

ANNUAL REPORT

Colorado Association of Transit Agencies

2017



CASTA

Letter from the President

Dear Colorado Transit Professional:

2017 was a year of great change for the transit industry, and CASTA, as your membership organization, provided the tools and voice necessary to keep your agency and your team on track and up to date. I hope you enjoy this annual report giving a snapshot of the association's accomplishments and highlighting successes in our industry this year.

As we look back at 2017 and forward to 2018, CASTA anticipates that our member agencies will continue to focus on providing top-notch services, balancing budgets and embracing new technologies. As your partner, we look forward to continue working with you to advance transit interests in your service area and throughout the State. And we of course always look forward to recognizing those agencies that implement new practices, hone their customer services, and manage their fleets and resources effectively.

Thank you for all you do to keep those buses rolling!

Sincerely ,


David Averill
CASTA President



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Accomplishments - Professional Development

CASTA is committed to providing timely, effective and high-quality professional development for Colorado transit professionals.

- ◀ Hosted two conferences for 280 transit professionals. Spring Conference in Fort Collins enjoyed the first co-hosted reception with CASTA and WTS. Fall conference brought providers from around the state, 40 transit vendors and transit trainers from across the US together in beautiful Telluride.
- ◀ Provided more than 40 transit training opportunities throughout the state on topics ranging from procurement, leadership development, finance, safety and security, service, regulation and compliance, and operations.
- ◀ Celebrated 16 individuals who completed both Transit 1 and Transit 2, demonstrating their commitment to their profession and their communities.
- ◀ Co-hosted Colorado Transportation Summit with CDOT, bringing 850 transportation advocates together for a day of innovation and networking.



CASTA conferences provide so much help and assistance to the smaller systems. The sessions I've attended are always helpful and the networking is invaluable.

CASTA Membership survey response



Accomplishments

Funding, Legislative & Advocacy Initiatives

As the voice of transit, CASTA provides advocacy with integrity on all issues related to transit in Colorado.

- ◀ Facilitated joint effort between CDOT staff, transit agency representatives and the CASTA Board to refine CDOT's proposed FTA rural transit funding redistribution methodology. While not perfect, the resulting policy moves Colorado closer to reliable and equitable rural transit funding.
- ◀ Worked with stakeholders to develop statewide funding for transportation legislation. HB 17-1242 would have funded local, regional and intercity transit services; improvements on state and local roads; bicycle paths and improved pedestrian infrastructure.
- ◀ Facilitated a consolidated No-Emissions/Low-Emissions vehicle application for federal funding. **Previous efforts yielded no awards; this year Colorado's consolidated application was awarded in \$1.45 million.**
- ◀ SB17-267 was passed in a rush during the last days of the session. The bill provided bonded funds for transportation projects, but took away marijuana sales tax from certain special districts (such as RTA's). Legislators were unable to agree to reinstate the funding at a special session in October. It will likely be addressed again early in the 2018 session and CASTA will be there to ensure Transit is heard.



Legislative Success

Worked with bi-partisan team of legislators to extend Regional Transportation Authority mill levy authority for another 10 years. CASTA lined up support, organized testimony and initiated phone calls in support of the bill. This bill will pave the way for regional transportation funding initiatives in years to come.

Accomplishments

Organizational Management

Completed software implementation to integrate registration, accounting and member database functions.

- ◀ Clean audit for the 12th year in a row, demonstrating CASTA's commitment to sound accounting practices.
- ◀ Built staff capacity, brought in additional income and held membership dues low by providing conference management services to outside organizations.
- ◀ Applied for and won the contract to manage the National RTAP Technical Assistance conference in Omaha, NE.
- ◀ Co-hosted the Colorado Transportation Summit for over 850 transportation professionals in October 2017.
- ◀ Negotiated office lease at below market rates for next 5 years.



