



December 15th, 2022

Adam Phipps, Executive Director  
Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure  
201 W Colfax Ave  
Denver, CO 80202

**RE: South Broadway & I-25 Improvement Projects  
Phase II: Broadway & I-25 Interchange**

Dear Mr. Phipps,

On behalf of Greater Denver Transit (GDT), we strongly urge that the Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure reconsider the implementation of Phase II (Broadway & I-25 Interchange) of the South Broadway & I-25 Improvement Projects until the design can be updated to align with the goals set forth in the Environmental Assessment for this project, namely:

1. Maintaining access to and from area neighborhoods; providing multi-modal travel options (including transit), including fully integrated and useful bicycle and pedestrian facilities
2. Either significantly modifying or reconsidering the rebuilding of the I-25 northbound ramp to avoid resident displacement

We agree with the criticisms shared by fellow stakeholders that this highway project is out of date and insufficiently addresses the needs of transit riders, bikers, and pedestrians. Reconsidering the current project trajectory is absolutely necessary as the project places choke points around the critical I-25 & Broadway transit station, while creating significant hazards for those traveling on foot to/from and around the station. The following risks warrant the pausing project progression until they can be properly addressed:

- This current vision of the project apparently removes a key upgrade for bus riders that was previously included: a curved feeder street that would connect RTD's bus bays at I-25 & Broadway Station to East Exposition Avenue without buses being slowed down by an extra controlled intersection between the bus bays and Broadway / Lincoln. Instead, DOTI has added extra right-angle turns which will slow down buses and add an unnecessary conflict point between the I-25 & Broadway Station and the Broadway / East Exposition intersection. DOTI must restore this feature that garnered support within the 2007 version of the plan because of its potential to save bus riders precious minutes on one of RTD's busiest bus routes. The current project design would undermine the intent for Broadway to be a candidate route for upgrading to Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).
- The 20-year-old project design requires pedestrians and bikers to cross four highway ramps and 19 lanes of fast-moving vehicles to reach the transit station just 0.3 miles away. This adds considerable and unneeded risk for pedestrians and bikers to move safely, which is in conflict with the City of Denver's stated Vision Zero initiative.



- This project is set to demolish a block of homes to make way for a new highway ramp and will widen Ohio Avenue from Lincoln to Sherman Streets. This is unacceptable displacement in a time of skyrocketing housing costs, and continues a harmful legacy of prioritizing suburban commuters over local residents.
- Despite the city spending millions on the Broadway bike lane, this project provides bikers no convenient or acceptably safe way to access the RTD station. This degrades the effectiveness on the south end.

It is clear that the current project design will exacerbate the unsafe conditions that exist today at the expense of the health of our local community members, pedestrians, transit riders, bikers, and our great city's 'Vision Zero' aims. While the I-25 & Broadway RTD Station platforms are within the responsibility of RTD, we hold that DOTI has an essential responsibility to maintain and enhance transit access from Broadway and Lincoln into the Station facility. Your transit-riding constituency needs greater consideration on this project.

Please pause and redesign Phase II (Broadway & I-25 Interchange) of the South Broadway & I-25 Improvement Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Flattum'.

James Flattum  
Greater Denver Transit

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RJ Bamber'.

Richard Bamber  
Greater Denver Transit

CC: Mayor Hancock  
Mike Harmer, DOTI  
Shoshana M. Lew, CDOT  
Debra Johnson, RTD

Jolon Clark, Denver City Council, District 7  
Steve Harelson, CDOT  
Kate Williams, RTD Director, District A