



Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC, 20590

February 20, 2024

RE: Support for Colorado State Highway 7 Project 2024 RAISE Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) is a coalition of thirteen local governments, the Adams County Regional Economic Partnership and Smart Commute Transportation Management Organization in the northeast quadrant of the metro Denver area. NATA's partnership of public and private entities collaborate work to identify, develop, advocate for and promote transportation solutions that will enhance mobility, drive economic development and reduce traffic congestion in the north area. Our goal is to ensure an effective regional transportation system that can foster a high quality of life and maintain a highly skilled workforce to support our diverse industries that are in demand in today's economy. NATA writes to voice our support of the 2024 RAISE grant application for the Colorado State Highway 7 (CO 7) Multimodal Corridor – Lafayette to Boulder Project. The community has participated in extensive planning efforts for CO 7 between Brighton and Boulder (the Corridor) and we are excited to be taking next steps towards implementing the corridor vision.

Multiple planning and feasibility studies have been completed for the Corridor to analyze the conditions, identify solutions, and establish the corridor's future multimodal vision. The CO 7 Multimodal Corridor signifies a concerted project approach intended to identify priority projects along the corridor and develop preliminary design plans so as funding becomes available, improvements can be made. The future vision of the corridor includes environmentally friendly solutions to equitably serve all users and effectively move more people. This specifically includes a connected multimodal facility (roadway, bicycle, pedestrian), improvements to local bus stops, a regional startup transit service, and other improvements resulting in enhanced operations and safety through the corridor. Today, CO 7 is a major east-west arterial connecting residents to jobs, activity centers and the regional transportation system. By 2050, there are projected to be more than 49,000 new households and 38,000 new jobs along the corridor. This is expected to lead to a 37% increase in users along an already congested highway corridor.

The City of Lafayette is requesting federal funding for an early priority project to address major challenges around the CO 7 and 95<sup>th</sup> Street intersection and to provide the last missing piece of the multimodal connection from 95<sup>th</sup> Street to the City of Boulder. The project is currently in design. Funding from the RAISE grant would allow the project to move beyond design and into construction while also maximizing the scope of the improvements. The Project scope would improve the 95<sup>th</sup> Street intersection to provide safety and operational benefits and will provide a multi-use path on the north side of CO 7 between 75<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> Streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other micro-transit users. This is a first step to implementing the ultimate Segment B corridor which will include a dedicated lane for transit, additional pedestrian crossings of CO 7, commuter and recreational trail connectivity and access to open spaces, and a continuous two-way left-turn lane through the corridor. Thank you for your consideration of the 2024 CO7 Multimodal Corridor – Lafayette to Boulder RAISE grant application.

Sincerely,

Nancy McNally  
Westminster Mayor, NATA Chair