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## North Area Transportation Alliance Board Summary Minutes July 27, 2011

Chair Nancy McNally called the meeting to order at 7:40 am at the Metro North Chamber Offices in the Business & Communities Connection Center Conference Room. Introductions were made around the room. Deborah Obermeyer had a t-shirt for everyone featuring the Metro North Chamber Challenge event starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday, July 28. Everyone was invited to attend if they were available. Those in attendance for this meeting were:

<b>Barry Gore</b>	Adams County ED	<b>AJ Krieger</b>	Erie
<b>Jeff Kullman</b>	Adams County ED	<b>Wesley LaVanchy</b>	Firestone
<b>Jeanne Shreve</b>	Adams County	<b>Deborah Obermeyer</b>	Metro North Chamber
<b>Joe Smith</b>	Brighton	<b>Jonathan Perlmutter</b>	Metro North Chamber
<b>Kevin Standbridge</b>	Broomfield	<b>Bill Simmons</b>	Northglenn
<b>Pat Quinn</b>	Broomfield	<b>Gene Putman</b>	Thornton
<b>Daren Sterling</b>	Commerce City	<b>Val Vigil</b>	Thornton
<b>Tom Acre</b>	Commerce City	<b>Matt Lutkus</b>	Westminster
<b>Bill Efting</b>	Dacono	<b>Nancy McNally</b>	Westminster
<b>Gary Behlen</b>	Erie	<b>Tami Nooning</b>	Westminster
<b>Cheryl Hauger</b>	Erie		

Others in Attendance:

<b>Reza Akhavan</b>	CDOT – Region 6	<b>Don Hunt</b>	CDOT Executive Director
<b>Mike Cheroutes</b>	HPTE Director	<b>Lizzie Kemp</b>	CDOT – Region 6
<b>Myron Hora</b>	CDOT – Region 4	<b>Johnny Olson</b>	CDOT – Region 4

- I. Minutes
  - a. The summary of the minutes for the June 7, 2011, was reviewed. No changes were necessary and stand as approved.
  
- II. New Business
  - a. Update on Change to RTP to incorporate Interim Managed Lanes Project – Gene Putman thanked those who worked the previous Tuesday and Wednesday to prepare for the DRCOG public hearing on the amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan. The language of the DRCOG staff recommendation had to be modified to incorporate what had previously been approved by CDOT and DRCOG staff. The process demonstrated the level of collaboration that exists between CDOT and NATA.
  
  - b. Update on TMO Application – The TMO application was submitted on June 20, 2011. In this application, we are asking for \$195,000 over two years. Our projected costs appear to be in line with other TMO's. DRCOG has received

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applications that total over \$4 million worth of requests. These applications are for existing TMO's to expand their programs or new programs. The TMO from NATA is the only new TMO in all of the submitted applications. Gene handed out a summary of what is going on with the TMO at this time. Melina Dempsey of DRCOG staff stated to Gene Putman that they have fully reviewed NATA's TMO application and have no problems or concerns with the information provided, the methodology that was used or the programs that the TMO had envisioned to do. Gene thanked everyone for their "letters of support".

c. Report on Managed Lane Project –

- Matt provided a summary of a meeting that the NATA staff had with CDOT staff. There was some concern about the matching funds for the interim managed lanes TIGER III Grant not being specifically identified. Lizzie, Myron and Reza attended this meeting and explained what the funding sources will be. The \$15.5 million that has been identified for the initial work on expanding the capacity will be available once the DRCOG RTP amendment and the Record of Decision are approved. Assuming the TIGER III Grant request is approved and the capacity expansion monies are borrowed for use in the managed lane project, an additional \$9.5 million will need to be identified.

It is noteworthy that funding projections have not taken into account the potential toll revenues from the managed lane. Potentially, this could be additional money that could be used to fund Corridor projects.

- With regard to the HOV/HOT lanes, Gene and Jeanne spoke to Reza and with RTD about putting in a center bus loading station at the Thornton Park-n-Ride for safety of the buses. A Park-n-Ride at State Hwy 7 was also discussed. Parking at the Wagon Road Park-N-Ride is over-capacity. There really needs to be another park-n-ride station further north than 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was noted that we need to look at shared parking facilities. Kevin spoke about the shared parking at the Arista Development.

d. The "talking points" for Don Hunt were divided among the members of the NATA group with Nancy McNally taking the lead on this. These points were as follows:

- The North Area Transit Alliance or NATA began meetings in mid 2008 (Nancy McNally).
- The organizations that are currently members of this organization are City & County of Broomfield, the cities of Brighton, Commerce City, Dacono, Erie, Firestone, Frederick, Longmont, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster, Adams County, Metro North Chamber of Commerce and the Adams County Economic Development Association (Jonathan Perlmutter).

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- Our primary focus or tier 1 priorities at this point is on the I-25 Corridor which include both the relief of traffic congestion along I-25 and the completion of FasTracks North Metro Commuter Rail (Val Vigil).
  - Tier 2 and 3 priorities address the 11 corridors within the NATA area which include RTD connections to Brighton, State Hwy 85, State Hwy 2 and Park N Rides along I-25 north of 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Barry Gore).
  - Our major successes today have been the development of a consensus of the top priorities among public and private sector organizations within the area represented by NATA and the development of amicable and fruitful relationships with CDOT and RTD (Cheryl Hauger).
  - More specifically, the north area will be the beneficiary of \$90 million from available EAGLE P3 funds to begin the North Metro Commuter Rail Project construction, the identification of funding for a PEL Study, initial efforts on I-25 congestion relief, and of course, approval of an amendment to the long-range plan that will provide for interim managed lanes from US 36 to 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 2015 to 2019 (Pat Quinn).
- e. When the CDOT group arrived, introductions were made around the room and the talking points (mentioned above) were shared with the group. Don Hunt shared with the group that his job is so much easier when he works with groups like NATA where there is one voice and local consensus. Mike Cheroutes, with HPTE (High Performance Transportation Enterprise), shared with the group the history of HPTE. It was created in 2009 with the FASTER Legislation. There are three essential functions for the HPTE --- find the money in a collaborative way; do projects more quickly; get projects started. Lizzie Kemp was the next one to speak. She spoke on the following:
- Creative options are key
  - Get North I-25 ROD (Record of Decision) completed so we can move forward with funding
  - There are needs beyond the EIS; \$1million toward PEL as soon as ROD is signed
  - STIP funding - \$15.5 million has been identified
  - \$40 million for an interim improvement on the shoulders of I-25 and delivering the HOV lane in a shorter term.
  - Let's keep working together

Mike Cheroutes offered to walk thru the financing application with anyone who would like this information. Don Hunt and Lizzie Kemp both commented that Colorado is well positioned for the TIGER III grant.

### III. Next Meeting

- a. The next NATA meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15, starting at 7:30 am at Metro North Chamber Offices. The NATA staff working group will meet

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prior to this meeting and will work on an update on tiered priorities and include an additional RTD Park-n-Ride location.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.