

**Get to Know
El Paso County Commissioner
Sallie Clark**



A native of California, with Colorado roots, Sallie Clark spent all her childhood summers in Colorado at her grandmothers farm. She received an Associate's Degree from Bryman College in Los Angeles, California. Sallie worked for San Diego Hospice prior to opening her own bed & breakfast inn after she moved to Colorado.

Sallie was elected to serve as El Paso County Commissioner in November of 2004 and re-elected in 2008 to represent District 3 encompassing western El Paso County. Sallie serves on many government boards including the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, the Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee and was the 2010 Chair of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority. Her interest in public service began with a well-known fight to save a local fire station. In addition to previously being elected to the Colorado Springs City Council, she has served on various state, local and national boards and committees; including the Colorado Travel and Tourism Authority, and numerous other associations and civic groups.

Sallie and her husband reside in Colorado Springs. She enjoys cooking, hiking, biking, horseback riding, tennis, golf and reading.

TC Road Trip

The Colorado Transportation Commission (TC) recently took a road trip along the Interstate-70 Mountain Corridor, State Highway 9 and US 40. The TC was joined by State Legislators, County Commissioners, local government officials and senior CDOT staff. The tour included meetings with local officials from numerous cities and counties and stops at the Twin Tunnels east of Idaho Springs, the Eisenhower-Johnson Memorial Tunnel, Breckenridge and Winter Park.



The tour at the Eisenhower Johnson Memorial Tunnel Control Room

One recurring theme throughout the trip was the challenge Colorado faces related to transportation funding. Funding challenges affect those who work at all levels and in all agencies across the state. It was noted that through collaboration and the exchange of information creative and viable solutions can be found to the funding challenges. *continued on page 3*

New Transportation Commissioner

Edward J. Peterson of Lakewood has been named by Governor Hickenlooper as the newest member of the Colorado Transportation Commission (TC). He will serve TC District 2, representing Jefferson County and part of Broomfield. Commissioner Peterson replaces former Commissioner Jeanne Erickson who's term had expired. Commissioner Peterson is a former City Councilman for Lakewood, Colorado. Over the years he has taken an active role within the Denver Regional Council of Governments and served on the Board of Directors and as Chairman. Commissioner Peterson has been active in the National League of Cities serving on the Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee. In that role he has presented at several national conferences on transportation infrastructure policies, regional issues, as well as economic and environmental sustainability. He has also worked with Congressional committees related to transportation legislation.

Commissioner Peterson is a native of Lakewood, where he and his wife Anna reside. They have two sons and two grandsons who all reside in Lakewood as well.

State of Good Repair Funds

Seven Colorado transit providers will receive nearly \$10.8 million in federal funding for transit projects around the state in 2012. All totaled these agencies provided over 100 million passenger trips last year.

In addition to the federal funds, a 20% funding match is required by the local agency, providing a total transit investment of \$13,438,804 in Colorado. The state had applied for over \$111 million in funding for 30 projects around the state, including \$83 million for projects in the Denver area.

The agencies that received funding include:

Steamboat Springs - \$1,765,910

Replace two buses and rehabilitate six buses.

Fort Collins - \$332,000

Replace one outdated diesel bus.

Eagle County Regional Transportation Authority - \$1,132,037

Replace outdated buses.

Black Hawk - \$164,000

Rehabilitate or replace outdated buses.

Durango - \$132,355

Access improvements to the 24th Street Bridge providing connectivity to Brookside Transit Stop.

Roaring Fork Transportation Authority- \$360,000

Develop an asset management system to more effectively track the condition of the agencies' fleets, facilities, and equipment.

Denver RTD - \$6,864,741

Structural and other repairs to Civic Center Intermodal Center, and \$360,000 to develop an asset management system to more track fleet, facilities, and equipment condition.

Over the River and Through the Woods

Snow, ice and freezing temperatures have returned to parts of Colorado. Visit CDOT's comprehensive travel/weather Web site for the latest up-to-date information, and traffic videos, so you can arrive safely at Grandmother's house.....or wherever your final destination might be.

Before you get behind the wheel call 511 from your cell phone or visit: www.cotrip.org



Road Trip *cont. from page 1*

“These road trips provide the Commission and senior staff with the ability to see firsthand what the transportation problems and issues are in communities across our state,” said Steve Parker, Chairman of the Transportation Commission. “One thing is clear— transportation is critical to the economic health of our towns, cities and counties of Colorado.

The Transportation Commission and the Bridge Enterprise Board of Directors held their monthly Regular Meeting in Breckenridge Colorado.

New Money

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has identified about \$229 million in additional state and federal funding for critical transportation needs this year. The Transportation Commission has decided to direct about half of these funds for the widening of the Twin Tunnels of I-70 and the expansion of I-25 through Colorado Springs. The remainder of the funds will be spent on resurfacing and regional priority projects statewide.

Under the direction of Executive Director Hunt, CDOT has been focused on tightening its cash management and improving financial processes. As funds are scarce, CDOT has been looking everywhere to be sure that all available funds are being put to use on projects- for the benefit of the driving public and for hard working contractors that depend on these jobs.

\$108.95 million: On the state side of the financial house, CDOT recently conducted a very thorough examination and reconciliation of various state funding sources and accounts for the past four years (2007 – 2010). This also involved a major effort to close out projects that were complete but had not yet fully closed out.

With the federal Recovery Act coming to a close, FASTER programs and projects established, and a new administration, CDOT can now focus on tighter and improved cash management practices and a more thorough reconciliation to identify every dollar available to spend on projects.

\$120.15 million: Over on the federal side, it is not uncommon for CDOT to see fluctuations in its budget, especially as it relates to federal funding. Annually, federal funding projections versus what's actually received can vary by an average difference of 20%. This happens for a number of reasons including:

1.) Unexpected earmarks and grants. 2.) Adjustment of spending authority of federal funds based on additional funds from receipts to the Highway Trust Fund; and 3.) Redistribution of excess monies from states or programs that have not obligated all of their allowed funds.

While CDOT has been able to identify additional funds available to spend right away, it's important to note that this is a one-time addition in funding – CDOT remains concerned about FY 13 and FY 14 funding. With so much uncertainty in the economy and in Washington D.C. there is a real chance that we could see a reduction in federal funds in the future. But for now, CDOT plans to make good use of these unanticipated funds by improving mobility on two very congested sections of roadway while still working hard to maintain the highways we have.

Upcoming Events

Veteran's Day

November 11, 2011
CDOT Offices Closed

Colorado Transportation Commission Workshops/Meeting

November 16-17, 2011
CDOT Headquarters in Denver, CO
E-Mail: Toni.Kelly@dot.state.co.us

Colorado Counties Inc., Winter Conference

November 28-30, 2011
Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO
Website: www.ccionline.org

National Conference State Legislatures Fall Meeting

November 30- Dec 3, 2011
Tampa Waterside Marriott in Tampa, FL
Website: www.ncsl.org

Colorado Transportation Commission Workshops/Meeting

December 14-15, 2011
CDOT Headquarters in Denver, CO
E-Mail: Toni.Kelly@dot.state.co.us

Opening 68th General Assembly-2nd Session

January 11, 2012
Colorado State Capitol in Denver, CO