

August 28, 2012

Adams County

RTD Board of Directors

Regional Transportation District (RTD)

1600 Blake Street Denver, CO 80202

Adams County Economic Development, Inc.

RE: North Metro Rail Line

Brighton

Dear RTD Board of Directors:

City & County of Broomfield

Commerce City

Dacono

Erie

Firestone

Frederick

Metro North Chamber of Commerce

Northglenn

Thornton

Westminster

I am writing to you on behalf of the North Area Transportation Alliance to express our disappointment that the 2035 RTP Plan amendment does not include completion of the North Metro Rail Line from the National Western Stock Show to 72nd Avenue ("Phase 2") until the 2030-2035 timeframe. Completion of the North Metro Rail Line from 72nd Avenue to the end-of-line station at 162nd Avenue is scheduled out even further – in the 2035-2044 timeframe—providing little opportunity for our collective constituents to access passenger rail service for quite some time.

Last week, the DRCOG Board of Directors approved a resolution stating "that the next Annual Report to DRCOG and the SB 208 Report ("Annual Report") that RTD shall submit to DRCOG shall give recognition to regional equity of service." That Report is not anticipated to be developed until February 2014 and we are committed to working with RTD over the next eighteen months to develop a plan that properly recognizes regional equity of service.

Towards that end, we believe that RTD has an opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to regional equity by including bidding out Phase 2 (National Western Stock Show to 72nd Avenue) along with Phase 1 (Denver Union Station to the National Western Stock Show Station), which is scheduled for completion We believe that RTD could achieve significant savings, both in mobilization costs and construction costs which would enable Phase 2 to be completed by 2018. In addition, by extending this project to 72nd Avenue, this makes a much more attractive package for the private sector to consider through a public-private partnership. With the contract for final design of North Metro Rail to 72nd Avenue scheduled for action by the RTD Board at tonight's meeting, this sets in place the elements needed to achieve construction of Phase 2 by 2018.

We believe that it is critical for our constituents to see evidence of RTD's commitment to regional equity of service and urge RTD to formally acknowledge its commitment, in principle, to the DRCOG Resolution now and not wait until the Annual Report process commences to do so.

NATA has approved a resolution which includes these comments as well as other recommendations pertaining to the RTD 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment and the Annual Report, a copy of which is attached.

We stand ready and willing to work in partnership with RTD.

Sincerely,

Nancy McNally, NATA Chair

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