**HISTORY OF COLORADO TRANSPORTATION: TOWN STUDY EXTENSION**

**Colorado State Standards:**

**History**

1.a Construct a timeline of events showing the relationship of events in Colorado history with events in United States and world history (DOK 1-2)

2.a Analyze various eras in Colorado history and the relationship between these eras and eras in United States history, and the changes in Colorado over time (DOK 1-3)

2.d Describe the impact of various technological developments. Topics to include but not limited to the state of Colorado, including changes in mining technology; changes in transportation; early 20th century industrial changes; and mid- to late 20th century nuclear and computer technological changes (DOK 1-2)

**Geography**

1. a. Answer questions about Colorado regions using maps and other geographic tools (DOK 1-2)
2. Use geographic grids to locate places on maps and images to answer questions (DOK 1-2)
3. a Describe how the physical environment provides opportunities for and places constraints on human activities (DOK 1-2)

b .Explain how physical environments influenced and limited immigration into the state (DOK 1-2)

1. Analyze how people use geographic factors in creating settlements and have adapted to and modified the local physical environment (DOK 1-3)
2. Describe how places in Colorado are connected by movement of goods and services and technology (DOK 1-2)

**Lesson:**

Each student is assigned (or chooses) an historic town:

* Locate the town on the Colorado Map (*preferable using the interactive map if cities could be easily located*)
	+ What natural geographical features are nearby? (mountains, plains, rivers, lakes, etc.)
	+ How do the geographical features affect access or transportation in and out of the town?
* For each of these years (1920, 1946, 2000), use what you have learned about the history of Colorado transportation, along with the interactive map, to answer the following questions

(*population on interactive map would be need for a third year*):

* + What is the town’s population?
	+ Is the population increasing or decreasing? Why do you think this is?
	+ What mode/s of transportation can people use to access the town?
	+ What transportation is available for people get around the town?
* Look for any patterns over the entire course of time from 1920 to present day:
	+ Has the population consistently increased or decreased? Why?
	+ How have changes in transportation affected the town?
	+ Compared to other towns in Colorado, do you think transportation to and from the town is faster/cheaper? Why or why not?
	+ What could be a reasonable and cost-effective way of improving transportation for this town?

Afterwards, groups students/towns by region:

* Compare/Contrast each of the towns within your region
	+ What are the most prominent geographical features in your region? How do they affect transportation patterns?
	+ Which town has shown the greatest growth? The least?
	+ Is there a visible connection between population patterns and the development of transportation?

Regional groups present their findings to the rest of the class.

Whole class discussion on essential concepts.