



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE)
2829 W. Howard Place
Denver, CO 80204

Nov 16, 2021

RE: I-25 North Unsolicited Conceptual Proposal

HPTE Chair Bowes and Board Members,

The City & County of Broomfield supports HPTE to accept and advance the I-25Now project from Conceptual Proposal Phase into a Phase II Detailed Proposal Phase for further evaluation.

Northern Colorado is experiencing explosive population growth over the past 30 years and according to the state demographer's office will continue to see record population growth over the next 30 years. Broomfield is the fastest-growing county in the state of Colorado according to the 2020 Census, growing by 33% since 2010. Through no fault of its own, CDOT has not had the financial ability to make critical investments to keep pace with the enormous population growth. This has led the I-25 North corridor to have excess congestion, unnecessary carbon emissions, both negatively impacting the quality of life in Northern Colorado.

Broomfield applauds CDOT's efforts to provide a blueprint of construction projects through its 10-Year Investment Plan. Unfortunately, due to lack of revenue, CDOT does not intend to fully address the basic investments necessary to complete the managed lane from Denver to Ft. Collins which will allow reliable travel times for transit and HOV trips. Completing the managed lane will have a direct impact on the viability and potential for increasing multimodal options and transit ridership along the I-25 corridor, similar to the successful US 36 multimodal corridor, connecting Broomfield to Denver and Boulder.

Broomfield has been working with CDOT, RTD, and local partners to build a multimodal CO-7 stretching 30 miles from Brighton to Boulder. CDOT estimates that I-25 at CO-7 interchange is expected to reach failing levels of service by 2028. It is critical that interchange upgrades at I-25 and CO-7 support the vision of partners to create a Mobility Hub with center loading stations connecting CO-7 to I-25 that leverage the managed lanes to keep regional transit operating moving, supported by regional multi-use paths creating low-stress connections to the stations from all four quadrants of the interchange. **In Phase II Broomfield requests HPTE and CDOT explore the inclusion of the I-25/CO-7 diverging diamond interchange and center-loading station mobility hub.**

By not addressing critical multimodal infrastructure investment in I-25, Northern Colorado will continue to suffer unnecessary environmental health impacts from carbon emissions due to this extremely congested corridor. As a community of the successful US 36 multimodal corridor, which exemplifies the benefits of a managed lane that improves safety, saves travelers valuable time, reduces congestion, reduces carbon emissions, and provides attractive multimodal options and connectivity, Broomfield supports the transformation of I-25 with managed lanes to support reliable transit operations and make safety improvements as soon as practically possible.

HPTE's Colorado Express Lane Master Plan identifies I-25 North as a Tier 1 priority investment corridor. Each year these critical improvements are not delivered, both the actual construction cost of the project dramatically increases, on a project of this size, in financial and environmental impacts to Northern Colorado.

After 7 months of review by HPTE/CDOT and in accordance with HPTE's Unsolicited Proposal Policy, we strongly encourage HPTE to accept the I-25Now Conceptual project proposal and move into a full and fair evaluation of the project proposal.

Thank you for your consideration and we are excited to work with you as local partners to move this critical infrastructure investment forward.

Sincerely,



Guyleen Castriotta

Mayor

CC:

Lisa Kauffman, Chief of Staff, Governor Jared Polis

Shoshana Lew, CDOT Executive Director

Nick Farber, Executive Director of HPTE

Karen Stuart, Transportation Commissioner and HPTE Board Member

Eula Adams, Transportation Commissioner and HPTE Board Member

Don Stanton, Transportation Commissioner and HPTE Board Member

Kathleen Bracke, Transportation Commissioner