊕ ⊕	3		
М	1045	US 160	Expanded Regional Transit Service between Kim-Branson-Baca County	\$0.60		⊕ ₩⊕	②		
N	1269	I-25	Trinidad Multimodal Center	\$1.50		600	€>		
0	1509	US 160	I-25 and US 160 Ped/Bike Improvements (including ADA ramps and sidewalks)	\$2.45	00	⊗ ₩⊕	00		
Р	1041	US 160, I-25	Essential Bus Service between Durango- South Fork-Alamosa-Walsenburg-Pueblo (Proposed Outrider Service)	\$5.02		ONO	&		
Q	1038	SH 12, SH 69, US 160	Expanded Regional Transit Service between Walsenburg-La Veta-Gardner-Cuchara	\$1.40		ONO	②		
R	1270	1-25	South Central Storage and Maintenance Facility	\$2.63		0	€		
S	1508	US 160	US 160 Freight and Safety Improvements between La Veta Pass and Walsenburg	\$18.00		0	000		
Т	1276	1-25	I-25 structure repair to allow overweight loads	\$1.20		0	0		
PRO	OJECT TYP	ES:	PROJECT BENEFITS:		YOUR TRANSPORTATION				
7 🚺	Pedestriar	2	D zeonomie rrantej (17 ganti		e/Ped				
	Bicycle	Capac							
	Safety	☐ Transit ☐ Tourism ☐ Resilience ᠍ Mobility ☐ Mobility Options ☐ Environment ☐ Asset Management							
	Freight Mobility Options Mobility Options Management Asset Management Safety								

Complete or Under Construction

Funded



Project Prioritization Process - Decisions on Selection Criteria Meeting #2

Decisions:

1. Complete a data-informed project prioritization process using the PD 14 Goals and TPR Goals (holding harmless those projects that are funded or in design)

Added the following three TPR-selected criteria

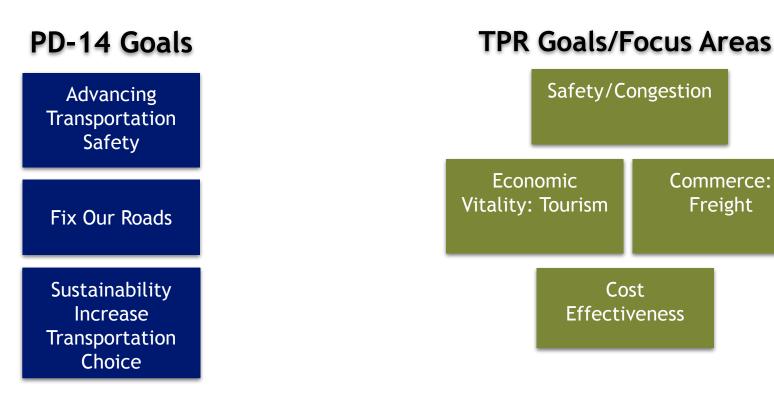
- Safety/Congestion
- Cost Effectiveness
- Economic Vitality Freight
- Economic Vitality Tourism
- 2. Agreed to run the projects under a data-driven ranking process to see how the projects are prioritized
- 3. Review the data-driven analysis at Meeting #3 to determine SCTPR project priorities for the 2050 SCTP Regional Transportation Plan



SCTPR Guidance for CDOT to Complete **Project Prioritization**

Freight

These are the evaluation categories SCTPR would like to include in the data-informed project prioritization. PD-14 goals were recommended at a minimum, for optional alignment with the 10-Year Plan.





Project Prioritization Process - Decisions on Decision Making Body Meeting #2

Decision:

The South Central COG Board will be the decision making body for identification of the top 20 projects to analyze against the criteria-based data analysis, that will be brought back to the TPR for Meeting #3.

NOTE: The draft prioritization needs to be complete prior to TPR Meeting #3, which is scheduled for February 20, 2025

1.

TPR Priorities



Since there are 10 projects from your list of 20 Priority Projects that are either complete or under construction, 10 new projects can be added to the list.

- A. Select from the next highest ranked projects from the 2045 RTP
 - CO 69 Replace bridge at MP 27.5 (1505)
 - CO 12 ADA ramps and sidewalk improvements in La Veta and Trinidad (1493)
 - Expanded regional transit service between Trinidad and CO 12 communities (1267)
 - CO 389 resurfacing (1512)
 - CO 10 shoulder widening and resurfacing (1492)
 - US 160 Walsenburg stop sign gap assist project (1277)
 - US 350 shoulder widening and safety improvements (1511)
 - I-25 safety study (2343)
 - I-25 raised pavement markings (1495)
 - I-25 chain-up and parking facility (La Veta) (1496)
- B. Discuss and agree on 10 additional projects



New Projects for Consideration

Region 2 staff and Transit Agencies reviewed all projects in the South Central TPR and provided updated status, cost, and project description (including identification of opportunities to add bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and safety elements) New projects for consideration:

- CO69A shoulder widening and safety improvements Walsenburg Gardner
- I-25C (Walsenburg) shoulder widening and pedestrian/safety improvements MM 2 3.5 (intersection with CO69A)
- Trinidad-area (exit 11) emergency truck parking
- I-25A wildlife crossings study and implementation MM 0 11
- CO69A & Red Rock Road intersection improvements (north of Walsenburg)
- CO12A pavement maintenance and safety improvements
- I-25A exit 52 northbound accel lane lengthening (north Walsenburg interchange)



