

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We write in strong support of Colorado's applications for federal grants to support the North Interstate 25 Phase 1 project. Because this project is of the highest priority to Colorado, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) submitted this project for your consideration under both the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) 2016 grant, and the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (FASTLANE) grant initiatives. The state submitted the application in coordination with the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO).

The North I-25 project makes critical improvements to the I-25 corridor, which is currently stifled by crippling congestion and unsafe conditions. This proposal would expand capacity on I-25 with one additional lane in each direction for 14 miles in order to accommodate a Tolle Express and High Occupancy Vehicle (TEL/HOV) Lane, as prioritized by the North I-25 Environmental Impact Statement. The project also includes important transit, pedestrian, and cycling improvements that will connect Northern Colorado communities to each other and to the Denver Metro region, creating critical economic and recreational opportunities for Colorado residents. In addition, the project would replace two interstate bridges to accommodate future improvements and strengthen our roadway's resiliency against natural disaster.

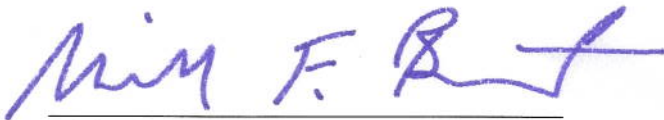
The state proposes to leverage its \$25 million TIGER grant application with matching funds from CDOT, local governments, and others into a \$230 million project. NFRMPO's proposal will similarly combine federal dollars and a local match to cover the cost of improvements. Both the TIGER request submitted by CDOT and the FASTLANE request submitted by NFRMPO would cover the entire cost of Phase 1, and would provide an opportunity for the U.S. Department of Transportation to make a \$230 million project a reality with minimal federal investment through the grant requests.

Many Colorado municipalities, businesses, and citizens groups are enthusiastically united in support of this project, including the North I-25 Coalition of Elected Officials, the Fix I-25 Business Alliance, Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance, Larimer County, Weld County, and multiple cities, counties, and chambers of commerce representing an important part of our state. As members of Colorado's congressional delegation, we recognize the critical link of the North

I-25 Corridor to mobility and commerce for the state of Colorado and the entire Rocky Mountain region, and we believe this project deserves the support of USDOT's discretionary programs.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Cory Gardner
U.S. Senator



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Ken Buck
Member of Congress