

I-25 Funding Committee Meeting Notes

July 6, 2018

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Mimi's Cafe

1450 Fall River Dr, Loveland, CO 80537

1. Introductions

Bill Becker	Dan Betts	Sean Conway
Chad Crager	Kathy Gilliland	Gerry Horak
Mark Jackson	Becky Karasko	Medora Kealy
Cody LeBlanc	David May	Heather Paddock
Kim Redd		

2. I-25 Updates – Heather Paddock

Quality issues on the Crossroads project, including the deck's water-proofing membrane and concrete on Crossroads, has caused construction delay. Project completion is anticipated by August 2.

CDOT developed a draft RFP for Construction Management General Contractor (CMGC) procurement for the *North I-25 Segments 5 and 6* project. The Transportation Commission (TC) committed \$200M for the project, and Paddock explained FHWA requires a commitment of some funding to issue an RFP. The project includes replacement of the Little Thompson bridge, and an additional \$25M is needed. A BUILD grant application is under development for a \$250M project. The project cost was reduced from the INFRA application's amount of \$295M through maintaining an interim solution at Johnson's Corner, leveraging optimized design in interchanges, and removing other scoping elements. If the project funding remains at \$200M, it is possible only the SH60 and SH56 interchanges will be replaced to prepare for widening in the future. Such a project would address the safety issue at SH56 and the capacity issue at SH60.

Discussions are underway to eliminate the frontage road on the eastern side of I-25 between SH66 and SH402 to provide cost savings. Instead of the frontage road, the planned Weld County Road (WCR) 9.5 could provide the parallel route to I-25. CDOT would kick off the preliminary design to identify environmental issues and potential cost, and the I-25 Coalition could form a technical working group with staff from each community to work on WCR 9.5. The road would be built to Weld County arterial standards.

Additional funding for the *North I-25 Segments 7 and 8* project is being provided through the Regional Priority Program (RPP), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), and Bridge Enterprise funding. Two outreach meetings were held in June. The business meeting was unsuccessful, with only one attendee, but the public meeting was successful and well attended. Construction on US34 is expected to start July 27, and public information (PI) needs to start July 9. A press release will occur about one week prior to construction. The contractor is responsible for public communication, but all releases will be approved through CDOT and posted to CDOT's project page. The groundbreaking will be scheduled for Mid-August. Paddock asked if local

agencies were receiving timely, detailed information on the project. Jackson and Crager stated they are not receiving much information, and need more advance notice to prepare. Horak asked CDOT to give an update on PI coordination at the August I-25 Coalition meeting.

Work on SH402 will begin as soon as the utilities are settled, and the full closure of SH402 could start in early 2019.

3. State Funding Recap – David May

On June 21, a delegation from the Fix North I-25 Business Alliance and the North I-25 Coalition attended the TC meeting to advocate for funding the full buildout of the North I-25 project. The delegation was successful in raising awareness and there may be an opportunity for additional funding. Graphics identifying the interim 2+1 compared with full 2+1 were helpful in explaining the need.

The Denver Chamber's sales tax initiative has been endorsed by seven groups. The Chamber has raised \$4M out of \$9M for the public campaign. Both the sales tax and Caldara's proposal are collecting signatures to get on the November ballot.

Gilliland stated the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) and TC will hold a joint meeting in July to discuss the project list for the ballot initiative. Including the full buildout in the project list would provide savings overall, since interim work would not be required and then replaced. The \$600M for Segments 5 and 6 has always been on the 10 Year Development Plan list, but the \$1.5B for the full buildout fell off the list in error and is being added back. Since the ROW is being secured now and interchanges are being designed to accommodate 3 general purpose (GP) and one Tolle Express Lane (TEL), adding the third GP lane will be much easier.

Regarding the potential state funding for local governments from the ballot measures, Horak suggested identifying projects that would be funded in the City's budget. Conway suggested discussing local communities' strategies at the August MPO meeting.

4. Federal Funding Options – Gerry Horak and Becky Karasko

Horak stated the INFRA debrief call will be held July 12 with the USDOT, NFRMPO, and CDOT. Information from the debrief will be used to strengthen the BUILD application. Karasko will send feedback to the I-25 Funding Committee following the debrief and an update will be provided to the North I-25 Coalition at their next meeting.

Karasko stated the partial draft for the BUILD grant is under review, and the finalized application will be submitted on July 18. Redd stated a letter of support is ready and will be provided by July 13.

5. Next Steps

Next meeting – August 3, 2018 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm