August 2017

Larimer County Mobility Committee Meeting

Meeting Location:
NFRMPO Offices
419 Canyon Ave, Suite 300
Fort Collins, CO 80525
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 17, 2017

1. Review of Agenda
2. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)
3. Approval of Meeting Notes (April)

4. Chair Updates
   Woodall

5. Presentations
   5310 Funding
   Averill

6. Discussion Items
   2017 Coordinated Plan Goals and Strategies
   Gordon
   Larimer County Senior Transportation Needs Report
   Mason

7. MC Program Updates
   Gordon

8. Committee Member Reports

9. Next Meeting Agenda Item Recommendation

10. Adjournment
Larimer County Mobility Committee
Meeting Notes – June 15, 2017
1:30 – 3:00 p.m., NFRMPO Offices
419 Canyon Ave, Suite 300 - Fort Collins, CO

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LCMC Members in Attendance:
Annemarie Heinrich, Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
Toni Lueck, DARTAC
Ruth Fletcher-Carter, RAFT
Connie Nelson-Cleverley, SAINT
Anna Russo, Transfort
Daniel Morali, Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
Vallen Sarnoff, Colorado Division of Voc. Rehab
Cari Brown, Arc of Larimer County
David Averill, Transfort
Katy Mason, Larimer County Office on Aging
Katie Guthrie, City of Loveland

NFRMPO Staff: Alex Gordon

Call meeting at 1:30pm

1. Review of Agenda
2. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)
3. Approval of Meeting Notes (June) Katy, Connie second.
4. Chair Updates (Ruth)
   o Ruth did not have any updates.
5. Discussion Items
   o Transfort Updates – David reported Transfort provided four million rides in Calendar Year 2016, which is a 25 percent increase over the previous year. Ridership is remaining stable this year. Fort Collins City Council voted for 365-day service, which will be MAX and five supporting routes. This will start with service changes on August 21st. Ruth asked if there would be additional service during special events, and David responded Transfort is looking into that. David reported Dial-a-Taxi started in 2015, and grew in 2016. There have been approximately 14,000 trips taken since the program’s inception. This is funded through FTA’s Section 5310 funding source. The NFRMPO receives this funding for the Mobility Coordination program, but this will be replaced with sales tax. The 5310 funding will then be used for Dial-a-Taxi and travel training. Ruth asked if individuals are being tracked, and David responded the number of passes are being tracked but not invidious people. Transfort is looking to set up an ADA Eligibility Center, which would improve efficiency and could be based on what RTD is currently doing. This will help Transfort redesign the test. David then provided information on funding sources, which could be provided competitively in the future.
Map NoCo Tool – Annemarie Heinrich from the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, Built Environment Program presented on a new tool to audit pedestrian, bicycle, and transit assets. Annemarie mentioned they are looking to work with Safe Routes to School, and Ruth asked how was Thompson School District was involved. Annemarie responded they were part of the working group. They helped provide information on questions to ask and how to get people involved. Ruth asked who the data is shared with. Annemarie said everyone can access the data. Ruth asked if there could be a presentation to Berthoud. Annemarie said they could present or find a partner to present. David mentioned this could be a good tool to use for development reviews and city council. Katy asked if anybody had brought this tool to the Board of County Commissioners. Annemarie said not yet.

CASTA – Alex and David provided an update on the CASTA Spring Conference which was held in Fort Collins. Mobility management was an important topic, and there will be a statewide effort to improve the program.

2017 Coordinated Plan – Alex reported the plan is to send out a draft version in September with edits due by October. The plan would be approved at the October meeting, and brought to the NFRMPO Planning Council in November and December.

Travel Training Report – Anna provided a Travel Training report which was provided in the packet.

