

## **Board of County Commissioners**

June 17, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

## **RE:** Letter of Support and Confirmation of Local Match for Boulder County's SS4A Implementation Grant Application – US 36 North Foothills Bikeway Project

Dear Secretary Duffy and the Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners to express our strong support for the county's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant application. Funds will be used to design and construct safety improvements including 3.3 miles of a paved, bi-directional, detached bikeway/shared-use path along US 36 North Foothills Highway.

The US 36 North Foothills corridor is a critical regional connector for community members to access education, employment, and services in Boulder, visitors to travel between Denver and Rocky Mountain National Park, and cyclists to train, recreate, and access open spaces and regional trails. The corridor is a very popular route for both recreational and competitive cyclists despite the lack of protected infrastructure.

This corridor has experienced numerous fatal crashes involving cyclists in recent years. The loss of life underscores the need for safety improvements and a dedicated facility for multimodal users to make the road safer for all travelers. The southern segment has the highest number of bicyclist injuries and fatalities on the corridor and is therefore the top priority segment.

This project has strong support from stakeholders and the community. The county has secured the following local match contributions: \$1 million from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), \$100,000 from the City of Boulder, and \$57,400 from the nonprofit Coalition 4 Cyclists (C4C). Boulder County is prepared to provide the remaining \$4.1 million in local match from the county's Transportation Sales Tax fund when federal funds are awarded. These financial commitments demonstrate the community's desire to advance this project and leverage federal resources to deliver life-saving safety infrastructure.

## Commissioner Claire Levy • Commissioner Marta Loachamin • Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann

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This project benefits from a high level of readiness: a preferred alignment has been conceptualized, coordination with CDOT and other stakeholders has begun, engineering is underway, and the community is eager to see the project completed. This strong foundation of planning, partnership, and public support along with SS4A funding will make construction of Segment 1 possible by 2027, SS4A funding will accelerate safety improvements on the US 36 corridor, helping prevent serious injuries and fatal crashes, and improving travel safety for everyone.

We respectfully request your full consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Marta Loachamin, Chair Boulder County Board of Commissioners