



September 28, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: RCN grant application for Reconnecting Disadvantaged Communities and Fostering Equitable Revitalization Near the 72nd Ave RTD Station by Removing Barriers to Connectivity

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) is a coalition of thirteen local governments, 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 work collaboratively to identify, develop, advocate, 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 diverse industries in demand in today's economy.

NATA supports the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) grant application for Reconnecting Disadvantaged Communities and Fostering Equitable Revitalization Near the 72nd Ave RTD Station by Removing Barriers to Connectivity that is being submitted by Commerce City, Colorado. This project provides critical access improvements over and around the 72nd Ave RTD Station, intended to safely connect existing public transit and recreational opportunities to the surrounding neighborhoods.

NATA recognizes that our region is a diverse network of vibrant, connected, lifelong communities with a broad spectrum of housing, transportation, and employment, complemented by world-class natural and built environments. This project furthers our mission as a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines and set policy in the areas of: Transportation and Personal Mobility; Growth and Development; and Aging and Disability Resources

Currently, this "underserved" and/or "disadvantaged" community is faced with a significant structural barrier between their neighborhoods and opportunities to improve their quality of life through access to existing amenities. With important community facilities on either side of the barrier, the situation impacts a large population. This grant application for Reconnecting Disadvantaged Communities and Fostering Equitable Revitalization Near the 72nd Ave RTD Station by Removing Barriers to Connectivity that is being submitted by Commerce City, Colorado will create a plan for safer, more direct, and more cohesive vehicular and pedestrian travel routes.

We look forward to working closely with Commerce City, and other agencies and partners as needed, to move this important project forward.

Sincerely,

Greg Mills
NATA Chair