



# 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](http://www.BoulderCounty.gov)

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for US 287 Corridor Safety Improvements Discretionary Grant Application -  
MPDG 2025/26

April 30, 2024

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing to express Boulder County's support for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)'s US Highway 287 Corridor Safety Improvements Project ("The Project").

This Project will deliver essential safety improvements to reduce the risk of fatal and severe crashes across key rural segments of the US Highway 287 corridor.

The US 287 highway corridor connects two metropolitan areas, two counties, multiple municipalities, as well as three major state universities, and is included in the Colorado Freight Plan; as a designated Highway Freight Corridor, it supports the economic vitality of the Northwest Denver Metro Region and Northern Colorado serving students, commuters, tourists, and residents traveling and living along US Highway 287 between Boulder and Larimer counties.

Over the last several years, CDOT and local agencies including Boulder County have conducted multiple safety studies along the corridor. The results identified various safety concerns including crossover/head-on collisions, opposite direction sideswipes, overturning crashes, and wildlife collisions. Underscoring the need to improve safety on this corridor, the crash trends continue unabated. Already in 2024, five people have died in two separate crashes on US 287, with two of those fatalities having occurred in Boulder County.

The Project applies a systemic approach to improve several highest-need rural stretches of US 287 between the Colorado-Wyoming border and the City of Lafayette in Boulder County, Colorado. It will target the greatest needs of the corridor to invest in high-value improvements, including passing lanes in key areas; three intersection improvements, standardized shoulder widths; cross-slope adjustments; wildlife fencing and crossings; slope flattening; concrete median barriers; rumble strips; and targeted bulb-outs at unsignalized intersections to aid in emergency vehicle mobility and access.

Overall, the roadway modifications will strengthen the corridor by improving safety and ensuring connectivity of this significant regional travel corridor. We support this worthy proposal because it will save lives, and we encourage USDOT to fully fund it with Infra and Rural grant dollars.

Boulder County looks forward to partnering with USDOT and CDOT to implement this important safety project.

Sincerely,

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Ashley Stolzmann, Chair- Board of County Commissioners