

# NATA Board Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2016

7:30-9:00am

Adams County Economic Development, 12200 Pecos Street, Westminster

Welcome by Chair Randy Ahrens and introductions

## NATA Members (who signed in)

<b>Eric Montoya</b>	Thornton Council	<b>Rick Teter</b>	Commerce City Council
<b>Randy Ahrens</b>	Broomfield Mayor	<b>TJ Dlubac</b>	Firestone Staff
<b>Herb Atchison</b>	Westminster Mayor	<b>Daniel Dick</b>	Federal Heights Mayor
<b>Dave Downing</b>	Westminster Staff	<b>Sean Ford</b>	Commerce City Mayor
<b>Mark Gruber</b>	Erie City Council	<b>Lynn Baca</b>	Brighton Council
<b>Barry Gore</b>	ACED	<b>Jeanne Shreve</b>	Adams County Staff
<b>Maria D'Andrea</b>	Commerce City Staff	<b>Kent Moorman</b>	Thornton Staff
<b>Joyce Downing</b>	Northglenn Mayor	<b>Catherine Sanders</b>	SCMN
<b>Karen Stuart</b>	SCMN	<b>Joan Peck</b>	Longmont City Council
<b>Tim Williams</b>	Federal Heights Staff	<b>James Hayes</b>	Northglenn Staff
		<b>Joe Smith</b>	Brighton Staff
<b>Joyce Downing</b>	Northglenn Mayor	<b>Kevin Standbridge</b>	Broomfield Staff
<b>Jeff Moore</b>	Longmont City Council		
<b>Rick Teter</b>	Commerce City Council	<b>Debra Baskett</b>	Broomfield Staff
<b>Steve O'Dorisio</b>	Adams County Comm.	<b>Jennifer Hoffman</b>	Broomfield Staff
		<b>Shawn Lewis</b>	Longmont staff

## Smart Commute (who signed in)

<b>Tony Marcello</b>	DEA	<b>Galina Leiphart</b>	TSH
<b>Carrie Wallis</b>	Atkins	<b>Chris Primus</b>	HDR
<b>Mark Shotkoski</b>	NWP	<b>Jeff Kullman</b>	Atkins
<b>George Tsiouvaras</b>	TSH	<b>Ryan Sisson</b>	TSH
	Kiewit		
<b>Jude White</b>	Collins		

## Agency Partners (who signed in)

<b>Markos Atamo</b>	CDOT	<b>Larry Hoy</b>	RTD
<b>Richard Zamora</b>	CDOT		
<b>Brenda Tierney</b>	RTD	<b>Andy Stratton</b>	CDOT
		<b>Jared Esquibel</b>	CDOT
<b>Nataly Irving</b>	RTD	<b>Jason Lucerno</b>	CDOT

## Guests

<b>Kevin Maddox</b>	FHU	<b>Linda Wilson</b>	Linda Wilson Group
<b>Nicole Frazier</b>	Sen. Gardner staff	<b>Jeremy Rodriguez</b>	Rep Perlmutter staff
<b>Terri Blackmore</b>	NFRMPO	<b>Jorge Delgado</b>	Senator Gardner staff
<b>Ben Stein</b>	Rep. Coffman Staff	<b>Jeanne Sharps</b>	FHU

**Approval of February 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes-** Motion to approve by Mayor Atchison, second by Mayor Downing, approved by unanimous consent.

### **SCMN Update- Karen Stuart**

- Smart Commute recently hired Catherine Sanders as the new Program Manager.
- Bike to Work Day will be June 22, and planning is underway. We are organizing a station in Northglenn as usual, and our bike home party at the Orchard Town Center. We're also working with St. Anthony Hospital on a new public breakfast station there.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Trans Forum on June 29 planning is moving ahead; keynote speaker will be Rutt Bridges, author of Driverless Car Revolution. Digital Globe is hosting the event.

### **CDOT Update: Andy Stratton, Markos Atamos, Abra Gessler**

- Environmental Clearance Efforts on I-25 (I-25 from Thornton Parkway to U.S. 36): coming out with an RFP for a consultant to look at the recommendations from the north Planning and Environmental Linkages Study from two years ago – focusing on adding additional capacity on I-25 from Thornton Parkway to 64th. The RFP will be due in May. No funding is identified for construction, but the project will be ready for funding following this study.
- SH7/I-25 Interchange Design Update: looking at a DDI (Divergent Diamond Interchange) at the Hwy 7 & I-25 interchange. Modeling is complete, looking favorable for a DDI. Study will be wrapped up in June. An early action item for improvement, 160<sup>th</sup> Street will be realigned with Washington Street, which will give the interchange more longevity before the DDI is constructed.
- Update on Construction schedule for Segment 3: contract executed with Hamon earlier this week, construction beginning of June. It will be a three-season construction project (initial forecast for completion by November 2018). CDOT IGA underway with Smart Commute to provide TDM for the project.
- I-270 PEL Update: Purpose: study short term and long term improvements for the interchange at Vasquez & 270 and 60<sup>th</sup> & 85. \$1 million for the PM on this project. CDOT received 6 bids and selected CH2Mhill with Atkins doing traffic modeling. Anticipate completion sometime around May 2017.

