

**Meeting Minutes of the
NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION &
AIR QUALITY PLANNING COUNCIL**

**August 2, 2018
Loveland Public Works Administration Building
2525 West 1st Street
Windsor, CO**

Voting Members Present:

Tom Donnelly - Chair -Larimer County
William Karspeck -Berthoud
Glenn Ledall -Eaton
Gerry Horak -Fort Collins
Troy Mellon -Johnstown
Paula Cochran -LaSalle
Dave Clark -Loveland
Matthew Gordon -Severance
Kathy Gilliland -Transportation Comm.
Julie Cozad -Weld County
Ken Bennett -Windsor
Aaron Pearson -Timnath

Voting Members Absent:

Chris Colclasure -CDPHE
Mark Clark -Evans
Robb Casseday -Greeley
Elizabeth Austin -Milliken
*No Member -Garden City

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Regional Transportation Planning Director; Alex Gordon, Transportation Planner II/Mobility Coordinator.

In Attendance:

Dawn Anderson, Jeff Bailey, Darin Barrett, Matt Brown, Chad Crager, Spencer Dodge, Sean Dougherty, Jim Eussen, Chad Hall, Michelle Hansen, Butch Hause, Joel Hemeseth, Myron Hora, Wayne Howard, Mark Jackson, Lou Keen, Dave Klockman, Peter Kozinski, Zeke Lynch, Rusty McDaniel, Mitch Nelson, Karen Schneiders, Robin Stoneman and David Woolfall.

Chair Donnelly called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and asked all Council members to introduce themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA:

*CLARK **MOVED** TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2, 2018 MEETING AGENDA. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

*CLARK **MOVED** TO APPROVE THE MAY 29, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND THE JUNE 7, 2018 MEETING MINUTES. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.*

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Donnelly opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

Air Pollution Control Division

A written report was provided.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written report was provided. Cozad announced Mike Silverstein had been selected as the new Executive Director of RAQC. Silverstein will start at the end of August and Steve McCannon will remain Interim Executive Director until then.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Donnelly opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Report of the Chair:

Chair Donnelly did not give a report.

Executive Director Report:

Mallette reported as she reviewed and revised the NFRMPO Articles of Association it was discovered the Council should be receiving copies of the minutes from the Larimer County Mobility Council (LCMC) and the Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC). These groups meet every other month and the most current minutes will be distributed. She also stated there was a revised letter from the NoCo Bike and Ped Coalition included in the packet requesting the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consider the listed items in the future when considering and recommending approval on programs, projects, and plans to the NFRMPO Planning Council. She indicated this could be considered the final action on the original request of two I-25 underpasses earlier in the year.

Mallette provided handouts to the Council regarding Ballot Initiative 153 for a .62 sales tax for transportation and CDOT'S LIST: TC (Transportation Commission) Adopted July 2018. This list is CDOT's projects for the 45% of the funds. She explained Initiative 153's proposed transportation funding would be divided into three pots; 45% to CDOT, 40% to local governments, and 15% to multi-modal transportation. There was a joint meeting of the TC and STAC in July which went through the project list in detail. A draft project list from CDOT was adopted by the Council at the April meeting. Further modifications to the list occurred at the June 7th meeting when Council provided input to CDOT Executive Director, Mike Lewis. The consensus from Council at the June 7th meeting was to prioritize I-25 segments 5 & 6 and the full EIS alignment of segments 7 & 8. The CDOT list with these projects identified was approved by both the Transportation Commission and STAC in July. Mallette clarified the other handouts where municipality and county lists that identify forecast revenue for the proposed 40% of local money if the .62 sales tax passes, the 40% is split 50/50 between municipalities and counties.

