



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Phone: 970-336-7204 Fax: 970-352-0242
1150 O St., P.O. Box 758, Greeley, CO 80632

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Jennifer Finch, 970-336-7203

WELD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECEIVES AN ADDITIONAL ENERGY AND MINERAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE GRANT

WELD COUNTY, CO – Last week, the Weld County Board of Commissioners approved a \$200,000 Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund Grant (EIAF) from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). This grant will help pay for the costs of materials during the two-mile full-depth reconstruction (FDR) of WCR 44 from WCR 43 to WCR 39. The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$534,9275, and all the work will be performed by Weld County Public Works crews.

Full-depth reconstruction is a process the Department of Public Works developed in order to rebuild a paved roadway impacted by oil and gas truck traffic. This type of reconstruction allows Public Works to use a cement-treated base to reinforce the subgrade, which is below the asphalt, in order for the road to continue to support heavy-truck traffic.

"The county's full-depth reconstruction method saves a significant amount of money as well as time as crews have to truck less material since they are reusing a portion of the existing road," said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer, Commissioner Coordinator for Public Works.

WCR 44 is also a part of the county's 2016 Haul Route Program (HARP), which focuses on improving roads impacted by the oil and gas industry's heavy haul trucks. As part of the HARP program, Public Works employees continuously work with the energy industry to identify and designate appropriate routes for haul trucks.

"By working with the energy industry on our Haul Route Program and using full-depth reclamation, Public Works will be able to add many more years of life to Weld County Road 44," said Kirkmeyer. "This year, the county received \$1,425,000 in funding for various road improvement projects, and it is important to note that much of the funding for the Haul Route Program comes from the energy industry itself in the form of the property tax revenue they pay to the county."

In December 2015, Public Works received a \$200,000 EIAF Grant from DOLA to help pay for the cost of materials during the three-mile full-depth reconstruction of WCR 44 from WCR 43 to WCR 49. Both projects will be constructed concurrently and are anticipated to be complete by the end of spring.

For more information about the Weld County Department of Public Works, visit www.weldgov.com.

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