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E-470 2021 Annual Report Released to Public Today *Highlights Pandemic's Impact on E-470 and How Authority Overcame Challenges*

AURORA, CO – From a vision of a regional highway in the east Denver-Metro area to getting voters to approve a bond measure to finance and build it, followed by surviving the Great Recession and then a global pandemic, over the last 30 years, the E-470 Public Highway Authority has tackled many challenges as it moves more people in the region quickly and reliably. This resilience is the theme of [E-470's 2021 Annual Report](#) being released to the public today.

The 10-page report, [which can be viewed at e-470.com](#), covers a range of topics and highlights from 2021 including:

- **A transition in E-470 leadership** as former Executive Director Tim Stewart decided to step away from his role with the Authority and Beau Memory stepped in to serve as new Executive Director in 2022.
- **Board approval to lower toll rates on E-470** beginning in 2022 despite the pandemic.
- **Addressing financial challenges** - without impacting E-470 toll rates - due to less traffic from the ongoing pandemic.
- **Supporting the broader community** through E-470's charitable arms – the E-470 Good Guys and the E-470 Transportation Safety Foundation. The Foundation raised record proceeds in 2021 for future grants to be awarded to nonprofit organizations focusing on transportation safety education.
- **Improving the customer experience** through projects that kicked-off last year to upgrade E-470's lane toll system and software. The projects are working in conjunction to incorporate innovative technology that will one day allow a customer's transponder/sticker tag to be utilized on other tollways around the country and linked back to their [ExpressToll account](#); while the upgraded software will provide customers with new self-service tools, increased security, and more efficient toll collections.

“At a time when the pandemic was still causing economic hardships, the Authority is proud we were able to assist all our customers with the approval of lower toll rates along the corridor while continuing to remain responsive to rapid changes in the tolling industry,” said E-470 Board Chair and Town of Parker Councilman John Diak. “We’ll keep driving forward with accomplishments like these to serve as a partner for growth in the region, just as our founders intended back in 1985.”

Additionally, the report looks to the future of E-470 and highlights improvement projects over the next few years that will be funded primarily through toll revenue to provide people with value on their journey, which includes:

- **Roadway widening from I-70 to 104th Avenue** (anticipated to begin this summer) to prepare for growth in this part of the region, adding a third travel lane in each direction to move more people and extending the High Plains Trail from 26th to 64th Avenues to provide better connections for people on foot and on bikes in Aurora and Adams County.
- Upcoming partnerships with area municipalities to **create more trail connections** in the region.
- **Repurposing four toll plaza locations** to provide customers with new services and amenities on E-470.
- **Installation of safety enhancements** at ramps and interchanges where crash pictures are starting to emerge.

About the E-470 Public Highway Authority: E-470 is the 75-mph toll road running along the eastern perimeter of the Denver metropolitan area. E-470 is a user-financed roadway, receiving no local, state, or federal funds for financing, construction, operations, or maintenance. A political sub-division of the state, the tollway is governed by the E-470 Public Highway Authority Board composed of eight local governments including Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas counties, and the municipalities of Aurora, Brighton, Commerce City, Parker, and Thornton. Additionally, E-470 operates *ExpressToll*, the all-electronic toll collection system available on E-470, Northwest Parkway and CDOT's Express Lanes. For more information, please visit e-470.com.

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