





## Planning, Development, & Transportation

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Weitkumat and City Councilmembers  
THROUGH: Darin Atteberry, City Manager   
FROM: Karen Cumbo, Director of Planning, Development, and Transportation   
SUBJECT: Item # 31 Other Business: North I-25 RAMP Application  
DATE: September 3, 2013

Over the course of the last month or so, CDOT has been seeking support from communities in the region for its Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) application for future improvements to I-25. It is likely a partnership with private investors will be necessary if improvements are to be made to I-25 in northern Colorado before 2035. This approach necessitates the implementation of a "managed" lane, which in turn requires the support of all of the communities along the corridor.

Councilmember Horak, City Manager Atteberry, and other staff members have been participating in a series of CDOT-initiated meetings with other elected officials and business interests along the corridor in Weld and Larimer Counties, and that conversation is expected to continue. CDOT has asked for letters of support for the RAMP application from each community, and a draft letter from Fort Collins is attached. The application is due September 8.



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September 3, 2013

Mr. Don Hunt, Executive Director  
Colorado Department of Transportation  
4201 East Arkansas Avenue, Suite 262  
Denver, Colorado 80222

Mr. Michael Cheroutes, Director  
High Performance Transportation Enterprise  
Colorado Department of Transportation  
4201 East Arkansas Avenue, Suite 262  
Denver, Colorado 80222

Dear Mr. Hunt and Mr. Cheroutes:

This letter is regarding CDOT's Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) Program. Through recent engagement with CDOT officials, the City of Fort Collins is aware of CDOT Region Four's application requesting \$143 Million of RAMP funding. We further understand that a successful corridor would include a dynamically-priced Tolloed Express Lane that would provide trip reliability for commuters, guarantee travel times for public transit, and would accommodate high occupancy vehicles.

The future of the I-25 corridor is of vital interest to Fort Collins and Northern Colorado. As our community grows and we look to attract sustainable economic development to our region, investment in infrastructure is of paramount importance. Without an efficient and effective interstate that meets the basic needs of our communities, we risk losing opportunities to shape a healthy, thriving future for Northern Colorado. Failure to act will impede our ability to attract business, visitors and activities that meet our long range plans and vision.

In order to attract private investment, the City of Fort Collins understands that one general-purpose lane in Segment 4, which is the portion of the roadway from Colorado Highway 7 to Colorado Highway 66, must be changed to an Express Lane to provide a continuous system. As we engage in these valuable discussions with CDOT Region Four Officials and other local jurisdictions in order to best understand this proposal, we hope that you will allow our communities enough time to be thorough in our approach. We will continue these discussions aggressively over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Karen Weitkunat  
Mayor, Fort Collins

Darin Atteberry  
City Manager, Fort Collins