Donnelly complimented the efforts of Gilliland, Mike Lewis, and Johnny Olson, indicating even though this is not the full three + one buildout that was requested, it would include all the infrastructure, bridges and interchanges in segments 7 & 8. He suggested members speak to their governing boards to help advocate for feasible solutions for Northern Colorado. Gilliland thanked Donnelly, Horak, Barbara Kirkmeyer, David May, and others who presented their concerns to the Transportation Commission. Sean Conway recognized Gilliland and the TC had worked diligently to get segments 7 & 8 back on the North I-25 tier one list. He also mentioned there would be a meeting from 9-10:30 a.m. on August 4th at the Evans Recreation Center to discuss Ballot Initiative 167. Gilliland noted CDOT's 10-year Development Plan was available on CDOT's website and lists all the projects across Colorado. More information regarding what the funding may be used for will be discussed in

September. Mellon suggested the possibility of having contractor shortages, especially in smaller communities. Gilliland responded the additional work projected for the State may bring an influx of workers from other states. Schneiders informed the Council of CDOT's proactive plan to begin preparing construction schedules, using what they have learned in the past from projects of this magnitude. She added the importance of CDOT understanding very early on what communities' plan to do with their projected funding and possible partnerships, even though no one can really start anything until November. Gilliland requested information on the pros and cons of whichever initiatives will potentially make the ballot be presented to Council in September.

Finance:

Horak briefly reviewed information from July 19th Finance Committee and added the committee is currently looking at uses for some of the VanGo funds. One possibility could be for connections between communities using Regional Transit Routes. Staff will make recommendations to the Committee and they will be vetted and brought to the Council in the fall. Mallette explained how funding feeds from VanGo miles traveled into the National Transit Database, to the City of Fort Collins and then to the VanGo program. Donnelly commended staff and the Finance Committee for VanGo being a well-run program which offers a convenient service and is nearly self-sustaining through ridership fees. Donnelly mentioned Larimer County was looking into ways to regionally enhance Dial-A-Ride type services to provide seniors with more options. He asked the MPO Council to also consider more efficient, cost-effective options in which the MPO may offer support. Cozad said as a transportation planning region it would be good to discuss as a potential regional effort for the future and work to also get ride providers on board. She added she would like to take that discussion to the State Transportation Commission before it becomes a bigger problem for communities. Mallette noted the NFRMPO, Larimer County and the Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities have been working together on regional solutions and have been awarded a 5304 Grant and a National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) Grant with a combined total of \$65k - \$70k. Working collaboratively they want to first consider a business plan and secondly look at software for pilot-testing One Call - One Click type transportation service aimed at seniors and individuals with disabilities. She believes that as a regional agency, the MPO may be very beneficial to this pursuit.

TAC:

A written report was provided.

Mobility:

A written report was provided.

Q2 TIP Modification Update:

A written report was provided.

ACTION ITEMS:

Adjustment to Current ICMA 401 Plan

Crystal Hedberg, Finance Director, explained that the current pension plan for employees, excluding the Executive Director, needs to be modified. This resolution removes the Executive Director from the employee pension plan.

*GILLILAND MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2018-14 TO AMEND AND RESTATE THE MONEY PURCHASE PLAN IN THE FORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (ICMA) RETIREMENT CORPORATION GOVERNMENTAL MONEY PURCHASE PLAN & TRUST. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.*

PRESENTATION:

CDOT RoadX Update

Peter Kozinski, CDOT RoadX Director, presented the RoadX Update presentation to the Council. Horak asked what the annual budget was for the program. Kozinski responded the RoadX program had an approximate \$10M budget each year, which included all the projects discussed and building the infrastructure, citing Technology was migrating into transportation in unexpected ways. Gilliland said over its three years the RoadX program had done very well in keeping up with and sharing new technology in the industry. Kozinski said technology in ranked as one of the highest priorities in transportation planning worldwide and he felt CDOT was wise to be a leader. Horak questioned whether RoadX technology was good for everyone. Kozinski pointed out it was better to be proactive by acting and investing now as it is a positive investment and lives are being saved. Horak commented technology had been promised before, but never come to pass, he does not believe this will be great for everyone. Gilliland expressed the importance of safety and how the RoadX program allows more vehicles to move safely, which saves lives.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

US 34 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study Update

Chad Hall, CDOT Project Manager, and Zeke Lynch, Consultant Project Manager presented the US 34 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study Update to the Council as the project is close to completion. Lynch stated they would like the opportunity to speak to all the communities in the region, noting so far, they held six meetings. Donnelly commended the team's collaborative effort and swiftness, indicating the PEL is an integral part of the planning process prior to any work beginning.

