



January 28, 2021

The Honorable Jared Polis  
State Capitol Building  
200 East Colfax Avenue, Room 136  
Denver, CO 80203  
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[lkaufmann@state.co.us](mailto:lkaufmann@state.co.us)  
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Dear Governor Polis:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 22, 2021. I appreciate you taking the time to communicate with me directly about your continued concerns relating to the completion of the Northwest Rail Line to Longmont.

Since assuming my role as RTD General Manager and CEO on November 9, 2020, I have had more than 300 meetings with elected officials, key stakeholders and regional partners. In all said meetings I have listened and committed to working with stakeholders on how best to provide mobility options to serve transit customers across the whole Denver metro region. Specific to the Northwest Rail Line, I am keenly aware of the commitment made as part of the FasTracks transit expansion program and the fact that funding must be secured to complete the project at this juncture. Please know, I look forward to engaging with you and our shared community partners to explore ideas on serving our customers in the northwest area.

During the RTD Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, January 26, RTD Board Chair Angie Rivera-Malpiede announced the scheduling of a Board Study Session on Tuesday, February 9 that will focus discussion on the Northwest Rail Line. We welcome you and your staff's participation in that session as we hold an open and transparent dialogue on opportunities to move the project forward.

As I committed in our initial meeting on November 17, 2020, it is my intent to work collaboratively with you, legislative leaders and the RTD Accountability Committee on enhancing RTD's service to the public and identifying much-needed transportation funding to support our common goals to move people safely, effectively and efficiently across the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Debra A. Johnson  
General Manager and CEO

CC: RTD Board of Directors

