

October 14, 2014



Mr. Don Hunt  
Colorado Department of Transportation  
4201 E. Arkansas Ave  
Denver, CO 80222

Dear Mr. Hunt:

Adams County Economic Development, Inc. (ACED) supports CDOT's preliminary preferred alternative for the I-70 East project – the Partial Covered Lowered Alternative with Managed Lanes Option.

ACED is a 501(c)(6) private, nonprofit economic development agency whose mission is to retain, attract and serve primary employers in Adams County. ACED's Board of Directors voted to support the preliminary preferred alternative upon the unanimous recommendation of ACED's Transportation Taskforce.

A small group of opponents of the proposed alignment is pushing for the reroute of I-70 to I-270 and I-76. ACED strongly opposes this plan. This group calls itself *Unite North Metro Denver*, but in reality there is no "North Metro" membership. No jurisdiction north of Denver supports the reroute in Adams County advocated by this group. The group claims a reroute will bring economic development to Adams County. As the economic developer for the entire county, ACED strongly disagrees with this assertion.

CDOT spent years studying more than 90 different alternatives, including the reroute proposal and ruled it out for several reasons. The proposed reroute would cost 2-3 times more than the preferred alternative with no funding source (this does not include the additional cost to rebuild 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which would be an expense for the City and County of Denver); add additional miles of traffic for drivers (up to 4 miles); need to be greatly expanded to accommodate the additional traffic (up to 50K cars per day); and, negatively impact Adams County residents and businesses located along the path of the reroute

ACED congratulates CDOT on developing a workable solution that not only improves I-70 on its existing alignment, but also presents an alternative the North Metro business community can support. We look forward to CDOT issuing an RFP and starting construction in 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike McGinnis".

Mike McGinnis  
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Gore".

Barry Gore  
President/CEO