Synopsis of February 27, 2020 NATA Meeting

1. January 23, 2019 NATA Meeting minutes were approved
2. Smart Commute staff gave a review of their upcoming application for the E-470 Transportation Safety Grant focused on older adult driving education. Smart Commute also gave an update on the DRCOG / NATA Data subcommittee stating that DRCOG staff is conducting scenario testing with regional level data and will progress next to county level data, which is where the data subcommittee has had the most influence on reflecting accurate north metro development data. Smart Commute also promoted NATA jurisdictions consider including SCMN participation in their respective summer community events and staff health & benefits fairs.
3. Karen Stuart reviewed the highlights from the January CDOT Transportation Commission meeting.
   1. The approval of the Regional Priority Project (RPP) funding formula
   2. The 10-year pipeline of projects divided into years 1-5 (funding anticipated from SB267) and years 6-10 (no allocated funding)
   3. The cost associated with the work that CDOT and Adams County have been doing to clean up homeless camps along the highways (~$71,000 for camp at I-25 / I-76)
4. Karen Stuart gave an overview of the outcomes of the January NATA Retreat Orientation
   1. Update the *Transportation Connections* handout with refreshed jurisdictional and regional content and statistics
   2. Each jurisdiction’s staffs update and edit their projects on the NATA Master Project List for consideration of amendment in March
   3. Create a Transportation 101 video as a communication tool for elected officials
   4. Set a focus for NATA in 2020
      1. Improving NATA’s communication with one voice (synopsis talking points from each meeting)
      2. Addressing the shifting needs of NATA communities (aging population, population growth, air quality, sustainability, safety)
5. RTD directors Vince Buzek, Troy Whitmore, Shelley Cook, and Lynn Guissinger gave an update on the N-Line construction project and contractor issues, the hiring of Paul Ballard as interim GM, and the concerning content included in HB20 151 and how that legislation would potentially hamstring RTD in a variety of ways.\* NATA will monitor the progression of this bill as possible amendments are offered.
6. Henry Stopplecamp gave an in depth update of the progress of RTD’s pushing of the N-Line contractor, RRP, to complete their design-build portion of the contract in order to hand it off for RTD to conduct required testing before starting revenue service. Henry reported that the contractor hasn’t performed in a timely manner in the past, and that RTD has negotiated to start taking over the construction so that the full hand off from RRP to RTD can take place on May 4 in order to shoot for opening the train for service at the August runboard.
7. The new RTD Interim GM Paul Ballard introduced himself to NATA and expressed that his professional background is in rail startups (Ft. Worth & Nashville commuter rail lines) similar to the N-Line and assured the group that RTD’s issues aren’t institutional and that his goal is to get train operations started as quickly as possible while maintaining safety and integrity.

\*please see attachment for RTD’s comments on HB20-151