

## RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE USE OF \$305 MILLION IN THE I-225 CORRIDOR, NORTH METRO CORRIDOR, NORTHWEST RAIL CORRIDOR, AND THE US 36 BUS RAPID TRANSIT.

WHEREAS, the cities of Brighton, Commerce City, Dacono, Erie, Firestone, Frederick, Longmont, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster, the city and county of Broomfield, Adams County Economic Development, and the Metro North Chamber of Commerce are members of the North Area Transportation Alliance ("NATA"); and

WHEREAS, NATA is a partnership of public and private entities in the North I-25 Corridor working together to identify, develop, advocate and lobby for transportation solutions that will enhance mobility, drive economic development and reduce traffic congestion in the north metro area; and

WHEREAS, one of the top priorities identified by NATA is the completion of RTD's North Metro FasTracks Corridor in its entirety from Denver Union Station to 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in accordance with the 2004 Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 FasTracks program included construction of passenger rail in six new corridors: West, Northwest Rail, North Metro, East, I-225, and Gold; as well as the extension of existing passenger rail in the Central, Southeast and Southwest Corridors; US 36 Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT); Denver Union Station; and construction of commuter rail, light rail and bus maintenance facilities; and

WHEREAS, the FasTracks projects currently under construction or expected to be under construction over the next eighteen months include: West Corridor, East Corridor; Gold Line; Northwest Rail to the 71<sup>st</sup> Station in south Westminster; US 36 BRT-Phase 2; Elati Light Rail Maintenance Facility; Commuter Rail Maintenance Facility; and Denver Union Station; and

WHEREAS, the programs remaining to be funded include: a) in the north area of RTD: the North Metro Corridor, Northwest Rail Corridor from the 71<sup>st</sup> Station in south Westminster to Longmont; the US 36 BRT from Wadsworth to Table Mesa Drive; and b) in the east, central and south area of RTD: the I-225 Corridor and extension of the Central, Southeast and Southwest Corridors; and

WHEREAS, FasTracks has insufficient funds to construct the North Metro Corridor, I-225 Corridor, US 36 Corridor BRT, Northwest Rail Line, and the Central/Southwest/Southeast Corridor extensions in accordance with the timeframe established in the 2004 Plan without additional revenues; and

WHEREAS, RTD staff presented three options to the RTD Board of Directors on January 11, 2011 on potential sales and use tax increases and the extent of the remaining FasTracks projects that can be built by 2020 and full completion date for each of these three options; and

WHEREAS, RTD staff presented a recommendation to the RTD Board of Directors on the use of \$305 million that RTD expects will become available from the Eagle P3 Project once

the full funding grant agreement is approved by the Federal Transportation Administration anticipated spring 2011; and

WHEREAS, the RTD Board is taking public comment on these recommendations and NATA desires to provide comments on the recommended use of the \$305 million to the RTD Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, NATA believes that full build-out of the **entire** FasTracks vision is critical to the long-term viability of the Denver-metro region and that the use of the \$305 million as further delineated below will lead toward achievement of that vision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH AREA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE, AS FOLLOWS:

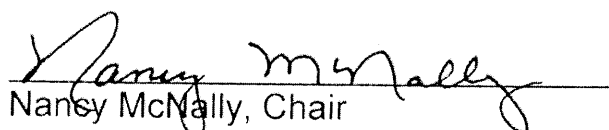
1. That NATA supports the recommended allocation of \$305 million that RTD expects will become available from the Eagle P3 Project as follows:

- a. US 36 BRT (\$90 million) -- which funds are being combined with several other funding sources to complete managed lanes to Interlocken.
- b. I-225 (\$90 million) – which funds are being combined with other funding sources to complete the section from Nine-Mile to Iliff.
- c. Northwest Rail Corridor (\$17 million) – which funds are being combined with funding from the City of Longmont to construct a park-n-Ride for the end-of-line station in Longmont.
- d. North Metro Corridor (\$90 million) – which funds will be used to leverage additional funding sources including New Starts Grants, TIFIA loans, TIGER Grants, public-private partnerships, and other financing mechanisms that may arise to maximize the benefits to the North metro Corridor.
- e. The remaining contingency funds (\$18 million) be designated within each of these projects rather than as a separate item.

2. That, with regard to the three tax options recommended to the RTD Board of Directors, NATA recognizes the need for additional tax revenues. However, NATA has concerns about the willingness of voters to approve multiple tax increases to accomplish FasTracks and urges RTD to weigh this factor in determining which tax rate option to propose to the voters and when it would be placed on the ballot.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the North Area Transportation Alliance on January 12, 2011.

NORTH AREA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE

  
Nancy McNally, Chair