

NORTH AREA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO. _____, 2012

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING RTD TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE REGIONAL EQUITY OF SERVICE IN THE BUILD-OUT OF THE FASTRACKS SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (“DRCOG”) on June 27, 2012 passed Resolution No. 5, 2012 entitled “*A RESOLUTION WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF FASTRACKS SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC CONDITIONS*” which established DRCOG’s understanding of the timing and type of information RTD would submit relating to a 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (“RTP”) plan amendment, financial plan and a new annual report to DRCOG (hereinafter referred to as the “Report”); and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2012, DRCOG passed Resolution No. 8, 2012 entitled “*A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT’S 2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT ASSOCIATED WITH FASTRACKS AND THE FASTRACK ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS*” (referred to hereinafter as the “Resolution”) which provided further direction to RTD to give recognition to regional equity of service in the next Annual Report to DRCOG and the Senate Bill 208 Report submitted to DRCOG (“Annual Report”); and

WHEREAS, the Resolution also included direction to RTD to include a plan that specifies the cost and timing for: a) the North Metro Corridor; b) rail to Longmont with costs of each segment from BNSF and/or other alternatives; c) Bus Rapid Transit; and d) the Southeast, Southwest and Central Corridor Extensions in RTD’s next Annual Report; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution clarified that any further prioritization of any corridors should be made in a collaborative, regional process that incorporates input from local governments to ensure that all modifications meet RTD’s goal of ensuring that such modifications have an equal impact on remaining corridors; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution encouraged RTD to consider alternatives that provide interim strategies that enable everyone access to the FasTracks system; and

WHEREAS, the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan amendment (“2035 RTP Amendment”) being considered by RTD at its August 28, 2012 meeting shows completion of the I-225 Rail Line from

Nine Mile to Peoria in 2016, which is approximately 4 years ahead of the schedule reflected in the 2011 Annual Report, and completion of the Southeast Extension in the 2030-2035 timeframe; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 FasTracks Plan had shown construction of the Southwest and Southeast corridors after build out of the primary FasTracks rapid transit corridors; and

WHEREAS, the 2035 RTP Amendment does not include construction of North Metro Rail from the National Western Stock Show Station to 72nd Avenue until the 2030-2035 timeframe; and

WHEREAS, completion of the North Metro Rail Line from 72nd Avenue to the end-of-line station at 162nd Avenue and the Northwest Rail from South Westminster Station to Longmont are currently shown in the 2035-2044 timeframe; and

WHEREAS, the 2035 RTP Amendment continues to leave the north area without meaningful access to passenger rail service until after 2035; and

WHEREAS, over the next year RTD plans to work with stakeholders and others to develop their next Annual Report and draft any further changes to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan which may subsequently be required; and

WHEREAS, NATA urges RTD to formally acknowledge the direction provided in DRCOG's Resolution to give recognition to regional equity of service in the next Report and reflect that commitment, in principle, at the August Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, NATA desires to set forth its specific expectations to RTD with respect to the North Metro Corridor and the Northwest Rail regarding the Report.

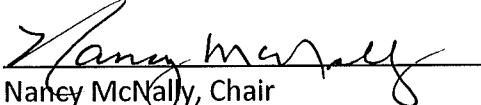
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the North Area Transportation Alliance hereby urges RTD to take the following actions in order to restore regional equity to the build out of the FasTracks Plan:

1. That RTD formally acknowledge at its regular board meeting on August 28, 2012 its commitment, in principle, to the DRCOG Resolution that commits RTD to give recognition to regional equity of service in the next Annual Report and subsequent Regional Transportation Plan amendments.
2. That RTD supports the Resolution which is scheduled for action at the September 2012 Regional Transportation Committee meeting.

3. That the Annual Report include building the North Metro Rail Line to 72nd Avenue as part of the North Metro Rail Phase 1 project by 2018 and build the corridor out to the end-of-line station at 162nd Avenue by 2025.
4. That RTD will engage local stakeholders and the private sector in a regionally collaborative process soon after the 2035 RTP Amendment is submitted to DRCOG at the end of August 2012. The purpose of this process is to engage in “out-of-the box” thinking to leverage partnership resources to build out the North Metro Rail Line. This approach may utilize alternative routes, technologies and/or interim solutions to accomplish this objective.
5. That RTD continue to work with the Northwest Corridor stakeholders to provide a BRT transit line as well as the BNSF Railroad and the stakeholders in the Northwest Rail Corridor to obtain, by the end of 2012, detailed cost information per segment that will provide the basis for a more informed decision on the build-out of FasTracks for this corridor.
6. That NATA believes this approach is necessary to provide regional equity and establish reasonable and timely access to the FasTracks system.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the North Area Transportation Alliance on August 23, 2012.

NORTH AREA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE


Nancy McNally, Chair