



AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM
Communication to Board of County Commissioners

To: Chair Sandy Hollingsworth, Commissioner Web Sill and Commissioner Linda Isenhart

From: Ray Rears
Name

County Manager
Title

Today's Date: 4/25/22

BoCC Meeting Date: 5/3/22

Does this item require a PUBLIC HEARING? No.

Item: Letter of Support for Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity application for I-70 Floyd Hill Project

Request or Issue: Approval of letter and signature

Background Information:

- The I-70 Floyd Hill project helps to support safer and faster transit from the County to the metro area while also reducing environmental impacts.
- The project also increases efficiency by reducing traffic and slowdowns between Floyd Hill and the Veterans Memorial tunnels.
- This letter serves to demonstrate Gilpin County's support of the CDOT application for federal funds to assist the project.

Associated Agencies: CDOT

Recommended Action / Next Step: Approval of a document.

Financial Impact(s): No financial impact.

Finance/HR Staff: Reviewed by Finance? No. Reviewed by Human Resources? No. Is this item currently budgeted No

Legal Impact. No legal impact.

Presentation Materials: Letter only.

Grant Apps: Not a grant application.

Amount of agenda time needed: 5 min

Is this item time sensitive: May 12th.

Contact for Follow Up: County Manager Ray Rears



Gilpin County Colorado

Commissioners

Web Sill, District 1

Linda Isenhart, District 2

Sandy Hollingsworth, District 3

County Manager

Ray Rears

County Attorney

Bradford Benning

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April 25, 2022

Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Secretary Buttigieg,

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners wishes to express its support for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Opportunity application. CDOT has invested more than \$500 million in the Floyd Hill to Veterans Memorial Tunnels stretch of the I-70 Mountain Corridor since 2011. CDOT has identified and committed \$460 million of the \$700 million to complete Floyd Hill Project. The requested \$240 million MPDG investment is critical to completing the funding for this important project and realizing the full benefits of past investments.

The Floyd Hill project is of fundamental importance to the State of Colorado, regional governments, the security of the National Highway Freight Network, and the people of Gilpin County. It is a nationally and regionally significant project, serving as an essential link for interstate commerce and providing the primary access to Colorado's world-class entertainment and recreation destinations including those in Gilpin County. The I-70 Mountain Corridor serves as the major access point into Gilpin County and is vital to our local economy which is highly reliant on tourists seeking mountain recreation, entertainment, arts, culture, and limited stakes gaming.

Missing connections and limitations of the existing interstate through the Floyd Hill section of I-70 create year-round gridlock situations, leaving thousands of cars idling beside public open spaces, waterways, wildlife habitat, and sensitive high forested areas. The interstate through this area has not been improved since the 1960s and was not designed to safely accommodate today's travel demand along Colorado's primary East-West corridor.

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners strongly supports the Floyd Hill Project and CDOT's MPDG FY 2022 application. The project will improve safety, lessen travel time, and enhance trip reliability for our residents and visitors alike. It will also serve as a boon to new economic opportunities by improving access to mountain recreation and facilitating efficient freight movement.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hollingsworth

Linda Isenhart

Web Sill