



“Letter of Commitment”

By way of this letter, the City & County of Denver (“CCD”) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (“CDOT”), together with CDOT’s High Performance Transportation Enterprise (“HPTE”) (collectively, the “Parties”), wish to memorialize our commitment to continue and strengthen our close working partnership to further our mutually supportive goals regarding the transformation of the Colfax/Federal Interchange (the “Interchange”). In addition to staff resources, we are also each committing a minimum of \$500,000 to support this shared enterprise.

The Interchange is a roughly 30-acre, cloverleaf-style interchange. The Interchange has never carried the traffic volumes it was designed for, and has gradually become more of a barrier than an asset to an increasingly urbanized west Denver. The Interchange is large and expensive to maintain, and poses escalating safety challenges for ever-increasing volumes of pedestrians, bicycle-riders, and transit users. The Interchange serves as the major intersection for the surrounding community and several high-density master-planned redevelopment projects, yet consumes 100-times the space of, for example, the Colfax/Colorado intersection – an equally urban site of two equally important state highways carrying roughly equal volumes of traffic.

For different but reinforcing reasons, therefore, CCD and CDOT/HPTE both support the concept of transforming the Interchange into a much more urban and community-integrated configuration, and redeploing the land thereby freed-up towards high-density, mixed-use, transit-oriented development. The Parties have already begun exploring these possibilities jointly, together with the West Colfax Business Improvement District and its various advocacy partners; with the Denver Broncos and the Metropolitan Stadium District; with the Denver Housing Authority and its Sun Valley EcoDistrict project; with the Regional Transportation District; and with the broad diversity of community stakeholders and City staff involved in the Stadium District Master Plan process. The positive results of this initial exploration, and the considerable public enthusiasm it has generated, lead us to make this mutual commitment to carry this work further.

Together, our joint intent is to explore, assess, and analyze, in much greater detail, the opportunities and challenges of transforming the Interchange. Infrastructure deficiencies remain to be identified and quantified, and solutions mapped and priced. Land development constraints, and the path for rectifying them, remain insufficiently understood. How best might a transformed Colfax/Federal be configured and mesh most safely and productively with surrounding neighborhoods, nearby redevelopment efforts, and ongoing transit and stadium operations? What is the most financially sound, cost effective, mutually agreeable, and expeditious way to deliver such a project?



It is the purpose of this Letter of Commitment to ensure that these and related questions are answered to our mutual satisfaction in the coming months. The Parties are willing and able to work with one another to outline the terms for a joint study that the Parties will be conducting to study and analyze the benefits, opportunities, and feasibility of re-shaping the Interchange. Should those answers also prove mutually compelling, it is our expectation that our collaboration, and potential collaboration with others, will require different documents and structure to be carried forward. This letter constitutes an expression of intent to share information and initiate a joint study, but is not a contractual obligation.



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Date: 8-19-19

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