

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

**February 6, 2020
Eaton Area Community Center
1675 3rd Street
Eaton, CO**

Voting Members Present:

Dave Clark- CHAIR	-Loveland
William Karspeck	-Berthoud
Mark Clark	-Evans
Kristin Stephens	-Fort Collins
Brett Payton	-Greeley
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Tom Donnelly	-Larimer County
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Don McCleod	-Severance
Lisa Laake	-Timnath
Barbara Kirkmeyer	-Weld County
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission

Voting Members Absent:

Rick Coffin	-CDPHE
Kevin Ross	-Eaton
Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken
Kristie Melendez	-Windsor

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Renae Steffen, Administrative Director; Lisa Gagliardi, Accounting Manager; Alex Gordon, Mobility Coordinator/ Transportation Planner II, and AnnaRose Cunningham, Transportation Planner I.

In Attendance:

Dawn Anderson, Jeff Bailey, Frank Baszler, Cody Bird, Drew Brooks, Rich Christy, Chad Crager, Jim Eussen, Jamie Grimm, Butch Hause, Joel Hemeseth, Myron Hora, Wayne Howard, Lanie Isbell, Mark Jackson, Will Jones, Dave Kisker, Michelle Martin, Steve Moreno, Mitch Nelson, Annabelle Phillips, Evan Pinkham, Randy Ready, Karen Schneiders, James Usher, and Kaley Zeisel.

Chair Clark called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He noted Mayor Ross from the Town of Eaton had to leave the meeting and introduced Mayor Pro Tem, Lanie Isbell, who would be joining the meeting in his place as host.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Move to Approve Agenda:

M. Clark **moved** to approve the February 6, 2020 Meeting Agenda as Submitted. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Move to Approve Minutes:

McLeod **moved** to approve the January 9, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Clark opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

A written report was provided.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written report was provided.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Clark opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

Reports:

Report of the Chair:

Chair Clark announced the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) assignments. He will be the STAC Chair and Vice-Chair McLeod, Director Mallette, and the Transportation Planning Director would all be Alternates. He then informed the Council Tier I projects prioritized at the January 16th Work Session for CDOT's 10-Year Strategic Pipeline of Projects had been discussed at the recent 4 TPR's Chair meeting. CDOT R4 Director Heather Paddock, convened this meeting to create a Region 4 list that the four TPRs agreed to would be submitted to the Transportation Commission. Although Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) had not initially prioritized I-25, following conversation among the group, the North I-25 corridor was added to their priority list along with the NFR and UFR, with Segment 5 being the top priority for Region 4 due to its statewide significance.

Clark also reported the Denver Metro Mayor's Caucus is discussing the possibility of raising regional transportation revenues with Empower MPO's (EMPO) whose purpose is to make the creation of Regional Transportation Authorities (RTA's) an easier process. The five existing MPOs could be empowered via state legislation to have the authority to tax for transportation. Next steps are to write a statute with the authority to empower MPOs to form RTAs, outreach to MPOs and other jurisdictions statewide (including possibly the rural transportation planning regions), and work with the legislature on enabling authority in 2020.

Executive Director Report:

Mallette introduced Lisa Gagliardi, the new Accounting Manager to the Council and briefly reviewed her written report with the Council, highlighting the following:

- Executive Summaries of Council meeting will be out by the Monday following meetings.
- E.D. Goals are on consent because no formal action was taken at the January meeting.
- A grant submitted for OC/OC trip discover software looks highly favorable.
- MMOF applications were received by the deadline for 14 projects from 7 communities. The total request was \$5,651,417, only \$76,000 short of funding everything.
- Reminder: Scoring Committee meets next week – all applicants must attend.

TAC:

A written report was provided.

MOVE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:

McLeod **moved** to *approve the Consent Agenda*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Items on the Consent Agenda included:

- 2020 Executive Director Goals
- 2016-2020 NFRMPO Targets for Safety Performance Measures
- 10-Year Strategic List of Projects

ACTION ITEMS:

Transfort FY2020 Program of Projects (POP)

Annabelle Phillips, Project Manager at City of Fort Collins Transfort, briefly reviewed the three FTA Section's 5307, 5310 and 5339 apportionments for the Fort Collins Transportation Management Area (TMA), noting no negative comments were received during any of the opportunities for public comment. The City of Fort Collins will meet all federal requirements as the Designated Recipient of these specific FTA funds.

