

North Area Transportation Alliance Board

Summary Minutes

February 23, 2012

Chair McNally called the meeting to order at 7:35 am at the Metro North Chamber of Commerce. Introductions were made around the room. Those in attendance for this meeting were:

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| Erik Hansen | Adams County | Katie Witt | Longmont |
| Jeanne Shreve | Adams County | Deborah Obermeyer | Metro North Chamber |
| Barry Gore | ACED | Jonathan Perlmutter | Metro North Chamber |
| Joe Smith | Brighton | Joyce Downing | Northglenn |
| David Jurcak | Broomfield | Bill Simmons | Northglenn |
| Pat Quinn | Broomfield | Joyce Hunt | Thornton |
| Kevin Standbridge | Broomfield | Val Vigil | Thornton |
| James Hayes | Commerce City | Heidi Williams | Thornton |
| AJ Krieger | Erie | Karen Stuart | TMO Exec Director |
| Matt LeCerf | Frederick | Nancy McNally | Westminster |
| Rickard Nickson | Frederick | Aric Otzelberger | Westminster |
| Phil Greenwald | Longmont | Lynn Voorhees | Westminster |

Others in Attendance:

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| Lizzie Kemp | CDOT Region 6 | Michelle Bryer | RTD FasTracks RTD Board of Directors, Dist J |
| Herman Stockinger | CDOT | Larry Hoy | RTD FasTracks |
| Mike Cheroutes | HPTE | Julie Skeen | RTD Board of Directors, Dist K |
| Nick Farber | HPTE | Kathi Williams | |

I. Minutes

- a. The summary of the minutes for the February 23, 2012 was reviewed. No changes were necessary and the minutes were approved.

II. New Business

- a. I-25 Managed Lanes Project (CDOT/HPTE/NATA Staff)
 - TIGER IV - Herman Stockinger (CDOT) gave an update on TIGER IV grant considerations for CDOT and the interest in pursuing this grant funding for the I-25 North Managed Lanes project. Mr. Stockinger delivered a brief history of TIGER funding awards and noted that Colorado is currently tied with Puerto Rico for 47th place for the total

amount of TIGER funding received. Herman relayed his thoughts that Colorado should be very competitive in pursuit of TIGER IV funding.

- A weakness highlighted by USDOT in the TIGER III grant application for the I-25 North Managed Lanes project was the lack of local financial commitment. In order to be more competitive, Mr. Stockinger stated that a stronger local contribution from benefiting businesses and municipalities will be needed.
- Other recipients of TIGER Grant funds have contributed 20-50% of the project costs in “local match.” To be more competitive, Mr. Stockinger stated that a local match of approximately \$5 million would be ideal for the I-25 Managed Lanes Project.
- Based on actual awards from the TIGER III grant process, Herman stated that CDOT plans to request \$15 Million in TIGER IV grant funds for the project.
- Mr. Stockinger thanked the municipalities for working towards and considering a higher local financial commitment and DRCOG for the \$5 million financial commitment in principle to this project.

- Local Funding Scenarios – Kevin Standbridge asked how tolling could factor into the local contribution. Mike Cheroutes from HPTE stated that, at this time, the tolling revenue that is projected to be generated is not enough to cover the corridor operations and maintenance costs.

- NATA members discussed potential local funding scenarios and Adams County’s proposal based on Adams County cities’ portions of actual revenue from the Adams County Road and Bridge tax. Adams County has committed \$1.5 million to the local match. Commissioner Hansen stated that Denver should consider contributing as they benefit from the project and offered to contact Paul Ryan from the Mayor’s Office. Joyce Downing stated that Northglenn has had initial conversation as to whether or not to financially support the project and will make a decision at their next City Council meeting. Mayor Quinn stated that Broomfield will

contribute a small amount similar to the pledge they made with the TIGER III grant application. Chair McNally stated that Westminster would be willing to commit \$500,000. Val Vigil stated that Thornton will support a local contribution based on the Adams County proposal if Adams County is willing to up-front the funds and allow the city a 10 year payback period with no interest. Aric Otzelberger inquired as to whether or not CDOT may be able to “front” the funding. Herman Stockinger stated this is a possibility as there is \$3.5 million available in the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB). Mr. Stockinger and Mike Cheroutes also stated that HPTE might have some options to up-front a portion of the local funds and/or provide a contribution towards the project.

