

April 11, 2019

Chair Doug Tisdale
RTD Board of Directors
1600 Blake Street
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Chair Tisdale,

Commuting Solutions is the Transportation Management Organization for the northwest metro region, which joined the US 36 Mayors & Commissioners Coalition (MCC) to create a Policy Statement in 2014 that outlines the coalition's transportation priorities based on RTD's Northwest Area Mobility Study (NAMS) completed that same year.

Among other transportation improvements, the Policy Agenda includes a commitment to "support full completion of the Northwest Commuter Rail project" as described in the final NAMS report. FasTracks and NAMS called for fifty-five trains a day between Denver Union Station and Longmont, with a total estimated cost of \$1.1-\$1.4 billion (2013 costs). In 2016, at the request of the MCC, RTD staff initiated an analysis of a more limited initial service plan known as Peak Rail in the Northwest Rail corridor. Last year, the MCC approved and forwarded to RTD for further analysis a recommended service plan consisting of three trains in morning peak travel time from Longmont to Denver and three trains in evening peak travel time from Denver to Longmont. This analysis has not yet been completed, as it does not include an estimated cost from BNSF to operate commuter rail from the current end of line in Westminster to Longmont.

Simultaneously to advocating for rail, Commuting Solutions is also working on seeking funding and support for building out arterial Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridors throughout the region from non-FasTracks sources, as recommended by NAMS. These corridors are a very important, yet incomplete, element of the ultimate solution to addressing the region's mobility challenges as is regional passenger rail. Construction of these BRT corridors does not in any way supplant Commuting Solutions' commitment to ensuring construction of the Northwest Rail. For this reason, a decision was made by the RTD board of directors to ensure that RTD funds spent on these corridors do not come out of FasTracks revenue.

Commuting Solutions requests the RTD Board of Directors approve a proposed Resolution to fulfill the obligations created in the FasTracks Program passed by RTD District voters in 2004 and support the continued development for Peak Service Northwest Rail. We value our partnership with RTD and look forward to hearing a positive outcome from the board on this important topic.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Bracke
Board Chairperson