

## About this Report

This report documents existing conditions along the North Metro Rail Line and I-25 North (herein identified as the North Area Transportation Corridor) as of June 2015. The baseline data and maps are intended to serve as a foundation for planning how communities can leverage the introduction of commuter rail and bus rapid transit to enhance opportunities in the corridor including transportation, housing, employment, education, public health, environmental quality and recreation. This information represents a “snapshot” in time of conditions when the report was created in June 2015. It will require updates over time to accurately reflect changing conditions and circumstances.

The report also identifies a potential vision for the corridor, a draft set of goals for realizing that vision, specific preliminary recommendations that support the goals, and opportunities and challenges to implementing these goals and achieving the vision. They were developed by a working group comprised of staff from jurisdictions in the North Area Transportation Corridor and are intended to serve as an initial step in planning sustainable, transit-oriented communities in the corridor. Furthermore, developing a common vision and goals, and taking the next steps to implement the work necessary to achieve them will require the active participation of key stakeholders including elected officials, residents and the business community.

This report was created as part of the corridor implementation activities of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI). In 2011, the Denver region was awarded \$4.5 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support regional, corridor, and site-level planning and implementation activities. The SCI supported a consortium of municipalities, counties, state agencies, housing authorities, nonprofits, corporate interests, philanthropic and academic organizations working together to further enhance and implement Metro Vision, the region’s long-range plan for growth and development, while addressing one of its most pressing and exciting challenges: leveraging the multi-billion dollar expansion of the FasTracks transit system.

### Goals of the SCI

The consortium’s overarching goal is to align investments, programs, and policies to maximize the benefits that result from the region’s investment in transit. SCI anticipates a region with:

- Greater access to job opportunities across the entire income spectrum
- Lower combined transportation and housing costs
- Reduced consumption of fossil fuels and strain on natural resources
- Development of mixed-use, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly communities along transit lines that allow residents to easily access their daily needs without having to get into a car

### **North Area Transportation Corridor Working Group Members (in alphabetical order)**

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- Matt LaCerf, Town of Frederick
- Rob Larsen, City of Thornton
- Kent Moorman, City of Thornton
- Steve Nalley, City and County of Denver
- Jeanne Shreve, Adams County
- Emily Silverman, City and County of Denver
- Becky Smith, City of Northglenn
- Karen Stuart, North Area Transportation Alliance
- Matt Wiedersapahn, Town of Erie
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