

Economic Summit 2008

Moderator's notes for the 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. session, A Regional Transportation Authority as one Potential Solution for Funding and Implementation in Northwest Colorado

How do you establish a regional transportation authority and fund it? This panel will look at the Roaring Fork valley and Pikes Peak area to explore options.

Dan Blankenship, Director, Roaring Fork Transportation authority (RFTA); Rachel Richards, Pitkin County Commissioner and former Mayor of Aspen; Rob MacDonald, Executive Director Pikes Peak Regional Transportation Authority

Moderator: George Krawzoff, District 6 Colorado Transportation Commissioner

Please contact George Krawzoff with any comments regarding these notes.

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Regional Transportation Authority.

Colorado Revised Statute 43-4-6 allows local governments and the State of Colorado to form Regional Transportation Authorities to fund and operate regional transportation systems.

"Regional transportation system" means any property, improvement, or system designed to be compatible with established state and local transportation plans that transports or conveys people or goods or permits people or goods to be transported or conveyed within a region by any means, including, but not limited to, an automobile, truck, bus, rail, air, or gondola.

(The Colorado Revised Statutes are available at <http://www.michie.com/colorado/>.)

RTA Revenues

- **Vehicle registration fee** of not more than ten dollars.
- **Visitor benefit tax** that would not cause the aggregate amount of the visitor benefit tax and any lodging tax imposed on such overnight rooms or accommodations to exceed two percent.
- **Sales or use tax,** or both, at a rate not to exceed one percent.
- **Fees, tolls, and charges** for the privilege of traveling on or using any property included in any regional transportation system financed, constructed, operated, or maintained by the authority.

Yampa Valley RTA Revenue Potential

	1% Sales Tax	1% Visitor Benefit Tax	\$10 Veh Reg Fee
Craig	\$ 1,537,144		
Dinosaur	\$ 20,963		
Rest of Moffat	\$ 234,422		\$ 194,830
Hayden	\$ 224,546		
Oak Creek	\$ 39,148		
Phippsburg	\$ 2,742		
Steamboat Springs	\$ 4,531,244	\$ 845,097	
Yampa	\$ 23,704		
Rest of Routt	\$ 663,461		\$ 315,410
	\$ 7,277,375	\$ 845,097	\$ 510,240
Total all above	\$ 8,632,712		

Visitor Benefit Tax

Since the RTA's Visitor Benefit tax must not "cause the aggregate amount of the visitor benefit tax and any lodging tax imposed on such overnight rooms or accommodations to exceed two percent," only 1 percent remains available.

In 2007, the City of Steamboat Springs Accommodation Tax raised \$845,097.

Steamboat Springs Tax Rate

State of Colorado	2.9%
Routt County	1.0%
City of Steamboat Springs	<u>4.5%</u>
Total Sales Tax	<u>8.4%</u>

Accommodation Tax	<u>1.0%</u>
Total for Short-Term	

Accommodation Rentals	<u>9.4%</u>
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Local Marketing District	<u>2.0%</u>
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Total for Short-Term Accommodation Rentals within the Local Marketing District	<u>11.4%</u>
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2.9% State of Colorado, 1.0% Routt County Sales Tax & 2.0% Local Marketing District Tax is remitted to the State.

4.5% City of Steamboat Springs Sales Tax & 1.0% Accommodations Tax is remitted to the City.

Please contact the Sales Tax Department to find out if you are located in the Local Marketing District.

4 RTAs have been established.

DR 1002 (01/16/00)

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
TAXPAYER SERVICE DIVISION

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Colorado Sales/Use Tax Rates

This publication, which is updated on January 1 and July 1 each year, lists Colorado Sales/Use Tax rates throughout the state. The total tax rate for any jurisdiction must be computed by adding all taxes applicable to that jurisdiction. To order copies of this publication call (303) 238-SERV (7378). It is also available on the Web at www.taxcolorado.com

State Sales Tax

The state sales/use tax rate is 2.9% with exemptions (see page 3) A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H. A service fee is a deduction of 3 1/3% for timely filed returns. Tax is remitted on Form DR 0100, "Retail Sales Tax Return."

Special District Taxes

Regional Transportation District (RTD)

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) levies a sales/use tax of 1.0% effective January 1, 2005. The RTD boundaries include the counties of Denver, Boulder, Broomfield (except certain areas immediately adjacent to I-25 and Highway 7 interchange), Jefferson, Adams (west of Box Elder Creek), Arapahoe (south of I-70 west of Picadilly Rd. to Jewell, then west of Gun Club Rd. to Quincy, then generally west of Monaghan Rd. including Arapahoe Park and Aurora Reservoir), and Douglas (northern portion plus Highlands Ranch), and parts of Weld County that have been annexed by the City of Longmont and the Town of Erie since 1994.

In the northern portion of Douglas County, the RTD boundaries consist of the city of Lone Tree (original Lone Tree), all annexed areas of Lone Tree, the Acres Green area, and the Park Meadows Mall (in unincorporated Douglas County and not in the city of Lone Tree). Those areas of annexed Lone Tree include:

- Estates
- Westbrook Development
- Mimi's Cafe
- Applebee's
- C-470 Joint Venture
- Rampart Range
- Heritage Hills
- Centennial Ridge
- Carriage Club

Roaring Fork RTA	Sales/Use Exemptions -A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H 0.4% Basalt and New Castle 0.7% Carbondale 0.6% Glenwood Springs 0.2% Areas of unincorporated Eagle County in the El Jebel area and outside the city limits of Carbondale
Pikes Peak RTA	Sales/Use Exemptions -A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H 1.0% All of El Paso County except the towns of Calhan, Fountain, Monument, Palmer Lake and Ramah
Gunnison Valley RTA	Sales (Only) Exemptions -A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H 0.35% All of Gunnison County except the towns of Marble, Ohio, Pitkin and Somerset. 0.35% within the city limits of Gunnison.
Baptist Road RTA	Sales/Use Exemptions - A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H 1% An area within the city limits of Monument.

Short-term Rental Tax

Douglas County has a tax of 1% on property rented for thirty days or less (excluding motor vehicle). Tax is remitted on Form DR 1480.

County Lodging Tax

Tax is remitted quarterly on Form DR 1485, "County Lodging Tax Return."

Gunnison Valley RTA Example

1. 0.6 Percent sales (no use) tax throughout the county with an additional 0.35 percent in the city of Gunnison.
2. Annual revenue to be approximately \$1.2 million
3. 70% to be used for maintaining scheduled air service
4. 30% for transit services
5. The list of qualifying expenses included the following:
 - Regional Transit Services.
 - Contract Air Services.
 - Contract Transit Services.
 - Regional Transportation Planning.
 - Fund Construction and Maintenance of Regional Trails.
 - Local (Transit) Service.

Pikes Peak RTA Example

- Formed by four Governments: El Paso County, Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, and Green Mountain Falls
- Sunsets 10 years after January 1, 2005.
- Funds maintenance, repair and operations for roadways and bridges (35% of net revenue)
- Funds improved transit service (10% of net revenue – this doubled the transit service budget)
- Funds specific regional roadway capital improvements as listed in the RTA legislation (55% of net revenue)
- Raises \$70 million annually

(end of presentation)