Appendix N FHWA Letter



**Colorado Division** 

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November 4, 2019

Mr. Paul Jesaitis Regional Transportation Director CDOT Region 1 2829 W. Howard Pl. Denver, CO 80204

Subject: 1-25 Planning and Environmental Linkages Study NHPP 0252-450, CDOT 21102

Dear Mr. Jesaitis,

This letter is to acknowledge the completion of the 1-25, Colorado Springs to Denver South Connection, Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study undertaken by the Colorado Department of Transportation and its partners. This study along a 37-mile segment of 1-25, from approximately SH 105 to C/E-470 was undertaken in a manner consistent with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) PEL guidance. Through this proven streamlining effort, the evaluation and findings of the PEL study can be readily applied to subsequent National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies resulting in time and cost savings.

The Executive Summary and PEL Questionnaire submitted to FHWA on October 16, 2019 provide a good overview of the work completed during the study, and the information available for projects when entering the NEPA process. As individual projects are initiated and funding becomes available, it will be necessary for FHWA to meet with CDOT and its partners to further determine the scope of the NEPA study, including the level of study required, purpose and need, logical termini, and the extent to which this PEL study can be used to supplement or replace certain milestones in the NEPA process.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Nnaemeka Ezekwemba at 720-963-3018.