### **Discussion:**

**Mayor Ahrens-** We are looking at BRT on SH-7. Will the DDI accommodate BRT?

**Andy Stratton-** Yes. Adams County is paying for the DDI design, and has incorporated this into the scope of work. CDOT and Adams County have an IGA for the funding.

**Mayor Atchison-** Superior and Louisville won a DRCOG award for the DDI on McCaslin.

**Jeanne Shreve-** Does the study on I-25 include addressing the 88<sup>th</sup> Street bridge and the in-line median station?

**Andy Stratton-** The 88<sup>th</sup> Street bridge is included in the study.

**Jeanne Shreve-** We want to improve bus service on I-25, so the station at 88<sup>th</sup> is important to transit, and should be considered .

**Ben Stein-** How is Segment 2 running now that the toll lanes have opened?

**Andy Stratton-** The lanes opened earlier last month. They have reduced congestion in the corridor and made travel times more predictable. Tolling is anticipated to start sometime in July.

### **RTD: Nataly Erving-**

- **Report on RTD's elimination of Broomfield and Westminster bus routes to DIA (Route AB)**  
Nataly read a prepared statement sent out to all jurisdictions along the US 36 Corridor. This prepared statement is on NATA's website: [RTD Letter](#)

- **Update on Local Route Planning efforts in anticipation of NMRL opening**  
North Metro has completed the train service plan, and now work is taking place to study bus operations. RTD staff is collecting data and documents for consultant to study possible bus operations for the North Metro Rail. RTD staff is asking for documents from local governments to be shared with RTD to provide to consultants for any pertinent information. Plan should be refined in the fall 2016, and should be out for the public in February 2017. There will be a two-three month public process, then further refinements to the plan following feedback. Final plan will be ready for "2018" (no date identified).

## Discussion:

**Mayor Atchison**– Who was considered a stakeholder in the AB service reduction along US-36?

**Nataly Erving** – All the jurisdictions along US-36, including 36 Commuting Solutions, were involved.

**Larry Hoy** – Only 70 people are affected by this, and RTD is providing customer service to all these people when they come forward, and treating them on a case-by-case basis. All inquiries are receiving a response, and comments are being recorded.

**Karen Stuart** – Smart Commute did an outreach event with the City of Westminster this past Saturday, and heard from 4-5 people who were affected by the bus schedule reduction. We referred them all to the comment section on the RTD website. Will those people receive a response?

**Nataly Erving** – Yes, they will receive a response, and we are very interested in hearing from everyone, to fully understand demand for this service.

**Mayor Ahrens** – I ended up taking one of the last AB services as it turns out, and it took a lot of wait time. The running frequency for the Flatiron Flyer looks like it is much better, and would be a viable alternative to the AB.

**Jeanne Shreve** – We've always seen North Metro and I-25 as two separate travel sheds – what are the boundaries of the North Metro project for providing land use documents to the consultants?

**Nataly Erving** – 5 miles on either side of the corridor is the rough boundary.

**Jeanne Shreve**– How will bus service, especially changed or eliminated bus services, be studied as part of the North Metro project?

**Nataly Erving** – North Metro lets us take a holistic approach at looking at existing bus service, taking a close look at all existing and possible new routes. Part of why the request has come for land use plans is so RTD can look at the big picture. RTD wants to make changes to improve the overall system, and use North Metro as a catalyst for making changes.

**Kent Moorman** – How are you going to involve the local governments in plan development? We should be involved right from the start; RTD's plans affect local government plans.

**Nataly Erving**– RTD is trying to involve local governments now, through inquiries for land use plans. RTD needs to make a very rough first draft based on those plans, and with a very rough first draft, then meet with communities to review the plan, and work from there until public evaluation.

