



2012 GUIDELINES ON TRANSPORTATION

Background

1. Transportation by definition is the movement of people, goods and services in, around and through our region. The development and maintenance of an efficient transportation infrastructure is an important part of a healthy local economic climate.
2. Grand Junction, as the regional hub for Western Colorado and Eastern Utah, needs transportation to continue to play a key role in the continued viability of the area's businesses and the well being of its citizens.

The Chamber Supports:

1. A statewide approach to highway funding, recognizing the importance of all Colorado roads to all citizens.
2. Efforts to develop an increased and sustainable source of funding for transportation infrastructure at the local, state and federal levels, including the development of a plan by the City of Grand Junction that identifies specific projects for funding at the completion of debt repayment of Riverside Parkway bonds and the accompanying TABOR override.
3. Placing transportation and transportation infrastructure as first priority for local and government funding.
4. A planned local transportation infrastructure, including continued development and improvement of a system that complements growth and development, including public transit.
5. Efforts to expand and retain general and commercial air service into Grand Junction.
6. Efforts and initiatives to address mobility issues along the I-70 transportation corridor through the state with particular focus on access for western slope citizens.
7. Streamlining of federal, state and local regulations for the construction of local roads and highways so as to minimize the cost to taxpayers in terms of time, resources and money (i.e. the 1601 process).
8. Continued dialog with citizens and businesses during all phases of transportation infrastructure improvement.

9. Completion of the Riverside Parkway loop, which includes the 29 Road connection to I-70.
10. The use of local contractors and subcontractors in line with local government guidelines for all projects.
11. Development of bicycle and pedestrian trails in coordination with other roadway improvements.
12. Efforts to increase access to rail for local businesses.

The Chamber Opposes:

1. Any use of highway funds for non-highway purposes, including funds raised from any taxes on vehicles, motor fuels or on auto parts and accessories.
2. Altering the State's current Resource Allocation Formula (RAF) so as to reduce either real or proportional funding for Western Colorado Roads.
3. Efforts to change the composition of Colorado's Transportation Commission.
4. Tolls on existing roadways.