



November 6, 2012

Adams County
Adams County
Economic Development, Inc.
Brighton
City of County of Broomfield
Commerce City
Dacono
Erie
Firestone
Frederick
Longmont
Metro North
Chamber of Commerce
Northglenn
Smart Commute Metro North
Thornton
Westminster

Mr. Don Hunt
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 E. Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222

RE: CDOT Managed Lanes Policy and I-25 North Considerations

Dear Mr. Hunt:

It is NATA's understanding that CDOT is considering a new policy in which managed lanes would serve as the primary means for adding capacity to the freeway system. We generally support the concept of managed lanes, but we do not believe that managed lanes alone can solve our capacity and congestion issues unique to the North I-25 corridor.

Currently the North I-25 EIS shows a financially constrained plan that includes managed lanes from its current end through 120th Avenue and expands general purpose lanes to Highway 7 from Fort Collins to the south. That plan would result in a pinch point that would only further erode mobility on the important I-25 corridor. It also results in an inequitable situation in which communities to the south who already have additional general purpose lanes and communities to the north who would be precluded from general purpose lanes in the future, thereby resulting in inequitable levels of service on I-25. It is untenable that our citizens would be forced to pay a toll while other citizens could ride for free.

The DRCOG 2035 RTP contains managed lanes and a general purpose lane in each direction on North I-25. This is the preferred plan for NATA and it is our hope that it is a plan that CDOT can also support. To that end, we would ask that CDOT call out in its draft managed lanes policy a consideration where corridors that already have managed lanes could still be eligible for funding for general purpose lanes, provided the managed lanes are built first. We feel that this would fairly represent the policy shift toward managed lanes because of funding constraints and address our concerns with regard to congestion relief and equity of service levels.

Sincerely,

Nancy McNally
Chair



Cc:

North Area Transportation Alliance Members:

Adams County (Erik Hansen)

Adams County Economic Development (Jeff Kulman)

City of Brighton (Lynn Baca)

City & County of Broomfield (Pat Quinn)

City of Commerce City (Sean Ford)

Town of Dacono (Charles Sigman)

Town of Erie (Jonathan Hager)

Town of Firestone (Chad Auer)

Town of Frederick (Tony Carey)

City of Longmont (Katie Witt)

Metro North Chamber of Commerce (Jonathan Perlmutter, Howard Gelt)

City of Northglenn (Joyce Downing)

City of Thornton (Val Vigil)

City of Westminster (Nancy McNally)

Smart Commute Metro North TMO (Karen Stuart)