



March 13, 2017

**Subject: Finding the Sweet Spot on Transportation Funding**

Dear Members of the Colorado General Assembly:

The “sweet spot” in sports is the place on a bat or racket at which the most effective contact is made with the ball. In business, it's when different factors balance out to give satisfactory results for the key parties in a deal.

In our state’s transportation funding debate, the sweet spot is...

- **The right combination of public policy and politics to provide a solution of consequential impact on Colorado’s transportation problem...**
- **While being able to pass a divided House and Senate with meaningful bi-partisan support to refer a measure to the ballot...**
- **That then earns a majority of votes from the electorate in an off-year election.**

Last month, you heard from Fix Colorado Roads and the heads of Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development organizations around the state calling for the legislature to enact a pragmatic, balanced solution to address the volatility of transportation funding and jumpstart critical transportation projects across the entire state of Colorado. We urged you then, as we do now, to **enact a balanced solution that establishes a new long term, dedicated and sustainable source of funds, restores Colorado’s commitment to transportation within our state budget, and reflects the expectations and preferences of voters.**

Fix Colorado Roads has been providing guidance and counsel to state leaders on a transportation funding and finance proposal since last fall. The introduction of HB 1242, the foundation of which is the \$3.5B bonding package for which we’ve advocated since 2015, was an important first step, and we provided positive commentary in the press to note the progress being made by the mere introduction of a bi-partisan proposal. However, to be clear, **HB 1242 did not emanate from Fix Colorado Roads and has not yet earned our endorsement.**

**Upon our initial review of HB 17-1242, we have a number of concerns.** To secure legislative approval with strong bi-partisan support on a measure that can pass with voters, we believe the measure requires additional work. As now written, HB 17-1242 does not hit the sweet spot.

Your commitment to make the repair and expansion of Colorado’s roads, bridges and mobility options a priority again indicates that **we can achieve a landmark agreement this session.**

Sincerely,

Sandra Hagen Solin  
Capitol Solutions  
*on behalf of Fix Colorado Roads*