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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Newly formed – North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA)
commissions independent analysis of RTD's FasTracks Financial Plan**

BBC Research & Consulting selected to review RTD's questionable financial projections in order to help local leaders understand the implications for FasTracks deployment in the North Metro area.

Earlier this year RTD submitted its updated financial plan for FasTracks development to the Denver Regional Council of Governments for review – as required by law. Although the update plan projected an ever-increasing shortfall of funds to complete FasTracks – now an estimated gap of \$2.3 billion – assumptions underpinning the revised financial plan were widely seen as unrealistic.

Thornton Mayor Erik Hansen – who also Chairs NATA – explained why the third-party analysis was commissioned:

“The dramatic shortfall of funds to complete FasTracks has put communities and businesses in the North Metro area in jeopardy of not getting the transit benefits they were promised in 2004. Shockingly, it now appears that the refined and updated projections are also flawed. It will be impossible for us to find agreeable solutions for completing FasTracks until the financial plan is based on realistic assumptions and projections.”

BBC Research & Consulting is a national economic analysis and planning firm that was founded 39 years ago in Denver.. BBC will expedite the review by examining existing reports and data to determine whether the resulting conclusions and forecasts were realistic.

Most importantly according to Mayor Hansen, the BBC assessment will be made through the “lens” of the Metro North region. That is, factors affecting the financial wherewithal of FasTracks will also be reviewed from the standpoint of how they will impact the timely completion of FasTracks in the North Metro region.

The BBC review is estimated to take somewhat over a month to conduct and any reports or conclusions of the work will be made public upon conclusion.



About NATA

The Northern Area Transportation Alliance was formed in August 2009 and is comprised of elected representatives from 11 local governments, Metro North Chamber of Commerce, as well as private sector leaders. The private sector coalition partnerships in NATA continue to evolve and include Jonathan Perlmutter, Jordon Perlmutter & Co., and Todd Steward, CEO of HCA-HealthOne North Suburban Medical Center.

NATA – which represents a region of more than one million residents and thousands of businesses – was formed to play a strong role in resolving transportation issues in the North Metro Area. Its two adopted priorities are to support completion of the North Metro FasTracks line and the widening of I-25 through the Metro North Area.