

Colorado Infrastructure

Roads, bridges, rural internet connections...these are all key issues that are necessary to maintaining our life. Not repairing roads and bridges and pretending that these problems will just go away is absurd. Yes, maintenance is being done, but at some point, this is just a Band-Aid.

With our population growing at double digit rates, we need new roads and bridges. But how do we pay for this? I'm in support of toll lanes for some major highways. Two FREE lanes, and one toll. This is more or less tax neutral and easy to pass in the legislature.

But it's not feasible to have a toll bridge (traffic backs up for everyone) or charge tolls for rural 2 lane highways. Consequently, we need to pay for these with increased taxes. TABOR limits our ability to do this. Repealing TABOR is very unlikely but to make an issue specific adjustment makes sense.

Rural internet investment is important. Colorado has many areas that simply don't have any high-speed connections. How do our children do their research for school projects? How do residents order on line? What about Netflix or Hulu? Would you want to watch a movie when the film buffers every few minutes? The major internet providers won't do this, being there isn't enough population to support the cost. Consequently, the Colorado Legislature needs to fund this so that everyone has equal access to this key resource.