

## North Area Transportation Alliance Board

Summary Minutes  
November 15, 2012

Chair Nancy McNally called the meeting to order at 7:33 am at the Metro North Chamber of Commerce. Introductions were made around the room. Those in attendance for this meeting were:

### NATA Board Members/NATA Staff

<b>Katie Witt</b>	Longmont	<b>Heidi Williams</b>	Thornton
<b>Barry Gore</b>	ACED (and RTD Director)	<b>Brook Svoboda</b>	Northglenn
<b>Phil Greenwald</b>	Longmont	<b>Bill Simmons</b>	Northglenn
<b>Daren Sterling</b>	Commerce City	<b>Karen Stuart</b>	Smart Commute Metro North
<b>Joyce Hunt</b>	Thornton	<b>Gene Putman</b>	Thornton
<b>Nancy McNally</b>	Westminster	<b>Jeanne Shreve</b>	Adams County
<b>Pat Quinn</b>	Broomfield	<b>Gary Behlen</b>	Erie
<b>Joe Smith</b>	Brighton	<b>Aric Otselberger</b>	Westminster
<b>Val Vigil</b>	Thornton	<b>Kevin Standbridge</b>	Broomfield
<b>Joyce Downing</b>	Northglenn		

### Others in Attendance:

<b>Bill Van Meter</b>	RTD	<b>Julie Skeen</b>	RTD FasTracks
<b>Jane Donovan</b>	RTD	<b>Rebecca White</b>	CDOT
<b>Mike Turner</b>	RTD	<b>Sandi Kohrs</b>	CDOT
<b>Ron Enserro</b>	RTD	<b>Larry Hoy</b>	RTD Director
<b>Kristi Estes</b>	CIG	<b>Nick Farber</b>	HPTE/CDOT
<b>Myron Hora</b>	CDOT	<b>Rick Romig</b>	AECOM
<b>Michelle Brier</b>	RTD	<b>David Centur</b>	AECOM
<b>Steve Summers</b>	Jacobs	<b>Bob Boot</b>	RTD
<b>Bryant Walters</b>	Collins Engineers	<b>Reza Akhavan</b>	Jacobs
<b>Steve Olson</b>	CDOT	<b>Nick Farber</b>	HPTE

#### I. Minutes

- a. The summary of the minutes for October 25 were reviewed. No changes were requested and the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### II. New Business

- a. Managed Lanes 101 Presentation/CDOT Policy Considerations – Nick Farber from HPTE and Sandy Kohrs of CDOT delivered a presentation on the definition, components and operations of managed lanes. Mr. Farber and Ms. Kohrs also highlighted CDOT’s current policy deliberations

regarding a uniform managed lanes policy. Chair McNally asked about toll collections and issues with license plate readers. CDOT/HPTE Staff responded that the Department of Revenue is working on those issue right now. Kevin Standbridge asked for CDOT to be more assertive in their managed lane policy regarding tolling and that an expectation be set that other future managed lanes in the State have a tolling component like U.S. 36 and I-25 North. Pat Quinn stated that dynamic tolling has to be a component of managed lanes and that congestion pricing is good public policy. The NATA Board asked NATA Staff to draft a letter to CDOT expressing NATA's desire and expectation that CDOT's forthcoming managed lanes policy including more specific expectations/requirements for a tolling component.

- b. RTD Cost Savings/Revenue Enhancements for FasTracks Funding (Risk Allocation Matrix) – Bill Van Meter and Julie Skeen delivered a presentation to the Board on RTD's strategies to identify and secure \$300 million by 2017 to fund North Metro Commuter Rail to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and complete the remaining commitment to Bus Rapid Transit on U.S. 36. These strategies include capping FasTracks funding for base systems operations, reducing the FasTracks minimum unrestricted fund balance, reducing the minimum FasTracks operations and maintenance fund balance, deferring the Union Pacific Railroad relocation related to the Southwest extension project, achieve savings on other FasTracks projects, selling/leasing surplus RTD property, requesting an increase in local participation above 2.5%, sales tax auditing and achieving sales tax collection parity with the State of Colorado. Several NATA Board members expressed concern regarding the local match proposal. Pat Quinn asked for RTD to provide a list of local contributions to date for each line of FasTracks. Kevin Standbridge asked RTD to ensure that there is no scope increase for other lines so that project savings can truly be realized. Pat Quinn asked RTD to consider coordinating sales tax audits

with local governments. Val Vigil cautioned that there could be complications with joint audits and this idea would have to be explored in more depth. Director Hoy asked for assistance with legislation that would be necessary to achieve sales tax parity. Aric Otzelberger asked if RTD had a bill sponsor. Bill Van Meter responded that RTD is in discussions but cannot name any names at this point. Joyce Hunt asked where the \$127 million estimate for sales tax auditing/parity was derived from. Julie Skeen responded that \$25 million is for the parity piece and \$100 million is for the auditing component. Karen Stuart asked for a breakout of where the \$300 million in funding would go. Bill Van Meter said RTD's intent is to identify the specifics in the future. Joyce Hunt asked where the Southeast Extension fits in with this discussion. RTD Staff responded that the Southeast Extension is not part of this discussion, but will be considered in the future. Several NATA Board members expressed their interest in RTD committing to these revenue/savings strategies past 2017 for the remaining needs in the North and Northwest corridors. The NATA Board requested that NATA Staff prepare a letter for RTD to provide general support for pursuit of the strategies RTD is pursuing, with the caveat that more information is needed regarding the local match component.

- c. DRCOG RTP Amendment and North Metro Implications for Small Starts – Brook Svoboda updated the Board that future New Starts grant pursuits will not be affected by the forthcoming removal of North Metro Commuter Rail from the fiscally constrained 2035 RTP. RTD is planning to amend the RTP with DRCOG in the future when actual pursuit of a New Starts grant commences. The RTP can be amended twice per year.
- d. I-25 Managed Lanes Update – NATA Staff briefed the Board that NATA Staff will attend a meeting with CDOT Staff and consultants in December to do a full review of 30% design plans for the project.

- e. State Highway 7 PEL Update – NATA Staff briefed the Board that the study team is currently looking at four segments of the highway and that overall, the study is going well. Local communities recommended taking out a potential managed lane as an alternative. Pat Quinn stated that decisions should allow for BRT in the future on the corridor. Staff responded that alternatives will allow for BRT and queue jumps are being looked at for several intersections.
  
- f. Smart Commute Metro North Budget Update – Joyce Hunt and Karen Stuart provided an update on the status of Smart Commute Metro North’s budget. Progress is being made on 501c3 non-profit status and the goal is to incorporate on May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013. Karen Stuart also discussed potential grant opportunities for the future.
  
- g. NATA Dues – Aric Otzelberger shared information on the current NATA dues structure and asked for direction on 2013 dues. The NATA Board voted unanimously to keep the 2013 dues at the same level as 2012. Pat Quinn asked for an accounting of NATA funds. Aric Otzelberger agreed to share this information with the Board.
  
- h. Smart Commute Metro North (NATA TMO) Executive Director’s Report – Karen Stuart – Karen Stuart shared highlights of her work activities over the past month. Ms. Stuart discussed several items including recent discussions involving a potential metropolitan transportation district, a recent transportation fair at Adams County and ideas for having a reception for new RTD Directors at the next NATA Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 am. Thank you to Metro North Chamber of Commerce for hosting the meeting.