

March 5, 2020

Regional Transportation District
Board of Directors
1660 Blake Street
Denver, CO 80202

RE: May 2020 JUMP Service Reductions

Dear RTD Board of Directors,

The following members of the State Highway 7 Coalition including Boulder County, City & County of Broomfield, Town of Erie, City of Lafayette, the Northwest Chamber Alliance, University of Colorado Boulder and our two TMO's Commuting Solutions and Smart Commute Metro-North are concerned about the reduction of the JUMP service.

The JUMP currently provides service between Downtown Boulder and Lafayette/Erie via Arapahoe Road. This local service is envisioned to grow into a high-quality regional Bus Rapid Transit service along SH-7, Arapahoe Road and Baseline by extending the JUMP transit service to eastern Erie, City & County of Broomfield, Thornton, Adams County, and Brighton.

Along with RTD and CDOT, the communities along the corridor have been actively investing in planning a robust multi-modal corridor since the completion of RTD's Northwest Area Mobility Study (NAMS) in 2014, which identified SH-7 as a potential Bus Rapid Transit Corridor. The work includes the completion of two Planning & Environmental Linkage studies (2014 & 2018) spanning from 75th Street in Boulder County to US85 in Brighton, as well as City of Boulder's East Arapahoe Transportation Plan (2018), I-25/SH-7 Mobility Hub Concept Design (CDOT 2018), SH-7 Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study (2019), and SH-7 Station Area Design (2019).

The SH-7 Coalition rejects RTD's categorization of the JUMP service reduction as "permanent," rather it should be noted that the mid-day service does not meet current performance standards. The SH-7 corridor between Boulder and Brighton is one of the major east/west regional arterials in the North Denver Metro Region. It is anticipated that by 2040 there will be 56,000 new residents and 38,000 new jobs on the corridor for a total of approximately 94,000 new residents and employees traveling on the corridor, a 44% increase from 2015 population and jobs. Rapid growth along the corridor that was previously undeveloped is generating significant increases in travel along the corridor, resulting in the need for reliable multi-modal options.

The proposed service reductions would further reduce the reliability of the service and diminish ridership rather than build it. The SH-7 Coalition is actively working to build a new transit experience along this critical east/west corridor in the North Denver Metro connecting Brighton to Boulder and would like to work with RTD to identify partnerships to grow JUMP ridership and ultimately extend service east to Broomfield, Thornton, Adams County, and Brighton rather than reduce service as proposed.

Sincerely,

Members of the State Highway 7 Coalition

Attachment: Signature page

CC: Paul Ballard, Interim General Manager
Michael Ford, Chief Operations Officer
Jessie Carter, Manager of Service Planning
Jeff Becker, Manager of Service Development



**Matt Jones, Commissioner
Boulder County**



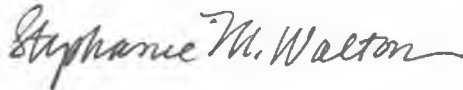
**Aaron Brockett, Councilmember
City of Boulder**



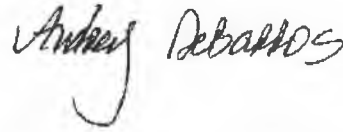
**Patrick Quinn, Mayor
City & County of Broomfield**



**Geoff Deakin, Mayor Pro Tem
Town of Erie**



**Stephanie Walton, Councilmember
City of Lafayette**



**Audrey DeBarros, Executive Director
Commuting Solutions**



**Andrea Meneghel, Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Chamber Alliance**



**Tamera Herreid, Program Manager
Smart Commute Metro-North**



**David Kang, Vice Chancellor for
Infrastructure and Sustainability
University of Colorado Boulder**