

Jefferson Parkway Beltway Completion Update – October 7, 2009

As you know, the Jefferson Economic Council has made completing the Jefferson Parkway a top priority. We sincerely appreciate the support of your organization to complete a beltway that has been under construction for nearly 30 years. Below, you will find a list of some of the significant accomplishments that have been made in the last year or so:

- The Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority was formed by Jefferson County, Arvada, and Broomfield.
- A feasibility study was completed, indicating the project is financially feasible.
- More than twenty companies have submitted formal letters of interest for one or more aspects of designing, building, operating, and maintaining the facility.
- The Colorado Department of Transportation unanimously approves the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority System Feasibility Study.
- Jefferson Economic Council has begun new outreach efforts geared toward ensuring that the Jefferson Parkway is included on Denver Regional Council of Government's (DRCOG's) Fiscally Constrained Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan, and we have launched a media outreach campaign to garner favorable coverage for the Parkway.
- Jefferson Economic Council's guest column was published in the Denver Post on October 2, which included support of regional economic development organizations and chambers of commerce. Overall with your organization included, we have the support of more than 30 organizations across the Denver Metropolitan region.

Call to Action

Here is what you and your organization can do to support the project:

- Attend the Metro Vision Issues Committee/DRCOG Board Study Session on November 4 at 6:15 p.m. and express your strong support for the project. This meeting, and the below listed public hearings will be held in the DRCOG Board room located at 1290 Broadway, Denver.
- Attend DRCOG Board meetings and speak in support of the project, which is still being opposed by the City of Golden and a small but active and mobilized group of activists within the city. They will speak in opposition during the public hearings. The public hearings will be held on December 16, 2009 and on January 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. If you can attend, please contact Preston Gibson, president of Jefferson Economic Council at pgibson@jeffco.org, or at 303-202-2965.
- Contact your elected officials that sit on the DRCOG Board and inform them of your support prior to the scheduled public hearings.
- Monitor newspaper articles and public comments on the beltway, and enter into the discussion. We simply will not let a few vocal detractors hijack a needed regional transportation connection that will support a population of more than 2.5 million.

This is a regional infrastructure improvement that must be constructed. It is good for regional mobility, our economy, and our future. Please let Preston Gibson know that he can count on your support.