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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY COMMITS \$2 MILLION FOR NORTH I-25 PROJECT

WELD COUNTY, CO – Continuing to follow through on their commitment to support improvements along the north I-25 corridor, the Board of Weld County Commissioners committed \$2 million to help fund an additional lane on I-25 from SH 402 to SH 14. The commitment, which will be paired with funding commitments from other municipalities in northern Colorado, helps build a local match needed for a TIGER/FASTLANE grant the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFR MPO) are each applying for to help fund the improvement project.

“Improving north I-25 is vital for the economic success of northern Colorado,” said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. “The funds we are dedicating to improvements on this interstate are an investment in our economic success as a county and as a region.”

The TIGER/FASTLANE grant is for Phase 1 implementation of the North I-25 EIS, which includes construction of an additional 14-mile managed lane from SH 402 to SH 14. Improvements will also include replacement of the Poudre River bridge that will accommodate the Poudre River Trail, the Union Pacific Bridge south of Crossroads, and widening of all other structures accommodate a third lane.

“The partnership between CDOT and the northern Colorado elected officials has been outstanding for I-25,” said Johnny Olson, CDOT’s Region 4 Transportation Director. “With Weld’s commitment of \$2 million, it’s evident they are dedicated to the regional transportation issues in northern Colorado.”

Weld County’s commitment to finding solutions to transportation issues along the north I-25 corridor began in 2013, when Weld Commissioners invited elected officials and their designees, from three counties and fourteen communities along the northern I-25 corridor in Colorado, to come together to form the North I-25 Coalition.

“Interstate 25 is the only Colorado highway on the National Freight Plan,” said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer, Chair of the North I-25 Coalition. “And the section that runs through northern Colorado is in desperate need of improvements. Almost 700,000 people will call Northern Colorado home by the year 2020 and even more will travel through the region on this crucial corridor. It is imperative we work together to improve this road not only for commerce and industry but also for the increasing residential population in northern Colorado.”

To learn more about the Northern I-25 Coalition, program, please visit
<http://www.co.weld.co.us/Departments/Commissioners/TopicsofInterest/index.html>.

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