A Way Forward | *Safer Roads & Less Congestion*

A Way Forward Provides Statement on Colorado General Assembly's Transportation Legislation

DENVER (Mar. 18, 2021) – The executive committee of the A Way Forward coalition – the 50-plus member organization calling for safer roads and less traffic congestion – released the below statements by its executive members.

Tony Milo, executive director of Colorado Contractors Association:
 "Coloradans are losing time and money to traffic congestion and bad roads. We recently released the TRIP report which shows the price Coloradans are paying for the road backlog. It's now a staggering $8.4 Billion to Colorado's road users."

Sandra Hagen Solin, head of the Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance, the advocacy arm of the Fort Collins, Loveland and Greeley Chambers of Commerce:
"We are pleased that members of the legislature and the governor have prioritized developing a plan to fund transportation this session. As we dig into the details of this proposal, it will be critical to ensure leaders dedicate enough funding to shore up existing roads and bridges, the foundation of our transportation network."

Robin Brown, executive director of the Grand Junction Economic Partnership:
"The proposal deserves careful review and comment, which we look forward to providing. We will compare the bill to the framework our great coalition has said it supports. Namely, that the solution is focused on the whole state and focused on fixing clogged and deteriorating roads.

We have promoted a highly-equitable funding model which also makes use of a significant general fund component to protect Coloradans and to accelerate the buildout of the Ten-Year Plan."

Greg Fulton, president of the Colorado Motor Carriers Association:

"We cannot afford to kick the can down the road any longer on making essential investments in our transportation system. The increasing costs to our industry due to highway congestion and rising maintenance and repair expenses caused by roadways in poor condition, translate into higher transportation costs which are passed along and constitute a "hidden tax" buried in the price of food, fuel, consumer goods, medicine, and almost everything we buy and use. Elected officials have an opportunity not only to stop the rise in this hidden tax, but cut it by passing legislation this year to invest in our transportation system."

Mike Kopp, president and CEO of Colorado Concern:

"Colorado needs solutions for our traffic problems and bad road conditions. It's clear that on the heels of two failed ballot initiates, the job is now in the legislature's hands. We heartily commend the legislators who have taken up the immensely difficult task of developing a plan based on a multitude of often divergent viewpoints in our diverse state. Disagreements in this space are inevitable but their effort has been marked by good faith and a determination to govern rather than politicize a difficult issue."

For a deeper dive into the only solution for safer roads and less traffic, visit http://www.awayforwardcolorado.com.

The A Way Forward executive committee includes:

- **Mike Kopp, Chair** – President & CEO, Colorado Concern
- **Gary Arnold** – Business Manager, Denver Pipefitters Local 208
- **Rachel Beck** – VP of Government Affairs, Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC
- **Robin Brown** – Executive Director, Grand Junction Economic Partnership
- **Kelly Brough** – President & CEO, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

- **Dave Davia** – Executive Vice President & CEO, Rocky Mountain Mechanical Contractors Association

- **Greg Fulton** – President, Colorado Motor Carriers Association

- **Tony Milo** – Executive Director, Colorado Contractors Association

- **Elizabeth Peetz** – VP of Government Affairs, Colorado Association of REALTORS

- **Jake Swanton** – Public Policy for Rockies Region and SW, Lyft

- **Sandra Hagen Solin** – Executive Director, Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance