

ADMINISTRATION MEMORANDUM

12-07

DATE: March 1, 2012
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: William Simmons, City Manager *WAS*
SUBJECT: Authorize Letter of Support and Funding Commitment for the I-25 North TIGER IV Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

Attached to this memorandum is a draft letter supporting the Colorado Department of Transportation's TIGER IV grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the construction of HOV-HOT lanes on I-25 from Highway US 36 to 120th Avenue. The letter also commits local Northglenn funding in the amount of \$550,000 (11%) toward the anticipated \$5 million local match for the project contingent upon receiving the full TIGER IV grant request for \$15.0 million. The total project cost is estimated at \$44.0 million.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2011 a TIGER III grant was submitted for this same project and was not awarded. Among the reasons cited by the U.S. DOT as to why the TIGER III grant was not successful was a low local contribution. Through discussions among the members of the North Area Transit Alliance and CDOT, it was determined that a \$5.0 million local match was needed to have a successful application.

The amount of Northglenn's and other local jurisdictions' contribution was based on the amount of Adams County Transportation Tax collected in each jurisdiction. The breakdown is as follows:

Federal Heights	3%	\$ 150,000
Northglenn	11%	\$ 555,000
Thornton	35%	\$1,750,000
Westminster	20%	\$1,000,000
Unincorporated Adams County	30%	\$1,500,000
Other jurisdictions		\$ 50,000
Total:		\$5,000,000

Other jurisdictions that NATA has asked for a local contribution include Denver and some north metro NATA communities along I-25 in Weld and Larimer Counties. NATA has requested that

every jurisdiction commit in principle by March 2, 2012. This is a very short time frame given the relatively short TIGER IV application period.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

This is not a budgeted item in the 2012 annual budget. It is not yet specifically known what budget year the local funds will be needed but likely in 2013. Additionally, the Adams County NATA members will be discussing pay back scenarios wherein the local funding commitment can be done over more than one budget year.

If the full local funding was needed this budget year there are two options the staff has identified. The first is the 2012 estimated year end unassigned fund balance in the Capital Projects Fund. That amount is \$570,426 which is general fund money that has been transferred to the capital projects fund. The second is the unassigned general fund balance which is projected to be \$4,730,246 at the end of 2012.

STAFF REFERENCE: If Board members have any comments or questions, they may contact Bill Simmons at 303.450.8709 or wsimmons@northglenn.org.



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Draft

March 1, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Letter of Support and Funding Commitment for the I-25 North TIGER IV Grant

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The City of Northglenn is pleased to provide this Letter of Support for the I-25 North TIGER grant application to aid in the mitigation of traffic congestion on the I-25 North corridor. The I-25 North corridor is a priority for our community as it runs through our community, is one of the region's major thoroughfares and a critical transportation route for residents participating in the regional economy. Implementation of the grant provides the opportunity to make an immediate impact to traffic congestion and foster the use of transit on the region's foremost congested highway segment.

Contingent upon receiving the full TIGER IV grant request of \$15 Million, the City of Northglenn will contribute \$550,000 towards the local match for the project, subject to appropriation of the funds by the Northglenn City Council.

The I-25 North TIGER application provides an opportunity to fund an innovative, cost effective, and sustainable project that promises to provide immediate relief to one of Colorado's most congested transportation corridors. The City of Northglenn places its endorsement behind the application and fully support the tenets of the grant proposal. We appreciate the collaborative efforts of the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Denver Regional Council of Governments, local jurisdictions and other associated agencies in proposing a near term solution to this corridor's congestion. We urge your support of the I-25 North TIGER IV grant application to fund this critical project for our region.

Sincerely,

Joyce Downing
Mayor