

PUBLIC WORKS FUND SUMMARY

The Public Works Fund records all costs related to Weld County road and bridge construction and maintenance. This fund is also utilized for allocation of monies to cities and towns for use in their road and street activities.

The resources for 2010 total \$40,404,938, which includes a fund balance of \$13,350,000, in addition to the additional revenue shown in the budget. Property tax is set at \$7,354,938, the same as 2009. Specific ownership tax is estimated to be \$6,330,000, down \$445,000 due to car sales being lower. Regular HUTF is down \$360,000 at \$8,040,000 due to people driving less and more fuel efficient vehicles. However, with the passage of SB 09-109 Weld County will receive \$1,490,000 from the added HUTF revenue resulting from this new legislation. Grant revenue is anticipated to be \$675,000 from an Energy Impact grant for the project on Weld County Road 7 from State Highway 56 to Weld County Road 48. Other revenues include \$680,000 from transportation impact fees. Permit revenues are down \$45,000 at \$325,000 due to less oil and gas drilling activity.

Two pieces of state regulation, Senate Bill 08-218 and House Bill 08-1083, restructured the formulas for direct distribution of Severance Tax and Federal Mineral Lease (FML) revenues to cities and counties. As a result of the new formulas and weight factors Weld County will receive substantially more direct distribution funding than it did under the old formula. Since the major impact of the energy industry to Weld County government is on the county roads, in 2008 the Board of Weld County Commissioners made the policy decision to dedicate all of the direct distribution of Severance Tax and Federal Mineral Lease (FML) revenues to the Public Works Fund, especially since a major factor in determining the revenue amount received in the formula is miles of roads maintained. In the 2010 Budget \$1,500,000 is budgeted for Severance Tax revenue. In the Public Works Non-Departmental Budget (Budget Unit 2000-90100) there is a detailed discussion on the Severance Tax policy to be followed by Weld County. Other revenues are stable, and unchanged.

The budgeted appropriations for Public Works in 2010 total \$27,550,340. Municipal share back is funded at \$1,390,650. No salary increases are proposed, but \$99,587 is budgeted to cover the increase in health insurance costs. The major savings in all Public Works budgets is from the reduction in anticipated fuel costs for 2010. The total fuel cost savings is \$1,376,369

In the Motor Grader budget supplies are up \$69,000 for additional dust palliative chemicals, and motor grader lease costs are down \$13,672. \$175,000 for tree trimming has been budgeted in the Bridge budget, steel costs for bridge construction and repair are down \$100,592. The Other Public Works budget is down \$819,422 based on the Capital Improvement Plan. Strategic Road improvements are down \$1,504,200. Contract Payments increased \$810,950 to \$1,721,000 based on the capital improvement plan. There are no right-of-way purchases in 2010, so that line item is down \$134,500. Mining has included \$541,027 for gravel purchases. Pavement Management is funded at the current year level, but with the drop in the costs of petroleum products more projects will be able to be done at the same costs.

The 2010 Public Works Capital Improvements Plan is available on the county web site at http://www.co.weld.co.us/departments/public_works/index.html.