Stephens **moved** to *APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-08 ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) REGARDING FTA \$5307, \$5310, \$5339 FORT COLLINS/LOVELAND/BERTHOUD TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA (TMA) PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FFY20*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

January 2020 TIP Amendment

AnnaRose Cunningham, Transportation Planner I, informed the Council there had been two requests for the January TIP Amendment cycle from CDOT Region 4 and briefly reviewed the projects with the Council. She noted no public comments had been received during the posted 30-day period.

McLeod **moved** to *APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-09 APPROVING THE JANUARY 2020 AMENDMENT TO THE FY2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Premium Transit Feasibility Study Scope

Alex Gordon, Transportation Planner II/Mobility Coordinator provided the Premium Transit Feasibility Study scope of work to the Council, noting the revisions made as requested at the January 9th meeting; identify corridors to be studied, an expanded focus on regional "transit" versus regional "rail", explanation of the study's potential scope of work, and funding options to combine with the \$125k of Multimodal Options Funds approved contingently for the study at the January Council meeting. Council discussed the scope at length noting the following:

- Premium Transit includes all modes excluding local buses.
- The prime focus needs to be connection from one community to another, preferably to major destination centers in the North Front Range.
- Preservation of Right of Way, identified in the study, will be much more cost effective now than in 20 years.
- The study is expensive and seems unnecessary to some, but in order to identify all the process details, the feasibility of the transit program must be studied.

Kirkmeyer **moved** to *APPROVE THE PREMIUM TRANSIT FEASIBILITY STUDY SCOPE OF WORK AND FUND USING \$125k IN VANGO™ SALES TAX SURPLUS FUNDS*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with one vote against.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

NFRMPO Boundary Focus Group

Kirkmeyer stated she had a discussion with CDOT Deputy Director, Herman Stockinger, regarding funding a facilitator to help educate the municipalities on how and why MPO boundaries are set, and possibly creating a guidebook for future boundary changes. The meeting is scheduled for February 19th to include CDOT, County Commissioners from Larimer, Morgan, and Weld Counties, and Director Mallette. Meeting attendees will report back to the Council on the outcome of the meeting. The NFRMPO should consider setting aside funds to assist in the process as the Upper Front Range has already committed to \$5k of grant funds. Council members agreed the goal of considering boundary changes for the two organizations is to make decisions which are positive for the region and the State of Colorado. Kirkmeyer and Donnelly both stated Weld County's desire to no longer be split between three planning regions.

D. Clark reminded the Council that originally the agenda item was a request from the Town of Wellington to move from the UFR to the NFR and the item had been continued to the April 1 meeting. Cody Bird, Wellington Town Manager requested the items be separate from one another, noting the Mayor of Wellington had ardently expressed the commonality his town shared with Fort Collins, Timnath, Windsor and others. Mallette will work with the Council members and CDOT on the best way to move forward with the discussion. D. Clark committed to providing a response to the Town of Wellington at the April meeting as initially promised.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission Report /CDOT Region 4

Bracke reported on the following:

- Heather Paddock and Region 4 were acknowledged for their work on the 10-Year Strategic Pipeline of Projects List. Director Mallette and MPO were recognized for holding a successful work session to get all MPO communities' input on the projects. The TC will be reviewing the list from all over the State at their March meeting.
- TC workshops and meetings are now live-streamed.
- The third Governor's Round Table on Transportation will be February 10th.

I-25 Update

There was no update.

US 34 Coalition

D. Clark indicated Troy Mellon was the new Chair of the US34 Coalition. Mellon reported the Coalition met earlier on February 6th and received a briefing on the following interchanges: US34/US85, US34/35th Ave & US34/47th, and US34/I-25. Also discussed were ways the Coalition could work even more collaboratively with the MPO and CDOT moving forward. Their next meeting is May 7th in the City of Evans.

STAC Report

A written report was provided. Bracke asked Council members to clarify their RPP preference for her, as noted on page 2, item 9 in the report for her discussion at the TC meeting.

Host Council Member Report- Mayor Pro Tem Isbell welcomed everyone to Eaton, recognizing Eaton High School Culinary Class for the meal provided to Council. She reported the Hometown Revitalization Committee had created a video to enter into HGTV's Home Town Takeover. Eaton will partner with Habitat for Humanity to beautify some area homes for their April Clean-Up days.

Meeting Wrap-Up:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

No suggestions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m.
Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff