

ED PERLMUTTER
7TH DISTRICT, COLORADO



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FINANCIAL SERVICES
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RULES

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
415 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2645
FAX: (202) 225-5278

DISTRICT OFFICE:
12600 WEST COLFAX AVENUE
SUITE B-400
LAKEWOOD, CO 80215
PHONE: (303) 274-7944
FAX: (303) 274-6455

www.perlmutter.house.gov

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

June 10, 2010

The Honorable Rod Bockenfeld
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Denver Regional Council of Governments
1290 Broadway, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chairman Bockenfeld:

In March of this year, President Obama signed Public Law 111-147 which extended transportation spending authority under the Federal Highway Trust Fund. It is my understanding that as a result of this law upwards of \$50 million in transportation funding will be allocated by the DRCOG board. I understand the DRCOG Board has given a "commitment in principle" to provide \$25 million to US-36's \$160 million HOT lane project, so the project can meet the equity requirements for a Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan. I applaud the board for this commitment.

I would also like to draw the Board's attention to another significant transportation improvement need within the region: the construction of improvements around the I-70/ 32nd Ave interchange, located in Wheat Ridge, CO. This is a Roadway Operational project designed to relieve existing traffic congestion, reducing the traffic delays at this location by 45% during the peak traffic hour. The project design is complete and approved by CDOT and can be under contract within 90-120 days. The regional economy will benefit from \$5,500,000 in expenditures over the next year, with laborers receiving the bulk of the investment.

Again, I want to thank the Board for its continued commitment to regional transportation needs. The choices you make are difficult ones, especially in the current economic climate. The dedication to the betterment of this region does not go without recognition or gratitude.

Sincerely,

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress