



AIR QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

FROM: Fort Collins Air Quality Advisory Board
DATE: December 16, 2008
SUBJECT: **Board Recommendation on I25 Draft EIS**

Dear Mayor and members of City Council:

In our meeting of December 15, the Fort Collins Air Quality Board passed a unanimous resolution to City Council in support of some portions and choices regarding the North I-25 Draft EIS. The Board favors City staff recommendations on development of alternative modes and the use of the more stringent March 2008 ozone standard. We also support staff comments that all criteria pollutants be addressed, though they may currently fall below action levels. It is City policy to “*continually improve air quality as the city grows.*”

The Board views very positively the development of regional commuter rail along the BNSF corridor, but has concerns that a proposed regional Bus Rapid Transit would not service core activity centers.

MOTION ON: Draft Environmental Impact Study

The Air Quality Advisory Board recommends that the City of Fort Collins support the North I-25 DEIS, consistent with staff comments. The AQAB supports the proposal to create a good long-term investment in developing and achieving a high-quality regional transit service that is consistent with City goals and plans. We further recommend that the DEIS be updated to reflect current air quality issues and standards (ozone, PM 2.5). We appreciate and support City staff's inclusion of comments with regard to land use. The Air Quality Advisory Board recommends that City Council adopt the proposed energy policy revision. We note that steps taken in the energy policy are in alignment with the Climate Action Plan, which we also support.

Thank you for your consideration of this resolution. I would be happy to answer any questions or convey your comments and further direction to the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Levine".

Eric Levine
Board Chair