

Wayne Allard

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**SENATOR ALLARD ANNOUNCES
COLORADO TO RECEIVE 46.5 PERCENT INCREASE
IN FEDERAL HIGHWAY FUNDING
*COLORADO RECEIVES HIGHEST INCREASE OF ANY STATE***

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard (R-CO), a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, announced Wednesday that Colorado is in line to receive a 46.5 percent increase in federal highway funding over the next six years under a measure reported out of committee to re-authorize of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21). The formula released by the committee gives Colorado almost an additional billion dollars in funding over the next six years for highway construction.

“This is great news for Colorado. Under the Senate formula, Colorado would receive a greater increase in highway funding than any other state,” Senator Allard said. “This is money that Colorado desperately needs to handle the transportation needs of our growing population. It will pave the way for economic growth at a crucial time in our state’s history.”

“The Senate formula translates into a 95 percent return on Coloradoans’ federal highway taxes by 2009, up from the current 90 percent we are receiving now,” the Senator said. “The 46.5 percent increase comes on the heels of the 54 percent that I secured in the 1996 re-authorization.”

“This funding plan gives the State of Colorado authority to determine where the state’s federal highway dollars can best be spent,” Senator Allard said. “With this percentage of an increase the State of Colorado and local governments will have more resources available to meet our transportation needs.”

The funding formula would provide Colorado with an additional \$190 million a year for six years on top of the current \$300 million a year, on average, the state receives now.

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