



September 18, 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. Reza Akhavan
Colorado Department of Transportation
2000 South Holly Street
Denver, CO 80222

RE: I-70 East Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Preferred Alignment

Dear Mr. Akhavan:

The North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) is an association of eleven local governments, the Metro North Chamber of Commerce, Adams County Economic Development Corporation, and businesses in the north east quadrant of the metro Denver area. NATA's partnership of public and private entities work 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.

At its August 23, 2012 meeting, NATA was provided an update on the progress of the I-70 East EIS process. The Board identified several issues related to the EIS that they asked be passed on to the appropriate officials.

It is our understanding that an alternative realignment option has been proposed that would re-route I-70 using I-76 and I-270. Our concern with this realignment option is that it primarily impacts the north metro area and simply shifts the problem to the north, compounding significant congestion issues that have yet to be addressed. NATA does not support this option and requests it be removed from consideration.

NATA also was advised that CDOT recently proposed an option for the Swansea and Elyria communities which would remove the viaduct and reconstruct I-70 below ground. A portion of I-70 would be partially covered to provide additional open space and community uses. We understand this option has the support of these communities and we want to express our support of this option as well. It appears to be an innovative, workable solution for all involved.

We want to congratulate CDOT on developing a workable solution that not only improves I-70 on the existing alignment, but also presents an



alternative the communities can support. We look forward to the State reaching a Record of Decision on the I-70 East Final EIS in the near future.

Sincerely,

Nancy McNally
Chair

Cc:

CDOT Commissioner Heather Barry

The Honorable Michael Hancock, Mayor of the City and County of Denver

Kirk Webb, I-70 East EIS Project Manager, CDOT

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 (Eric Doering)

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)