March 25, 2020

Good afternoon everyone!

I hope that this note finds you all well in these uncertain times. I know that health and safety is of the upmost importance and I wish you, your families, and your workers healthy and safe.

The current regular legislative session is on hold and is “currently” scheduled to reconvene on Tuesday, March 31st at 11am. There is some discussion that session may stay on hold to match the Stay at Home order. At this time, there seems to be no likely opportunity for any road and bridge measures to pass during the regular session. Oil prices bottoming out, sales tax and income tax revenue even worse. Any perceived extra revenue from the .45 may be desperately needed. There has been some discussion of $100 million or more of the surplus dollars would be allocated to roads and bridges. That seems unlikely as well as those dollars may be placed into the “rainy day” fund to cover other COVID-19 disaster fund disbursements. Yet, a lot of this is contingent on what the federal packages include. As many organizations and businesses have had to do, we have cancelled “Fix Our Roads Day” at the Capitol on April 14th for this session. If a special session is needed in the fall to cover general fund issues, we would continue to work to address funding then and potentially a “Fix Our Roads Day”. There is also talk of a fourth congressional economic relief package following the current bill that would include federal infrastructure spending.

At this time, all of our LCFOR social media presence took a major nose dive. A drop of over 70%. Everyone is focused on the virus and job losses. We received some negative feedback regarding our push for funding as the national economy is suffering and families are hurting. We have frozen all public presence at this time as to not to create a negative impact of our efforts. At the appropriate time, we will launch our presence again.

Our Board of Directors continues to communicate on a regular basis and will update you as things develop.

Stay safe and healthy!

Erich