



Community Planning & Permitting

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Website: www.bouldercounty.org/transportation/multimodal

DATE: October 4, 2022

TO: Boulder County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Kathleen Bracke, Deputy Director, Community Planning & Permitting – Transportation Planning

CC: Dale Case, Director, Community Planning & Permitting
Alex Hyde-Wright, CP&P – Transportation Planning
Stacey Proctor, CP&P – Transportation Planning
Jeff Butts, CP&P – Transportation Planning

RE: Request for Boulder County support for DRCOG Regional TIP Applications

Boulder County staff, in conjunction with local jurisdictions and agency partners, has developed three applications for the upcoming Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) grant funding opportunity (Call #3). Per the DRCOG TIP policy, the Boulder County Forum – which includes representatives from each of the county communities that participate in DRCOG – supported submitting these applications at the Forum meeting held on August 8, 2022.

Action Requested

Staff is seeking approval from the Board of County Commissioners to submit these applications to DRCOG for the TIP Call #3, including support for the portion of local matching funds proposed from Boulder County.

Background

Brief project summaries and details regarding the cost shares for each of the participating agencies are provided below with the portion of local matching funds anticipated to be provided by Boulder County shown in bold text:

- I. CO119 Diagonal BRT/Safety/Roadway Project (to be submitted by Boulder County to DRCOG, draft application attached)– CO119 is a vital regional and inter-regional corridor connecting Boulder County, Denver metro area, and Northern Colorado. This project will include multimodal safety and operational improvements along the CO119 diagonal corridor to support people using all modes of travel. Specific project elements include: CO119 from Niwot to Airport Road, including intersection safety improvements, queue bypass lanes, Bus Rapid Transit stop platforms, Park and Ride improvements, commuter bikeway, and an underpass beneath Niwot Road

- a. Total project budget: \$23.3M
 - i. DRCOG request: \$16.31M (~70%)
 - ii. Local match: \$7.2M (~30%)
 - 1. RTD: \$1.5M
 - 2. CDOT: \$5.5M
 - 3. **Boulder County: \$200K**

II. CO119 Local infrastructure improvements (to be submitted by the City of Longmont & City of Boulder to DRCOG) – Local multimodal infrastructure improvements to support CO119 Bus Rapid Transit, including “Business Access & Transit” (BAT) Lanes, traffic signal operations, queue jumps, and bicycle/pedestrian connections within the cities of Longmont and Boulder

- a. Total project budget: \$15M
 - i. DRCOG request: \$12M (~80%)
 - ii. Local match: \$3M (~20%)
 - 1. City of Longmont: \$2M
 - 2. City of Boulder: \$1M
 - 3. **Boulder County: \$0** (no county match required for this application)

III. CO7 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Starter Service, Boulder to Brighton (to be submitted by Boulder County to DRCOG, draft application attached) – This CO7 BRT starter service project application is a joint multi-agency, inter-regional submittal with project partners including CDOT, RTD, communities of Boulder, Lafayette, Erie, Broomfield, Thornton and Brighton, plus Boulder, Broomfield, and Adams counties. The CO7 BRT starter service will add high frequency, express transit for approximately 26.6 miles along one of the fastest growing corridors in the DRCOG region, connecting Boulder to Brighton. The CO7 BRT service is proposed to operate as a two-year pilot route in 2026 and 2027. Based the operating experience and performance of the starter service, future transit service along CO7 can be scaled appropriately to best serve the corridor communities on an on-going basis, and long-term funding commitments can be determined in collaboration with agency partners.

- a. Total project budget: \$9.264M
 - i. DRCOG request: \$7M (~76%)
 - ii. Local match: \$2.57M (~24%)
 - 1. CDOT Region 4: \$375,000 (confirmed)
 - 2. CDOT Region 1: TBD
 - 3. RTD: TBD
 - 4. Boulder County Subregional Forum: \$100K (requested)
 - 5. Broomfield County Subregional Forum: \$100K (confirmed)
 - 6. Adams County Subregional Forum: \$100K (requested)
 - 7. SW Weld County Forum: \$70K (confirmed)

8. Boulder County: \$200K

- 9. City of Boulder: \$200K (requested)
- 10. City of Lafayette: \$200K (requested)
- 11. Town of Erie: \$200K (requested)
- 12. City & County of Broomfield: \$200K (confirmed)
- 13. City of Thornton: \$200K (requested)
- 14. City of Brighton: \$200K (requested)

In addition to these TIP applications being developed by the Boulder County Forum, the Broomfield Forum will be submitting an application to advance multimodal infrastructure preconstruction/design plans along the CO7 corridor. The CO7 preconstruction/design application is complementary to the CO7 BRT starter service application so that the multimodal infrastructure design and BRT service can come forward together over the next several years. The CO7 preconstruction/design application is also a partnership approach with the local jurisdictions along the corridor from Boulder to Brighton as well as CDOT and RTD. Within Boulder County, this CO7 preconstruction/design application includes funding for design of CO7 corridor improvements from Foothills Parkway to 63rd Street in Boulder as well as from Lucerne to 119th Street in Lafayette. The funding approach for the portion of the CO7 preconstruction/design application within Boulder County includes the following agencies, and there is not a specific funding request to Boulder County:

- a. Total project budget: \$5.5M (For segments within Boulder County)
 - i. DRCOG request: \$3.2M (~58%)
 - ii. Local match: \$2.3M (~42%)
 - 1. CDOT R4: \$1.1M (confirmed)
 - 2. Boulder County Subregional Forum: \$200K (requested)
 - 3. City of Boulder: \$800K (requested)
 - 4. City of Lafayette: \$100K (requested)
 - 5. Town of Erie: \$100K (requested)
 - 6. **Boulder County: \$0** (no county match required for this application)

Summary

Staff is seeking approval from the Boulder County Commissioners to submit the Regional TIP applications (Call #3) including the county's share of local matching funds for the CO119 application (\$200,000) and the CO7 BRT Starter Service application (\$200,000).

If these projects are awarded funding from the DRCOG TIP process, staff will return to the Board of County Commissioners for further action on proposed inter-agency agreements. The source of funding for Boulder County's local matching funds is proposed to be the county's existing transportation sales tax funding or future sales tax funding extension depending on the outcome of the November 2022 ballot item and/or the timing of the funding contracts with DRCOG as this TIP Call#3 represents years 2024-2027.

Action:

Request for approval of DRCOG TIP Call #3 grant application submittals on or before October 11, 2022.

BOCC Signature if Approved:

Signature

Date

Attachments:

1. Boulder County CO119/Diagonal Multimodal Improvements – Regional TIP Application Call #3 (DRAFT)
2. Boulder County CO7 Bus Rapid Transit Starter Service – Regional TIP Application Call #3 (DRAFT)