

October 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing on behalf of the Denver Regional Transit District (RTD) in support of the Transportation Investments Generating Recovery (TIGER) grant application for the Downtown Westminster Smart City Mobility Initiative in Westminster, Colorado. USDOT funding for the proposed project would facilitate safety and mobility improvements at the site of one of RTD's busiest Park-n-Rides along the US 36 corridor between Boulder and Denver. The US 36/Sheridan Station is directly adjacent to Downtown Westminster, a 105 acre site, which will accommodate 8,000 new workers, 4,500 new residents, 1 million square feet of office and 700,000 square feet of retail when it is built out.

RTD's partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) contributed to the successful implementation of the US 36 Express Lanes where our Flatiron Flyer Bus Rapid Transit Service (BRT) operates. Rapid and reliable travel time facilitate an average of 14,500 daily riders through the corridor. The US 36 and Sheridan Park-n-Ride and BRT Station is served by over 500 bus trips per day. Without a grade separation, pedestrians and cyclists from Downtown Westminster must cross two streets with a total of 14 travel lanes to access the Park-n-Ride.

The proposed TIGER project will support travel to the Park-n-Ride by all modes and includes:

- Construction of an underpass to serve pedestrians, cyclists and future autonomous shuttles connecting the US 36 and Sheridan Park-n-Ride, Downtown Westminster and the US 36 Bikeway. The 18 mile Bikeway connects Boulder to Denver and in its first year of operation carried more than 175,000 riders.
- Widening of Sheridan Boulevard (State Highway 95) from US 36 to 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue to six through lanes. Sheridan Boulevard provides regional connectivity to I-76 and Interstate 70. The Westminster Comprehensive Plan ranks this segment of Sheridan as the most congested roadway in the city. Average daily traffic at this location is 55,863.

RTD encourages USDOT to fund the regionally significant multimodal infrastructure proposed by the City of Westminster. If you need further information, please contact Bill Van Meter, RTD Assistant General Manager for Planning at (303) 299-2448 or [bill.vanmeter@rtd-denver.com](mailto:bill.vanmeter@rtd-denver.com).

Sincerely,



David A. Genova  
General Manager & CEO

cc: William C. Van Meter, Assistant General Manager Planning