Cultivating Partners for Transit Funding

The 2017 Legislative Session was dominated by a bi-partisan effort to refer ballot language that would have asked voters to increase the state sales tax to fund transportation. Using data and stories from CASTA member agencies, CASTA was able to provide strong transit policy guidance as the bill was being shaped. The bill, HB17-1242, was introduced in March and included a percentage set aside for transit. CASTA members testified on behalf of the bill as it moved through committees and passed the House.

Despite the difficult end to the effort, transit did experience positive outcomes from the process. Each time we go through this sort of statewide effort the policy around transit funding is refined and more people understand the need for transit around the state. Support for transit funding was broad-based and included both rural and urban communities.

CASTA would like to thank the bill sponsors, President Kevin Grantham (R), Senator Randy Baumgardner (R) Speaker Chrisanta Duran (D), and Representative Diane. Mitch-Bush (D) for their leadership and hard work. We would also like to thank those of you who testified on behalf of the bill.

The Denver Metro Chamber is working to maintain this momentum in 2018 as it puts together an initiative requiring voter signatures rather than going through the legislature. Stay tuned-the fight for state transit funding continues!



Directors and CASTA Staff

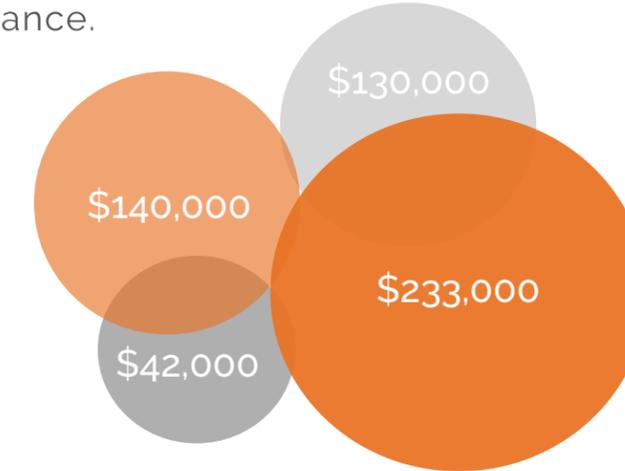
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|  <p>David Averill CASTA Board President San Miguel Authority for Regional Transportation</p> |  <p>Hank Braaksma Vice President Seniors Research Center</p> |  <p>Sherry Ellebracht Treasurer RTD-Denver</p> |  <p>Scott Truex Secretary Gunnison Valley RTA</p> |
|  <p>Sarah Dodson Director City of Durango</p> |  <p>Will Jones Director Greeley Evans</p> |  <p>Joyce Rihanek Director Vail Transit</p> | <p>CASTA Staff:</p> <p>Joey Parks (Program Administrator)</p> <p>Ariane Bergen (Program Director)</p> <p>Ivy Compton (Special Events Intern)</p> <p>Marieke Bergen (Communications and Events Contract Staff)</p> <p>Elena Wilken & Ann Rajewski (Executive Directors)</p> |
|  <p>Dawn Block Director City of La Junta</p> |  <p>Comer Hobbs Transportation Consultant Davey Coach Sales</p> |  <p>David Krutsinger CDOT Rep CDOT Division of Transit & Rail</p> | |

Financials

In 2017 the CASTA Board approved additional projects to ensure the organization's sustainability through uncertain times. The year will most likely end with a zero balance. These figures are estimates and have not yet been audited.