- In addition to contacting Denver, Commissioner Hansen offered to take the lead in making formal requests for local funding support from Weld County and Federal Heights.
- The NATA Board agreed to send formal requests to cities along the North I-25 corridor from Fort Collins to Denver asking for their support and a financial commitment for the I-25 North Managed Lanes project. Aric Otzelberger agreed to draft and send the formal requests.
- Chair McNally asked if RTD has looked at contributing. Julie Skeen stated that an analysis of savings of operations and maintenance is being conducted. However, FasTracks funds cannot be used for capital expenses, but rather for operations and maintenance only. RTD will soon have an answer as to whether or not they can contribute.
- Lizzy Kemp (CDOT) stated that March 9 is the target date to achieve a local commitment. CDOT is in the process of developing the TIGER IV application for submittal before the March 19 deadline.
- Aric Otzelberger asked if CDOT has identified their \$15.5 million contribution to the project. Ms. Kemp stated \$10 million has been identified, but CDOT is still working on the remaining \$5.5 million. Ms. Kemp also conveyed that the \$3.5 million Faster Transit grant for the project was approved. CDOT submitted a \$1.5 million application for

Faster Safety funding for this project and this request will go to DRCOG and the CDOT Commission at the end of March.

- Aric Otzelberger inquired about the \$44 million project cost and whether or not CDOT has had any discussion on the scope of the project. Ms. Kemp stated that engineers are looking at the possibility of phasing the project, where the south bound segment of the project would be completed in its entirety and a segment of the north bound lanes would be completed, but not all the way to 120th. However, Ms. Kemp stated that this idea is very preliminary at this point and only a potential consideration.

- Phase II RFQ/RFP for U.S. 36 and I-25 - Mike Cheroutes (HPTE) stated that the RFQ for the balance of the U.S. 36 project was launched on February 21, 2012, and is available to view on the Web.
- The RFQ included an option for concession bidders to include the North I-25 Managed Lanes project. I-270 is not included in the RFQ.
- Eric Hansen questioned how to be sure that the revenues from the HOV/HOT lanes will stay in the corridor. Mike Cheroutes stated that the use of the revenue collected is pursuant to the IGA (Federal Transit/BRT Lanes) which provides for the upkeep and lifecycle maintenance of \$1.5 million per year. A total of \$2.5million per year is generated, so the excess is committed to pay for the operations and maintenance costs for the lanes to continue on U.S. 36. Some of the excess will go towards the I-25 project, but most will be applied to U.S. 36.

- b. RTD FasTracks Status Update – Julie Skeen stated that the North Metro Line project is on schedule for RFP in mid-March for the segment one final design. RFP for construction will be in 2014. The Stock Show to 72nd Avenue is included in the line.
- The group had a brief discussion on Northwest Rail and current options and consideration. Mayor Quinn and Mayor McNally briefed the group

and a discussion was had on BNSF numbers, a potential ballot issue in 2012 and other considerations.

c. NATA TMO/CMAQ Grant Update:

- Joyce Downing and Karen Stuart are currently working through the CDOT contract that will provide the two-year CMAQ funding for the NATA TMO. Ms. Downing stated that the City of Thornton will be the oversight entity responsible for the grant, as NATA does not currently have legal standing. NATA Staff is working to finalize the contract and anticipates having the contract finalized by April 1.
- Karen Stuart thanked everyone for assisting her in getting a functional office set up. Ms. Stuart stated she has been busy creating a buzz about the NATA TMO. Ms. Stuart gave the Board a rundown of her meetings and contacts. Ms. Stuart offered to help Kevin Standbridge to achieve 501 3c status for the NATA TMO. She is also working on setting up by-laws, taglines, and marketing.
- Ms. Stuart expressed her desire to create a taskforce of four Board members to provide direction, input and guidance in developing the NATA TMO. Eric Hansen, Deborah Obermeyer, Joyce Downing and Heidi Williams volunteered for this taskforce.

d. DRCOG and Second \$60 million:

- Jeanne Shreve stated that as Adams County is in all three corridors, they are working to try to coordinate project submittals and funding requests from North Metro, Gold Line and Northwest Electrified Segment (NWES) communities. Ms. Shreve provided details on considerations for moving forward with these funding requests.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 am. Thank you to Metro North Chamber of Commerce for hosting the meeting.