Revised MPO Personnel Policies

Julie Cozad, HR Subcommittee Vice Chair, explained an HR Consultant as well as an HR Subcommittee had been brought on to work through the process of updating what was formerly known as the NFRMPO Employee Handbook, which was renamed the NFRMPO Personnel Policies. She briefly reviewed the revisions from the AIS with the Council. Mallette thanked the HR Subcommittee for their commitment to the project and noted the changes were primarily for compliance, no additional benefits had been added. Horak questioned the lack of a policy for overtime for exempt staff and whether employees were expected to drive without distractions while driving their own vehicle or a rental vehicle for MPO business. Mallette agreed to look into the two items and stated the policies would be on the September agenda for approval by the Council.

Revised Articles of Association

Mallette briefly reviewed information from the Revised Articles of Association AIS with the Council, highlighting the addition of a standing HR Committee. She pointed out the revised draft allowed for there to be a standing HR Committee. Donnelly requested the Council members review the draft and send any questions, comments or revisions to Mallette before the September 6th meeting when they will be on the agenda for approval by the Council.

Pavement and Bridge Condition Measures (PM2) and Performance of NHS, Freight and CMAQ Measures (PM3)

Alex Gordon, Transportation Planner II/Mobility Coordinator briefly reviewed information from the Pavement and Bridge Condition Measures (PM2) and Performance of NHS, Freight and CMAQ Measures (PM3) then he gave the NFRMPO Targets for PM2 and PM3 presentation to the Council, highlighting the MPO is given 180 days to adopt the State targets as their own or set their own, and although many roads in the MPO region are not National Highway System (NHS), accepting the State's targets requires much less staff time. Mellon questioned if 100% System Reliability was truly recognized as reliable if it was actually just consistently poor. Gordon confirmed that was correct because it was not really measuring congestion, but the reliability of the congestion during a specific timeframe. Mellon asked the length of the benchmark timeframe. Gordon replied targets are set for

four years with the opportunity to reevaluate and change targets to what is currently consistent in two years. The MPO will need to set new targets in 2022. Bennett asked what the purpose was and what was trying to be communicated, indicating it made no sense and should not go out to the public because it did not send a clear message. Gordon replied all of the information was in MAP-21 and the FAST Act and was federally required but agreed there may be a better way to present the information, possibly when it is presented in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Mallette suggested it may be helpful to understand where the NFRMPO benchmark came from. Gordon responded it came from the National Performance Management Research Data Set which takes all of the Bluetooth data the NHS collects from across the country and compares all 15-minute intervals over the time period the information is collected and work with the University of Maryland's CATT lab which takes all the information and evaluates it and converts it into the provided data. Mallette stated it was essentially real travel time captured through Bluetooth devices. Donnelly indicated it was a federal requirement to adopt performance measures and this item would be on the agenda for approval in September. He asked if anyone had a request for more information before that meeting. Horak commented he felt it was important to relay to the public that managed lanes would make traffic more reliable, and that it came from accurate and precise measurements. Gordon added progress is expected with the analysis process once FHWA separates the data to show managed lanes versus general purpose lanes and not just center lanes, a process which is currently being evaluated. Horak said he wants CDOT to present the data showing a differential that is occurring and continues to occur with the use of managed lanes, so it can be presented accurately to the public.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission Report /CDOT Region 4

Gilliland reported the Commission worked on project lists with help from STAC. She also noted there would be a ribbon cutting for I-70 at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 4th.

I-25 Update

Horak reported the next meeting was August 3rd.

STAC Report

A written report was provided.

Host Council Member Report- Clark welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to Loveland. He then reported on the following transportation related projects in Loveland:

- The \$75M two-block improvement known as the Foundry Project is continuing to progress. Recently the first condo received its Temporary Certificates of Occupancy (TCO) and tenant move-in is beginning. (The parking garage will get its TCO in the next couple weeks.) There is also a hotel and a movie theater in the process of being built. All will be very nice addition for Loveland's downtown area.
- A double lane roundabout will be going in near Mountain View High School road south of US 34 near Boyd Lake.
- Flood work is being done on Railroad Avenue and on Wilson Avenue where the road is being raised above the floodplain using grant funding.

Chair Donnelly announced there would be a reception for Larimer County Commissioner, Lew Gaitor, from 11- 1 on August 16 at the Larimer County Offices Building in Fort Collins.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

1. *Presentation on ballot initiatives pros and cons*
2. *Discussion on Initiative 153- Local Funds*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff