



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Division

March 24th, 2019

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Lakewood, Colorado 80228
720-963-3000
720-963-3001

Heather Paddock
Regional Transportation Director
CDOT Region 4
10601 West 10th Street
Greeley CO 80634

Subject: SH 66 Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (PEL)

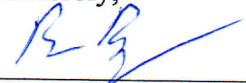
Dear Mrs. Paddock:

This letter is to acknowledge the completion of the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study initiative undertaken by CDOT in partnerships with various local agencies in Northern Colorado. We appreciate and commend the efforts the team has undertaken to conduct this corridor planning study in a manner consistent with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) PEL guidance. The benefits of this streamlining effort will undoubtedly be realized in terms of time and cost savings on future National and Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies conducted within the corridor planning study limits.

The completed PEL Questionnaire submitted to FHWA on March 16th, 2020 as an attachment to the PEL Report, provides a good summary of the work completed in the study and the information that will be needed once this project enters the NEPA process. The strengths of the study include an excellent Existing Conditions Study that could serve as a great example to other PELs moving forward. The study also demonstrated strengths through the collaboration with a diverse set of stakeholders in a large corridor, the incorporation of Risk and Resiliency into the PEL Study, and the future action plan to be used as a resource to identify and implement future projects. As individual projects are initiated and funding becomes available, it will be necessary for FHWA to meet with CDOT and the Local Agencies to determine the scope of the NEPA study required, purpose and need, logical termini, and the extent to which the corridor study can be used to supplement or replace certain milestones in the NEPA process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Tricia Sergeson of this office at (720) 963-3073 patricia.sergeson@dot.gov or Mr. Brian Dobling at (720) 963- 3032, brian.dobling@dot.gov.

Sincerely,



For John M. Cater
Division Administrator
By: Brian Dobling
Area Engineer

Cc:
James Zufall, CDOT Region 4 Project Manager
Brian Varella, CDOT Region 4 Resident Engineer
Troy Halouska, CDOT PEL Program Manager