

North Area Transportation Alliance Board

Summary Minutes

June 28, 2012

Chair Nancy McNally called the meeting to order at 7:30 am at the Metro North Chamber of Commerce. Introductions were made around the room. Those in attendance for this meeting were:

Jeanne Shreve	Adams County		Katie Witt	Longmont
Lynn Baca	Brighton		Deborah Obermeyer	Metro North Chamber
Joe Smith	Brighton		Joyce Downing	Northglenn
Pat Quinn	Broomfield		Brook Svoboda	Northglenn
Kevin Standbridge	Broomfield		Jim Smith	Jordon Perlmutter and Co.
Russell Pennington	Erie		Gene Putman	Thornton
Phil Greenwald	Longmont		Val Vigil	Thornton
Erik Hansen	Adams County		Karen Stuart	TMO Exec Director
Daren Sterling	Commerce City		Nancy McNally	Westminster
Jan Pawlowski	Brighton		Aric Otselberger	Westminster
Wes LaVanchy	Firestone		Heidi Williams	Thornton
Bill Simmons	Northglenn			

Others in Attendance:

Phil Washington	General Manager, RTD		Julie Skeen	RTD FasTracks
Jane Donovan	RTD		Larry Hoy	RTD Board of Directors, District J
Mike Turner	RTD		Michelle Brier	RTD
Scott Reed	RTD		Roger Sherman	CRL Associates

I. Minutes

- a. The summary of the minutes for May 24, 2012, was reviewed. No changes were necessary and the minutes were approved.

II. New Business

- a. DIA “NexGen Airspace Redesign” – Heather Barry briefed NATA on the current DIA airspace efficiency study that is part of the FAA’s revamping of the U.S. air traffic control system. Airspace around the nation is being redesigned and that will occur at DIA as well. There are capacity concerns at DIA with existing airspace and changes will occur. Ms. Barry and her associate characterized the changes as “fewer overflights geographically, but those areas that already have overflights will have

more, but at a higher altitude, so the planes should be quieter.” Public comment is being accepted on the planning effort.

- b. RTD FasTracks – RTD General Manager Phil Washington delivered a presentation on the current status of FasTracks, the forthcoming 2035 RTP Amendment with a “fiscally constrained FasTracks,” the I-225 project, SE extension and how it all impacts the North Metro line. Erik Hansen asked about the degree of capacity RTD would have to make debt payments for other projects should RTD proceed with the I-225 project. Mr. Washington responded that RTD will have financial information available in July. Several NATA members expressed concern that pursuing I-225 would not leave any debt capacity for other projects and stressed the need to get financial information. Mr. Washington stated that it is difficult to turn down a full bid to complete I-225. Questions were asked about the North Metro line. Mr. Washington stated that RTD is assuming a federal grant for 50% of the project funding from 72nd Avenue to the end of the line. The remainder of the project would have to be funded from the FasTracks sales and use tax. Pat Quinn asked about RTD’s interest in a joint ballot initiative with CDOT to pursue funding for critical transportation projects in the region. Mr. Washington stated that RTD is in discussions with CDOT about this. Several NATA members expressed concern about regional equity of investment for FasTracks and decried the thought of the SE extension going before any further investment in the northern metropolitan area. Mr. Washington described the \$100 million federal grant opportunity for the SE extension as the reason to pursue that project. Gene Putnam stated that the 2004 FasTracks plan showed the extensions going last after the other projects. Mr. Washington stated there was never any formal commitment made regarding order of projects and extensions. Erik Hansen asked for a firm commitment that after I-225, the top priority for FasTracks is funding \$165 million to complete North Metro to 72nd Avenue.

- c. Smart Commute Metro North (NATA TMO) Executive Director's Report – Karen Stuart – Karen shared highlights of her work activities with the group over the past month. Ms. Stuart highlighted the formation of the Smart Commuter Metro North TMO Strategic Task Force. The Chair is Erik Hansen, the Vice-Chair is Joyce Downing, the Treasurer is Deb Obermeyer and the Secretary is Karen Stuart. The NATA Board approved funding for Ms. Stuart to join the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) and attend the ACT conference. Per discussion on the RTD item, Ms. Stuart agreed to help coordinate efforts to advocate for the North Metro line.

The next NATA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 26, starting at 7:30 am at Metro North Chamber Offices.

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