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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

ANNUAL SURVEY REVEALS TRANSPORTATION FUNDING REMAINS A CHALLENGE

January 13, 2014, Denver, CO– Nine out of ten Colorado municipalities list adequate street maintenance funding as a major budgetary challenge for 2014. The just-released annual Colorado Municipal League (CML) State of our Cities and Towns report, focusing on transportation, reveals:

- Just over half of cities and towns rate adequate funding for street maintenance as their *number one* budgetary challenge
- Only 41 percent report sufficient dollars to fully fund their street maintenance schedules
- There are 16,000 miles of municipal streets in Colorado - 24 percent more than a decade ago
- Three principal sources of funding are identified for municipal street and bridge budgets: city general fund, a dedicated sales tax, and the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF)
- The primary revenue stream for HUTF is the 22-cents per gallon gasoline tax which has not been increased since 1991. The combination of the stagnant gas tax rate and a leveling of gasoline consumption reduces the future effectiveness of the HUTF

Beyond maintenance, cities and towns are struggling to meet demand for improvements:

- 57 percent report unfunded street repair or expansion projects
- 30 percent report unfunded bridge projects
- 27 percent report unfunded bicycle projects
- 40 percent report unfunded pedestrian projects
- Streets also reflect the changing complexion of transportation in Colorado. Cities are reconfiguring streets to be bicycle and pedestrian friendly as these alternatives to the automobile grow in popularity.

The use of transit for mobility continues to increase:

- 45 percent of municipalities are now served by some level of transit services.

To view the complete survey results visit http://www.cml.org/state_of/

CML is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 267 cities and towns. For more information on CML, please visit www.cml.org or call 303-831-6411.

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