## HPTE- Megan Castle – Toll roll out and information outreach efforts: (Presentation is on NATA website)

- Megan shared presentation on the North I-25 Express Lanes, including: why express lanes are beneficial (improved travel choice and travel times), where they are planned (25, 36, 70), who can use them for free (carpoolers with transponder, motorcycles, and RTD) or for fee, how to use them (entrances/exits at 84<sup>th</sup>, Thornton Parkway, and 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue), when public review of toll rates will take place, and when tolling will commence (summer 2016).
- To use the HOV lane for free, you need to have the switchable transponder. Right now, HOV is two passengers including driver, in January 2017, you will need to have three passengers to count as an HOV and drive for free.
- Public outreach is happening via grassroots, media, and paid advertising. Likely starting date for tolling will be mid-week, so no one is caught off-guard on a Monday by the new tolling being in place.
- May 2 – telephone town hall is occurring, and all members of NATA encouraged to participate.
- CDOT is happy to come and speak with any group about the tolling.

## Update on SB-123:

CDOT expressed their appreciation to NATA opposing this bill. The compromise moving forward – with new procedures for motorcycles and carpoolers. Motorcycles used to have to open an account with ExpressToll to use the HOV lanes on I-25 and US-36 for free. HOV vehicles who will only use the lane as a carpool can get the transponders for free (any account that has only used

the transponder in HOV mode can receive a refund for the \$15 cost). This will not be ready for implementation for months.

**Discussion:**

**Barry Gore** – Does each exit on the North I-25 Express Lanes have the same toll, no matter where you enter?

**Megan Castle** – toll is \$1-3 for entire segment (north of 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue), no matter where you enter – as long as you have a transponder (license plate tolling will cost more to cover admin fees).

**Barry Gore** – Does the vehicle need to pay a second toll to use the existing express lanes south of 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue?

**Megan Castle** – Yes, there is an additional toll to use those lanes.

**Debra Basket** – the plan to provide free transponders for carpool-only users, but charging HOV/HOT combination users, has been used in Virginia, so it has been vetted, and it also allows the occasional event carpooler to use the lane for free without being penalized.

**Karen Stuart** – Do you have an estimate for how many refunds for transponders you'll be processing?

**Megan Castle** – About 20,000. 79,000 were purchased.

**Mayor Atchison** – There is a large cost coming from this compromise that is coming out of CDOT's budget, and that impacts all CDOT projects, including the ones in our areas.

**Karen Stuart** – Who does enforcement on the I-25 lanes, and how much does enforcement cost?

**Megan Castle** – Not sure at this time about enforcement or its cost.

**Councilmember Jeff Moore** – How will you count the three people in the car in 2017?

**Megan Castle** – It is hard to count passengers at this point, even with only HOV-2 – there is technology to do the counting, but it is expensive. Use of the lane at this point is on the honor system with the switchable transponders.

**Mayor Atchison** – Enforcement is very complicated for police, and making sure enforcing violations will be safe (having to pull vehicles over through three lanes is dangerous).

**City of Westminster TIGER Grant project- Dave Downing, Westminster, City Engineer**

Westminster is applying for TIGER grants this year for US-36 bikeway improvements – addressing three at-grade trail crossings (Church Ranch, 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Sheridan), eliminate at-grade crossings to improve user experience on bikeway (eliminate delay at crossings), and improve user safety (bikes queued for crossing creating safety problems for users).

**Action Item: Discussion to support Westminster's grant application- Motion to provide a NATA letter of support made by Mayor Ahrens and seconded by Mayor Daniel Dick.** Support letter on NATA website .

**Report on SB-194 (TVCC proposal) – Jennifer Hoffman, Broomfield, Assistant City and County Manager**

Bill Language: concerning funding for state highway and regional transit projects that directly enable commercial development in adjacent areas that have been deemed undeveloped or underdeveloped due to inadequate state highway and transportation system.

Bill allows entities to fund new transportation projects via sales tax or bonding in areas that have not been developed previously due to poor transportation access.

**Discussion:**

**Brook Svoboda** – Sounds like tax increment financing – is this to allow multiple entities to participate?

**Jennifer Hoffman** – Yes, this will allow multiple entities to participate.

**Barry Gore** – Only eligible roads are state highways or state owned roads?

**Jennifer Hoffman** – Yes, and transit projects. This allows communities to have a choice.

**Mayor Ahrens** – Motion to provide NATA Letter of support made by Mayor Ahrens, seconded by Mayor Atchison. Consensus to provide letter of support. (Support letter on NATA website.)

**Overview of Transportation Funding Bills and Initiatives- Jeanne Shreve (Summary document on NATA website)**

**Discussion:**

**Mayor Atchison-** the Metro Mayors Caucus has taken a position to oppose all 10 iterations of the CCA Ballot Initiative. DRCOG is also expected to oppose legislation.

**Councilmember Eric Montoya-** Thornton City Council took a position to remain neutral on all funding legislation.

**Mayor Daniel Dick-** Federal Heights City Council has not discussed this.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:10am.**