



denver STREETS PARTNERSHIP.org
Advocating for people-friendly streets in Denver

JULY 22, 2024

Director Lew and Federal Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit Project Team
Colorado Department of Transportation
2829 W Howard Place
Denver, CO 80204

Dear Director Lew and Federal Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit Project Team,

We, the undersigned organizations and elected officials, are excited for the implementation of the Federal Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and want to ensure that the maximum benefits of increasing ridership, improving safety and access to opportunity, and reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions are realized. We are concerned that the currently proposed project design calls for buses to share lanes with other vehicles on Federal Boulevard from 20th Avenue to 50th Avenue. **We are writing to urge you to advance a plan for Federal Boulevard BRT that includes a continuous bus-only lane for the entire corridor.**

As noted on the project website, Federal Boulevard is one of the busiest transit corridors in the Denver area today and buses on the corridor regularly experience significant delays. We are glad to see CDOT's stated project goals of improving safety; increasing transit reliability and ridership; increasing accessibility, mobility, and connectivity; and decreasing travel times. However, the currently proposed project design reinforces the status quo and works against the project goals by continuing to prioritize the convenience of people driving personal vehicles on the corridor over the reliability of public transit. Further, this proposal is counter to the state's greenhouse gas reduction targets and Denver's pedestrian priority philosophy ([Blueprint Denver p.166](#)) that complete multimodal networks prioritize the most efficient modes first. The full benefits of BRT will not be completely realized if the bus doesn't have its own lane for the length of the corridor.

Federal Boulevard is a critical backbone in the Denver region's transportation system that serves diverse populations and connects people to a variety of destinations. **Redesigning Federal Boulevard for BRT stands to improve the lives of people who already ride transit today, make transit a more attractive transportation option for others, increase safety for all, and reduce our transportation system's impact on public health and the environment. This is no time to**

compromise on transit improvements to maintain the status quo from from 20th Avenue to 50th Avenue. We again urge you to advance a plan for Federal Boulevard BRT that includes a continuous bus-only lane for the entire corridor. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Faith Winter, State Senator

Lisa Cutter, State Senator

William Linsdtedt, State House Representative

Molly McKinley, Policy Director, Denver Streets Partnership

Rob Toftness, Co-Founder, Denver Bicycle Lobby

Matt Frommer, Transportation & Land Use Policy Manager, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP)

Jacob Smith, Executive Director, National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS)

Alejandra X. Castañeda, Pedestrian Dignity Co-organizer

Julie Reiskin, Co-Executive Director, Colorado Cross Disability Coalition

Danny Katz, Executive Director, CoPIRG

Lawrence Brogan, Director, Strong Denver

Richard Bamber and Leslie Welch, Co-Leads at Greater Denver Transit

Jonathan Pira, Treasurer, YIMBY Denver

Marie Venner, Colorado Small Business Alliance and Steve Douglas, Mayor of Commerce City, for former City Council Members and Planning Commissioners

Patrick Santana, Vibrant Littleton and Littleton Business Alliance

Dr. David Mintzer, Hospitalist, on the board of Colorado Physicians for Social Responsibility

Dr. Velma Campbell & Jamie Valdez, Colorado Lead, Mothers Out Front

Jan Brown, Citizens' Alliance for a Sustainable Englewood

J.D. Ruybal, COCRN Colorado Community Rights Network

Kristi Douglas, Co-chair, North Range Concerned Citizens

Trupti Suthar, Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc (SUNI)

Philip Beck and Elizabeta Stacishin, Co-founders, Indivisible Ambassadors

Bridget Walsh, Greater Park Hill Community

Paddy McClelland, Co-Chair, Wall of Women

Shannon Francis, Director, Spirit of the Sun

Moshe Kornfeld, Coordinator, CO Jewish Climate Action

Fred Kirsch, Director, Community for Sustainable Energy

Stefanie Klass, Co-Chair, Colorado Call to Action and CatholicNetwork

Fran Aguirre, President, Unite North Metro Denver

Thomas Lundy, Co-Chair of the CDP Energy & Environment Initiative

Emmett Holey, Co-Chair, Montbello Neighborhood Improvement Association

Maura Stephens, Coordinating Committee, System Change Not Climate Change

Debbie Thornburg James, Mayfair Park Neighborhood Association Board

Nic Venner, Metro State Student and Our Children's Trust Juliana Plaintiff

Amy Petré Hill, Founder and Community Chaplain, Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries

Rachael Lehman, Healthy Communities Chair, I-70/Vasquez Blvd Citizens Advisory Committee

Paolo C. Solorzano of the Transit Riders Alliance and Colorado Cross Disabilities Coalition

Anna Ramirez, Working for Racial Equity and Southwest Organization for Sustainability

Yadira Sanchez, mother and longtime resident and community leader, Elyria Swansea

Karen Bueno, Leaders Team, Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action

Harmony Cummings, Co-Founder, Green House Connection Center

Jeff Hart, former EPA staff member and Co-Founder of Save EPA

Rev. Mark Meeks, Pastor, Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church

Rabbi Eliot J Baskin, D Min, with Together Colorado