Denver Regional Council of Governments Summary Document of the 2013 Cycle 2 Amendments to the 2035 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan

Board Adopted: May 21, 2014

I. Summary

Several amendments are proposed to the *Fiscally Constrained 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (2035 FC-RTP)* of the *2035 Metro Vision Regional Transportation* Plan *(2035 MVRTP)*. The proposed amendments address CDOT RAMP-funded projects, RTD FasTracks changes, and local government projects. A detailed description of each amendment is shown in Table 1. The locations of each amendment are shown in Figure A (Roadway System) and Figure B (Rapid Transit System).

II. Analysis of Amendments

The proposed amendments fall into four categories. Table 1 describes the specific amendment change associated with each project.

1. Roadway Projects - CDOT RAMP-Funded

CDOT recently funded several projects in the DRCOG region through its Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) program. The proposed RAMP-funded amendments are:

- C-470 (Douglas County): new managed toll express lanes
- I-70 (Mountain Corridor): eastbound peak period toll express lane
- US-6/19th Street (Golden): new interchange
- SH-2 (Commerce City): widening

2. Roadway Projects - Local Government

There are four roadway amendments proposed by local governments. Two amendments address new and additional locally funded managed toll express lanes on C-470 (extensions and additions to the CDOT RAMP project noted above). The third is a proposed interchange at I-76 and Bridge Street in Brighton. The fourth is a proposed grade separation of Arapahoe Road and Jordan Road in Centennial.

3. Rapid Transit Projects (RTD)

RTD is proposing two amendments to its FasTracks rapid transit lines. One amendment is to add the portion of the North Metro Rail Line from the 72nd Avenue Station to the 124th Avenue Station to the 2035 FC-RTP. The other amendment is to relocate the Montview Station on the I-225 Rail Line one-half mile north to Fitzsimons Parkway. Per state statute (SB 208) and DRCOG requirements, RTD prepared the *RTD FasTracks Plan Change Report, December 2013* addressing the financial, scope/service, and other changes to the FasTracks program of the proposed amendments. This report was approved by the DRCOG Board at its December 18, 2013 meeting.

Table 1
Proposed 2013 Cycle 2 Amendments to the 2035 Fiscally Constrained RTP (2035 FC-RTP)

Sponsor	Project Location	Current RTP Project Description	Type of Change to the FC-2035-RTP	Model Network Staging Period
CDOT/ C-470 Coalition	C-470 Corridor: • EB: Platte Canyon Rd to I-25 • WB: I-25 to Wadsworth Blvd	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Add 1 new managed toll express lane: • Eastbound: Platte Canyon Rd to I-25 • Westbound: I-25 to Wadsworth Blvd	2015 - 2024
CDOT/ C-470 Coalition	C-470 Corridor: • EB: Kipling Pkwy to Platte Canyon Rd • WB: Wadsworth Blvd. to Kipling Pkwy.	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Add 1 new managed toll express lane: • Eastbound: Kipling Pkwy to Platte Canyon Rd • Westbound: Wadsworth Blvd to Kipling Pkwy	2025 - 2035
CDOT/ C-470 Coalition	C-470 Corridor: • EB: Broadway to I-25 • WB: I-25 to Lucent Blvd.	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Add 1 add'l. managed toll express lane:	2025 - 2035
CDOT Region 1	I-70 Eastbound (Empire Jct. to Twin Tunnels)	Undetermined Improvements	Add new peak period shoulder tolled express lane (Empire Junction to Twin Tunnels)	2015 - 2024
Brighton	I-76/Bridge St	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Add new interchange	2015 - 2024
Broomfield	120 th Ave - Allison St to Emerald St	New road	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 - 2024
Centennial	Arapahoe Rd - I-25 to Potomac St	Grade separations & operational improvements	Extend eastern limit to Jordan Rd., add Jordan Rd. grade separation	2025 - 2035
Commerce City	SH-2 - 72 nd Ave to I-76	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Widen to four lanes (72 nd Ave to I-76)	2015 - 2024
Denver	Federal Blvd - 5 th Ave to Holden Pl	Widening	Change limits to 6 th Ave to Howard St	2015 – 2024
Denver	Central Park Blvd - 47 th Ave to 56 th Ave	New Road	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 – 2024
Denver	Broadway - Kentucky Ave to Arizona Ave	Widening and I-25 interchange (add ramp)	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 – 2024
Denver	Martin Luther King Blvd - Havana St/Lola St to Peoria St	New Road	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 – 2024
Denver	56 th Ave - Havana St to Pena Blvd	Widening	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 – 2024
Golden	US 6/19 th St	Not in FC-RTP Regional Roadway Network	Add new interchange	2015 - 2024
Parker	Chambers Rd - Stroh Rd to Hess Rd	New Road	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 – 2024
Parker	Stroh Rd - Chambers Rd to Crowfoot Valley Rd	New Road	Change network staging, from 2012-2014 to 2015-2024	2015 - 2024
RTD	North Metro Rail Line	Denver Union Station to 72nd Ave	Add segment from 72 nd Ave Station to 124 th Avenue Station to FC-RTP	2015 - 2024
RTD	I-225 Rail Line	Parker Road to East Rail Line	Relocate Montview Station one-half mile north to Fitzsimons Parkway	2015 - 2024

4. Minor Amendments

DRCOG coordinates with local governments regarding the schedule for local roadway projects in the 2035 FC-RTP. Periodically, local governments will request the completion date for projects be delayed to the next air quality conformity staging period. In this amendment cycle, there are seven projects local governments have requested be moved from the 2014 network staging period to the next (2015-2024) network staging period.

Financial Implications

CDOT's proposed RAMP-funded amendments meet federal fiscal constraint requirements. Project sponsors for locally funded amendments submitted documentation and analysis as appropriate demonstrating local funding commitment.

As noted, RTD's December 2013 Change Report provided documentation and analyses addressing the proposed FasTracks amendments, their need and benefit, and cost and revenue implications for fiscal constraint. RTD's analysis indicates that the North Metro Rail Line extension can be completed as scheduled with reasonably expected funds. RTD also noted the relocation of the Montview Station to Fitzsimons Parkway will be completed within the approved budget for the I-225 Rail Line. Minor amendments that involve only network staging period changes do not have major cost implications.

Air Quality Conformity Modeling

The FC-2035 RTP networks resulting from all of the proposed amendments were tested to ensure all applicable air quality conformity pollutant emission tests would be passed. Modeling was conducted to produce vehicle miles of travel (VMT) and roadway operating speeds for 2010, 2015, 2025, and 2035. Results were used by the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division to calculate the mobile source pollutant emissions. **The results passed each of the individual pollutant budget tests.** More details can be found in the companion 2013 Cycle 2 conformity documents (CO and PM10 Conformity Determination) and 8-hour Ozone Conformity Determination).

III. Proposed Amendments and Changes to 2035 MVRTP document

The amendments and changes discussed above will be incorporated into updated versions of Figure 26, Figure 29, Appendix 2 and Appendix 4 of the 2035 MVRTP.



