

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy ATTN: BUILD Selection Committee United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

March 1, 2019

RE: Support of Colorado's US 85 – 112th Avenue to 124th Avenue – INFRA Grant Application

Dear Selection Committee:

The North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) is a coalition of thirteen local governments, the Metro North Chamber of Commerce, Adams County Economic Development and Smart Commute Metro North Transportation Management Organization in the north east 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 we have an effective regional transportation system that can foster a high quality of life and maintain a highly skilled workforce to support our diverse industries in demand in today's economy.

NATA fully supports the US 85—112<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue INFRA application to provide the much-needed improvements to the US 85 corridor, specifically focused on enhancing highway and railroad operations to improve safety, freight movement, mobility, and accessibility.

The US 85 corridor is the transportation backbone of the region with 120th Avenue being a major connector to Denver International Airport. A new interchange significantly improves the safety for all transportation modes serving numerous communities and industries relying heavily upon the highway and railway to deliver goods and resources. This project will support the economic vitality of the region by improving the movement of freight commodities associated with agriculture, energy markets (renewable and fossil fuels), and other sectors, reduce barriers separating farm-to-market workforces from employment centers, and support new commercial and industrial development. Additionally, it will improve the everyday travel of workers, residents, and visitors, reducing delays.

Julie Mullica, Vice-Chair

City of Northglenn Council Member

Adams County Firestone Brighton

Broomfield Longmont Commerce City

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Federal Heights

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Northglenn

Thornton