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April 20, 2016

TIGER and FASTLANE Selection Committee  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Colorado TIGER and FASTLANE Grant Applications**

Dear Selection Committee:

The Colorado Department of Transportation is submitting a TIGER grant application for I-25, between SH 402 and SH 14, to reduce congestion in the corridor. The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (North Front Range MPO) is submitting a FASTLANE application for I-25, between SH 402 and SH14, to improve freight traffic movement. These projects include a managed High Occupancy Vehicle/Tolled Express Lane in each direction, improving resiliency to two bridges, over the Poudre River and Big Thompson River, and replacing a railroad bridge to remove a bottleneck to traffic flow.

The proposed improvements on I-25 not only benefit the area of the project, but the entire corridor into the Denver metro area. The City of Thornton is located along I-25 in the north end of the Denver metro area and its businesses and residents are greatly affected by I-25 congestion in the corridor between Denver and Fort Collins. When I-25 was closed because of flooding in 2013, the closure adversely affected Thornton. Thornton residents travel north and south on I-25 for business, education, health access, shopping and recreation and I-25 is a major corridor for the movement of freight into and out of Thornton.

As I-25 is very important not only to the City of Thornton but also to the entire region, the City of Thornton has been working regionally with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the North I-25 Coalition, the Fix I-25 Business Alliance, and the North Area Transportation Alliance to improve North I-25 from US 36 in Denver to State Highway 14 in Fort Collins.

The City of Thornton fully supports the CDOT TIGER and North Front Range MPO FASTLANE applications to provide much needed congestion relief and improved freight movement to a rapidly growing region.

We look forward to supporting a successful project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Williams", written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Heidi K. Williams, Mayor  
City of Thornton

cc: City Council  
Assistant City Manager  
Deputy City Manager – City Development  
Regional Transportation Engineer  
North I-25 Coalition