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November 11, 2025

Dear Mr. Merenich and Ms. Nelson,

This letter transmits a Healthy Communities No-Widening Alternative to CDOT's proposed expansion of I-270. As you know, in August 2025 GreenLatinos hosted a volunteer Design Assistance Team ('DAT') from the Architects Foundation's "Communities by Design" program. The DAT met with community members to discuss the I-270 project and related issues affecting the Commerce City and North Denver communities. Based on those meetings, the DAT generated a report laying out ideas for improving the I-270 corridor and other elements of CCND. That report serves as the basis for the Healthy Communities No-Widening Alternative that we now propose.

Regrettably, CDOT "decline[d] GreenLatinos' invitation to attend one-on-one meetings with the DAT" during the August event. Letter from David Merenich to Juan Madrid, July 28, 2025. However, CDOT "accept[ed] GreenLatinos['] request to incorporate the DAT alternative into the NEPA analysis" for the I-270 project and requested that the alternative be provided "preferably no later than December 2025." *Id.* We're therefore providing the alternative well within your requested timeframe.

Nonetheless, we understand that CDOT plans to proceed with releasing the DEIS on November 17. As previously explained, we believe that the NEPA process—and public engagement for the project as a whole—would be better served by delaying the DEIS release until 2026 so that CDOT can review our proposed alternative and avoid end-of-year holidays that make meaningful public engagement difficult. We received your October 28, 2025 letter denying our earlier request to postpone release of the DEIS but agreeing to add 15 days to the public comment period. We firmly disagree that a 60-day, rather than 45-day, comment period—during one of the busiest times of year—enables real, good-faith engagement with the affected community members. **We therefore formally renew our request to delay release of the DEIS until early 2026 at the soonest.** In the alternative, CDOT should expand the comment period to 120 days.

In any event, please consider the attached Healthy Communities No-Widening Alternative as part of your NEPA analysis. The DAT report, also attached, provides additional detail and context for these ideas. However, please note that the report is not expected "to be followed as verbatim, prescriptive advice" and is instead "a developmental tool" for local groups

and communities to “expand and amend” in their advocacy—which we do via the Healthy Communities No-Widening Alternative. DAT Report at PDF p. 2.

Thank you in advance for giving meaningful consideration to these ideas. We believe they will help the CDOT’s I-270 project serve, rather than burden, Commerce City, North Denver, and their communities.

Sincerely,

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