6. MC Program Updates
   - Alex did not add anything.

7. Council Member Reports
   - Ruth reported RAFT had won an award called the National STAR Award for Innovation. They also won a $7,000 grant.
   - Connie is transitioning into the Executive Director role at SAINT.
   - Anna said travel training is available, and to reach out to her if there are any questions.
   - Daniel stated Larimer County is working on community conversations: barriers to getting around town, experiences in participating in outreach events.
   - Katy reported on the Senior Transportation Needs Report, which is a study of transportation in unincorporated Larimer County. A draft was sent to the Senior Transportation Coalition. July 11th will be the BOCC meeting from 9AM to 11AM at the County Courthouse. Different parts of the county will have different solutions and recommendations.
   - Cari hoped everyone would vote “no” on Medicaid cuts or caps.
   - Katie was happy to be invited.

8. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM.

9. Next Meeting: October 19 at NFRMPO Offices, 419 Canyon Ave, Suite 300, Fort Collins
NFRMPO Offices
419 Canyon Avenue, Suite 300
Fort Collins, CO 80525
Chapter 4: Goals, Strategies, and Desired Outcomes

Throughout the outreach process, four key areas for improvement were identified: education; inclusion; improvements in transportation for the rural, suburban, and unincorporated communities; and improvements in transportation within Fort Collins, Greeley, and Loveland. This chapter identified specific goals and strategies that target improvements in the identified gaps from Chapter 3. Desired outcomes have been identified to provide a means of evaluations for how the Mobility Coordination Program has meet the identified goals.

While having goals are important, it is important to note the key to success is creating partnerships and long-lasting relationships between those who need the services and those who provide them. Keeping these groups in mind as the Mobility Committees work together will improve quality-of-life, ease transportation needs, and maintain an important dialogue about issues and needs. Important stakeholders for the Mobility Coordination Program to be a success include:

- Transit riders, clients, and members;
- Transportation providers and purchasers, including transit agencies, non-profits, and human service agencies; and
- Community builders, activists, and members.

In previous Coordinated Plans, goals were separated between the two counties. As shown in Chapter 2, demographics show the entire region is facing transportation issues and a growing population. During the outreach process, it appeared the goals and needs for each county were similar. As such, the goals and strategies in this Coordinated Plan are meant to cover both counties and move toward regional cohesion.

One underlying strategy for the success of the Mobility Coordination Program is the support of a part-time Mobility Coordinator or Manager. The role of this staff is to support the effort of the Mobility Committees and work to implement the goals and strategies of the Coordinated Plan. This can be achieved by applying for funds through the §5310 program.
Goal #1: Inclusion

The Mobility Coordination Program will provide a safe, accessible forum for residents, advocates, and employees from organizations and agencies to discuss the needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and low-income individuals. Additionally, these groups will have a safe space to air grievances and suggest potential projects and collaboration. The desired outcome of the program is to create tangible plans that benefit stakeholders in the region, which can be achieved by expanding participation in the Mobility Committees.

The Larimer and Weld County Mobility Committees will continue to meet at the designated time, location, and according to the bylaws adopted in March 2014. Information will be posted at least one week prior to the meeting on the NFRMPO website. The public can ask for reasonable accommodations by reaching out to the Mobility Coordinator. The Mobility Committees should act as the main forum to improve mobility coordination within the North Front Range region. Periodically, the Mobility Coordinator should ensure the proper agencies are being represented in each Mobility Committee. Additionally, the Mobility Committees should collaborate.

Mobility Coordination Program staff should continue to support local efforts to improve transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities. For example, Mobility Coordination Program staff currently assist the Larimer County’s Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities and Senior Transportation Coalition. This could expand to Weld County programs as they begin.

With the support of the Mobility Committees, the Mobility Coordination Program should plan events throughout the region to include a range of people, organizations, and advocates. Due to the limited resources of many human service agencies, there should be a concerted effort to go to them and ensure their voice is heard throughout the process.

Desired Outcomes

- The Mobility Committees will have at least six meetings per year each, be open and accessible to all members, and create tangible plans to improve mobility in the region
- Mobility Coordination Program staff will be in the communities to ensure there is diverse and consistent feedback into the program
Goal #2: Education

To have an educated and aware population is an overarching goal for the Mobility Coordination Program. This can be done in a multitude of ways, but the distribution of information should be a major strategy for the Mobility Coordination Program. Education exists on two fronts: distribution of information about existing transit service and human services transportation, and regional training for transportation providers.

