



April 15, 2025

The Honorable Senator Michael Bennet
261 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Senator John Hickenlooper
Hart Senate Office Building
120 Constitution Ave NE
Suite SH-316
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Letter of Support for US-85 (Sedalia to Meadows Pkwy) Project
CDOT Project # NHPP 0852-0113 (21511), STIP # SR 16719**

Dear Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Castle Rock, to inform you that the Town fully supports Douglas County's pursuit of additional funding to advance preconstruction activities associated with the US-85 (Sedalia to Meadows Parkway) Project via FY 2026 Community Project Funding (CPF) and Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) grant opportunities.

Reconstructing and widening the segment of US 85 (between Sedalia and Castle Rock) is of paramount importance since US 85 is part of the National Highway System (NHS) and it is identified as a strategic highway for national defense, and it is part of the National Highway Freight Program (NHFP). Additionally, this segment of US 85 serves as an alternate route when accidents occur on I-25 and traffic needs to be diverted off of I-25, (since I-25 is Colorado's only north-south interstate highway), and US 85 is also used by numerous tourists traveling to C-470 and onto the I-70 mountain corridor.

During the 30-year period spanning from 1990 to 2019, Douglas County experienced tremendous growth, with 480% increase in population, making it one of the fastest-growing counties in the United States. Improving the last remaining segment of US 85 in Douglas County is extremely important for providing a more reliable multi-modal transportation network while accommodating population growth and managing traffic operations safely.

It is our understanding that if this project is selected, then these funds will be used to advance design, right-of-way acquisition and relocating utilities that are in conflict with the proposed US 85 widening and reconstruction project; and Douglas County agrees to provide CDOT \$750,000 as part of the required 20% Local Agency match for the \$3 million being requested, since CDOT has agreed to administer the additional funds as part of their current US 85 project.

We wish Douglas County much success in their pursuit of finding additional funding for this regionally significant transportation project. Implementing the US 85 improvements will yield far-

reaching benefits for our residents, businesses, and visitors that rely on having a safe and reliable transportation network.

Sincerely,

Jason Gray
Mayor

c: Daniel J. Sailer, P.E., Director of Public Works, Town of Castle Rock
Doug DeBord, County Manager, Douglas County
Janet R. Herman, P.E., Public Works Engineering Director, Douglas County
Dan Avery, Special Projects Manager, Douglas County
Art Griffith, Project Manager, Douglas County