Current Project Status Updated Project Priorities - Appendix B of 2045 RTP

TPR Priority from 2045 South Central RTP	South Central TPR Planning Project ID	Project Type	State Highway	Project Name	Project Description	Region	TPR	County	Cost (\$M)	Status	CDOT Recommendation
Α	1039	Highway	CO 12, US 160	Southern Mountain Loop Trail	This trail project will complete a portion of the Southern Mountain Loop of the Colorado Front Range Trail. This portion of the Southern Mountain Loop will run approximately 85 miles with segments that are on the road and segments that are separated from the road, providing a bicycle and pedestrian trail connecting Walsenburg and Trinidad and the communities along the route.	2	SC	Huerfano, Las Animas	\$10.00	Phase 1 in design - Shoulder widening and EB passing lane west of Weston. Project is 24488. 10YP has \$4M funded FY19-22 and \$6M FY27+. Will need \$6M+ for phase 1. AD late CY 25.	CDOT Region Priority
В	13	Highway	1-25	I-25 Raton Pass Safety and Interchange Improvements (Part 1) - Exit 11	At Exit 11, the project constructs a new, wider bridge over I-25 which connects to existing roundabouts. The project will assess other safety improvements from MP 0-12 including rockfall mitigation or improved access to the future Fisher's Peak State Park.	2	SC	Las Animas		Split into two projects in 10-Year Plan 0013.1 - Completed Exit 11 Interchange. 21324. ~\$18M. 0013.2 - Planning Raton Pass Corridor Phase 2. 23463. \$3M.	CDOT Region Priority
С	1037	Highway	CO 69	CO 69 Safety Improvements	Shoulder widening, safety improvements, and passing lanes on CO 69.	2	SC	Huerfano, Las Animas		Under Construction - 22338 in construction. MP 11-12.45, MP 15.75-16.7, and MP 26-26.7 shoulder widening and safety improvements only. No resurfacing\$7.5M	CDOT Region Priority
D	1271	Transit	l 25	Expanded Regional Transit Service between Trinidad and Pueblo	New buses (2) to expand Trinidad Transit service to Pueblo w/ operating expenses.	2	sc	Huerfano, Las Animas, Pueblo	\$1.15	Completed.	TPR to consider adding a replacement project to the list or shortening the list of top project priorities
E	1502	Highway	1-25	I-25C and US 160 Intersection Improvements	This project includes a roundabout or other mitigation to address intersection operation and drainage issues at the intersection of I-25C and US 160 in Walsenburg.	2	sc	Huerfano	ı	Project is in Design. No longer looking at roundabout per TPR direction.	CDOT Region Priority
F	1507	Highway	US 160	US 160 by CR 504 West of Walsenburg (Wildlife safety improvements)	Install wildlife safety improvements such as fencing and/or overpass	2	SC	Huerfano	\$1.40	CDOT Recommends to remove from the list as wildlife fencing is not feasible due to too many accesses at this location.	Remove from the list as part of cleaning up the list. Consider adding a replacement priority project to the list, or shortening the top priority list. 41





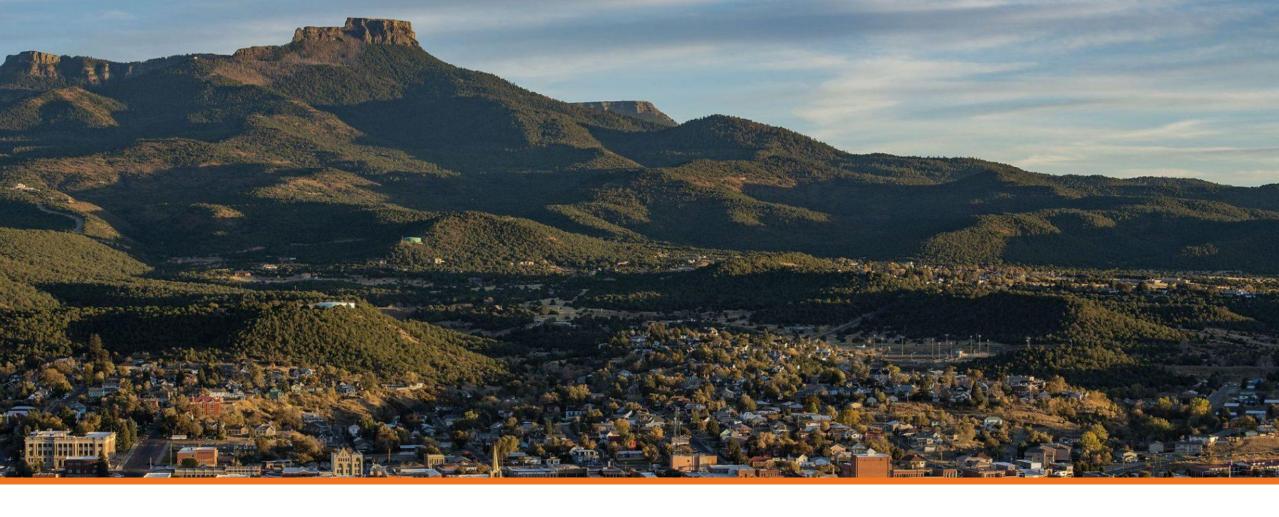




- Meeting # 3 (February 21, 2025)
 - Summarize & discussion of public input
 - Present and discuss draft project priorities
 - Adopt RPC Bylaws
- Virtual Town Hall with TC Commissioner (Winter/Spring 2025)
- Meeting # 4 (Spring 2025)
 - Review draft RTPs
- TPR Chair Meeting (Spring / Summer 2025)

Check Out the 'Your
Transportation Priorities'
Website for More
Information







Questions and Discussion