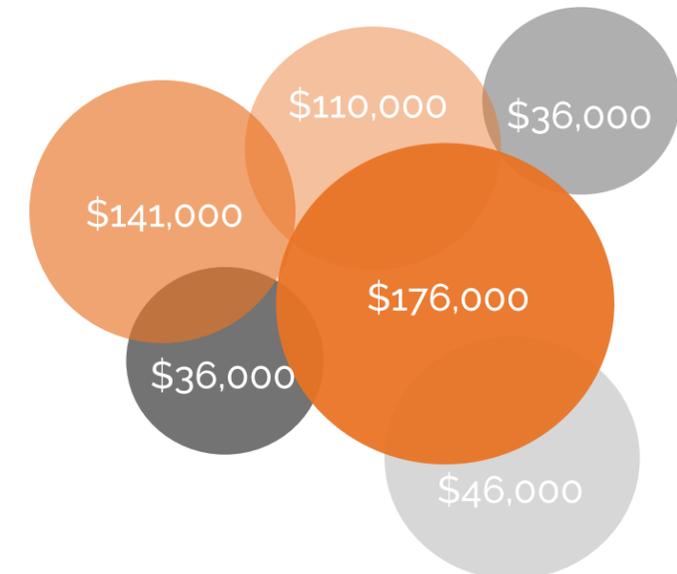
Income

- Program Administration Income \$140,000
- Business Member dues \$42,000
- Conference Income \$130,000
- Agency Membership dues \$233,000



Expenses

- Conferences \$141,000
- Training Program \$110,000
- Overhead and Admin \$36,000
- Salaries, Taxes and \$176,000
- State Lobbying \$36,000
- Program Expenses \$46,000



Mission

To represent, serve and promote transits as part of Colorado's transportation system.

129 Million

Transit trips provided

9

Communities connected through Bustang

14 Million Rural trips - most in country

3

New transit services came online (Winter Park, Idaho Springs, an Miguel ART)

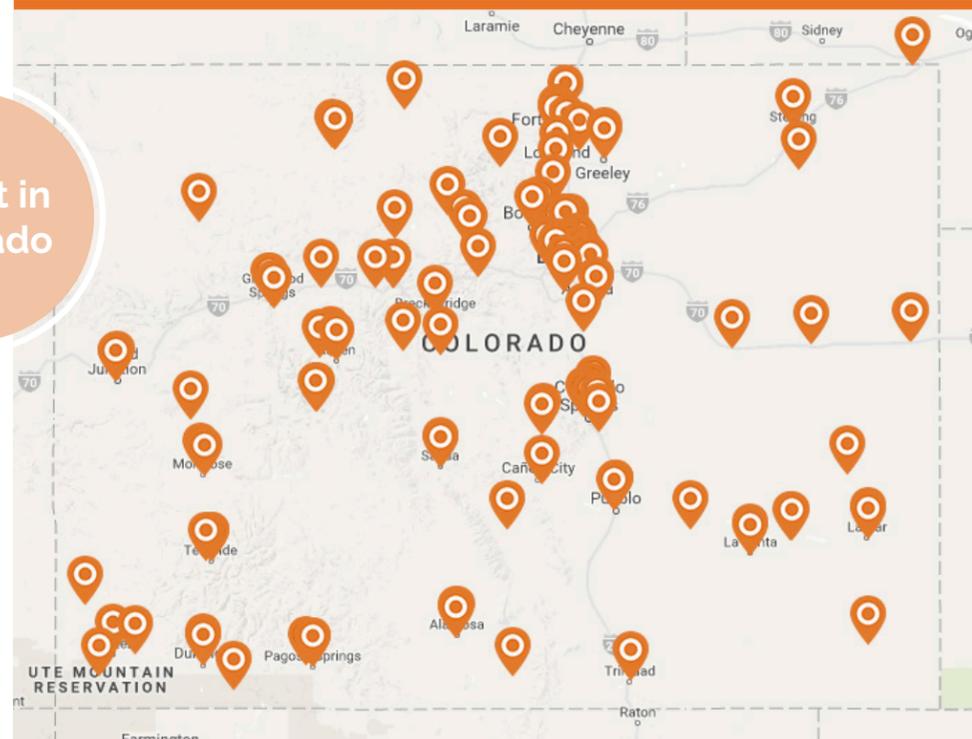
% of riders

10

Commuters, medical, education, (types of trip) 3,000 Transit professionals employed in Colorado

Agencies using fuel-efficient vehicles

Transit in Colorado



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