



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



Taxes due today

Federal, state return deadline arrives; post office expects steady crowds

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COLORADO

Governor signs bill

Ritter approves Sunday liquor sales in state saying, 'Times have changed'

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SPORTS



Avs fall in overtime

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JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF

Traffic flows along U.S. 40 in and out of downtown Steamboat Springs on Monday evening. A panel told the Steamboat Springs City Council on Monday to plan for long-term transportation needs, with a particular focus on mass transit.

Panel provides road map

Experts present transportation ideas, realities to City Council

Brandon Gee
 PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A panel of experts told the Steamboat Springs City Council on Monday to plan aggressively for its long-term transportation needs, with a particular focus on mass transit solutions to reduce traffic congestion.

Monday's transportation panel was the second in a series of discussions the council will

hold as it prepares to negotiate the annexation of Steamboat 700, the planned development west of city limits that proposes about 2,000 homes along with a commercial component and other features.

Dan Blankenship of the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority told council that factors such as climate change, gas prices and growth have made mass transit a priority of planning strategies like

never before.

"We're starting to get to that threshold where people who have traditionally avoided transit are considering using it," he said. "There are ways for people to get around that are much more efficient to the ways they are today."

The Roaring Fork Transportation Authority operates buses from Rifle to Aspen, through Glenwood Springs. It had 4.6 million passengers in

2007, Blankenship said.

Bill Fox of Boulder-based Fox Higgins Transportation Group said there are two strategies Steamboat could use to reduce congestion. It could improve traffic flow by widening roads, building new ones and improving congested intersections; it could discourage automobile trips by refusing to add capacity and managing

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LOTTO



Monday night's Cash 5 numbers: 12-19-25-27-32
 Drawings are held Monday through Saturday.

WEATHER



Windy with clouds and sun. High of 60.
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