Transportation options exist throughout the region but information about them can be hard to find. Service is provided by an array of organizations, agencies, and companies. As a regional effort, the NFRMPO Mobility Coordination program should act as a resource to distribute information about these transportation services.

Currently, the NFRMPO produces the Rider’s Guide as its main educational resource. The Rider’s Guides should continue to be updated and distributed to more locations. There is an interactive, online tool as well as a printed brochure. The online tool should be maintained with up-to-date agency information and should be advertised to spread awareness. Interest exists in expanding the Online Rider’s Tool to a more robust system where an individual has the opportunity to book rides as well. Staff and the Mobility Committees should research the implementation of a one call/one click booking service for the region as a potential project.

In addition to distribution of resources, the NFRMPO Mobility Coordination program should act as a leader to bring a diverse range of training to the region. Training topics could include, but are not limited to: customer service; proper care and handling of individuals; understanding the needs of people with mental and/or physical disabilities; and other mobility-related topics for providers and users.

Support should continue to the efforts of the COLT, GET, and Transfort Travel Training programs. Travel training programs could expand to the Bustang service to Denver, the FLEX to Boulder, and other services as they become active.

Desired Outcomes

- Individuals will have a centralized resource to find appropriate transportation for medical appointments, social events, and other transportation needs in a variety of media
- Individuals will have well-trained, courteous, and understanding drivers who provide the transportation needed and expected
Goal #3: Improvements for Smaller and Rural Communities

The lack of transportation options within and between the rural, suburban, and unincorporated communities within the NFRMPO region is a consistent tenet of public feedback. Without a motor vehicle, transportation options are limited for both ambulatory and non-ambulatory individuals. With the aging population, alternative forms of transportation should be researched and new programs implemented. Knowing the need for transportation, a diverse range of options should exist: technology, volunteer organizations, and support for innovation should work together.

The NFRMPO Mobility Coordination program should:

- Maintain dialogue with stakeholders in these communities to understand current and future needs
- Research technology to be used for improved transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities
  - Interest exists for the Liberty App and social media. The Liberty App could be a long term project, while social media (e.g. posting on Facebook to a community page to inquire about potential rides) could be implemented more quickly.
- Support organizations already handling these issues
- Be engaged in the NFRMPO 2045 Regional Transit Element and 2045 Regional Transportation Plan and any local transit and transportation plans
- Support regional transit planning efforts, including GET’s Regional Route Study
- Assist Larimer County with implementation of recommendations from the Larimer County Senior Transportation Needs Report

Desired Outcomes

- Transportation options will be implemented for both ambulatory and non-ambulatory individuals in the less urban portions of the North Front Range region
Goal #4: Improvements for Larger and Urban Communities

A majority of the regional population lives within the three larger communities of Fort Collins, Loveland, and Greeley. Other communities with fixed-route service include Berthoud, Evans, and Garden City. Within these six communities, transit systems exist but do not cover the entire jurisdiction. Focus should be put on expanding service and orienting it to destinations where people plan to live, work, and visit.

The NFRMPO Mobility Coordination Program should:

- Maintain relationships with transit agencies and other stakeholders to identify need and support
- Provide technical support to communities interested in expansion of transit service
- Invite organization and agencies to Mobility Committee meetings to ensure consistent outreach and feedback
- Work with local agencies and organizations to identify and apply for potential grants, funding opportunities, and partnerships
- Identify barriers to using existing services, including ADA accessibility, sidewalk connectivity, snow removal, etc.
- Assist with existing travel trainings through promotion, technical support, etc.
- Increase connectivity between existing transit services

COLT, GET, and Transfort each have projects and plans underway to improve service. Other projects may be identified through public outreach or transit plans. Potential projects include:

- ADA Eligibility Center for Fort Collins and Loveland to ease barriers for paratransit
- Expansion of paratransit service in the City of Evans beyond ¾-mile

Desired Outcomes

- Larger communities will maintain and expand transit and paratransit service to benefit residents and visitors
- Dense areas of older adults and people with disabilities will be connected to services, medical offices and centers, and social meeting places to ensure quality of life
- Bus stops will be accessible for all users