



Community Planning & Permitting

Courthouse Annex • 2045 13th Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306
303-441-3930 • www.BoulderCounty.gov

DATE: April 24, 2024

TO: Boulder County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Alex Hyde-Wright, Regional Multimodal Planning Division Manager,
Community Planning & Permitting – Transportation Planning

RE: REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE OF LETTER OF SUPPORT TO CDOT FOR
US 287 MPDG GRANT APPLICATION

Staff is requesting signature from the Boulder County Commissioners to provide a letter of support to the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)'s application to the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) opportunity for US 287 Corridor Safety Improvements.

US 287 is one of the most deadly highways in Boulder County, and over the past two years Boulder County has been working with CDOT, the City of Longmont, the Town of Erie, the City of Lafayette, and the City and County of Broomfield to complete the US 287 Vision Zero Safety Study, which identified a number of necessary safety improvements.

Chief among these is a center median barrier in the two rural segments of US 287 within Boulder County, to mitigate the continued trend of fatal crossover crashes resulting from drivers crossing the striped center median.

For the past several years, Boulder County has applied to several grant opportunities to fund these improvements, so far unsuccessfully. Recognizing that the safety concerns and crash trends span multiple counties, CDOT is taking the lead on a multi-county application that would safety improvements along US 287 between the City of Lafayette and the Wyoming state line, including intersection improvements, standardized shoulder widths; cross-slope adjustments; slope flattening; concrete median barriers; rumble strips; and targeted bulb-outs at unsignalized intersections to aid in emergency vehicle mobility and access.

While CDOT would manage this project, if funded, Boulder County would be a key project stakeholder. In addition to this application, Boulder County staff will continue to pursue other funding opportunities for safety improvements on US 287, including an upcoming application to the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant opportunity that may be able to expedite funding for center median barriers on US 287 north of Longmont to the Boulder County/Larimer County line while design and preconstruction work advances for the potential MPDG-funded median barriers in additional areas of Boulder County and Larimer County.

In our collective effort to pursue any and all available funding for this critical work, we request the Board's signature of the attached letter of support.