RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION #109 ON THE 2018 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

WHEREAS, for more than two decades, it has been the position of the Metro Mayors Caucus that a new, mode-flexible revenue stream is needed to address our state, regional and local roadway and multi-modal needs; and

WHEREAS, Proposition #109 would require the State of Colorado to construct more than 60 highway projects and incur debt of up to $5,200,000,000 ($5.2 Billion) with no dedicated source for repayment; and

WHEREAS, lacking a source of repayment, #109 would rely upon Colorado’s General Fund dollars for repayment of this new debt; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Fund is an unreliable source of funding given our state’s unique series of constitutional restrictions on revenues and spending, which are further complicated by unpredictable economic and political cycles; and

WHEREAS, given the absence of a dedicated source of repayment, for the next 20 years in any recession Colorado would be forced to choose between servicing this new multi-billion dollar highway debt or cutting spending on education, healthcare, corrections, and deferring maintenance on state highways; and

WHEREAS, Proposition #109 prohibits spending on city and county transportation needs despite the reality that local governments are responsible for maintaining nearly 80% of Colorado’s paved roads and every trip begins and ends on local infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Proposition #109 also prohibits spending on multi-modal infrastructure which is essential to addressing the mobility needs of our aging population and those with disabilities while providing greater freedom and choice for all Coloradans; and

WHEREAS, a fiscally responsible alternative to #109 that will address Colorado’s diverse state and local transportation and mobility needs and enjoys the support of a diverse spectrum of business, agriculture, recreation, government, environmental and health interests will appear on the November 2018 Ballot as #110.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Mayors Caucus officially declares its opposition to #109 on the November 2018 Colorado Ballot.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 18th day of September, 2018.

Mayor Marjorie Sloan, Golden
Chair of the Metro Mayors Caucus