MEETING MINUTES of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council

Windsor Recreation Center - Pine Room
250 North 11th Street
Windsor, CO

December 21, 2016
1:02 P.M. - 2:32 P.M.

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dawn Anderson, Chair - Evans
Dennis Wagner, Vice-Chair - Windsor
Jeff Bailey - Loveland
Eric Bracke - Greeley
Amanda Brimmer - RAQC
John Holdren - Severance
Paul Lee - CDPHE - APCD
Janet Lundquist - Weld County
Rusty McDaniel - Larimer County
Karen Schneiders - CDOT
Gary Thomas - SAINT
Martina Wilkinson - Fort Collins

NFRMPO STAFF:
Aaron Buckley
Ryan Dusil
Becky Karasko
Medora Kealy

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:
Stephanie Brothers - Berthoud
Aaron Bustow - FHWA
Gary Carsten - Eaton
John Franklin - Johnstown
Eric Fuhrman - Timnath
Milliken
Jessica McKeown - LaSalle

IN ATTENDANCE:
David Averill - Transfort
Aaron Fodge - NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative
Jacquelyn Giles - CDOT
Marjie Griek - Refuel Colorado
Katie Guthrie - Loveland
Will Jones - Greeley Evans Transit
Tim Kemp - Fort Collins
Sheble McConnellogue - Northern Colorado Clean Cities
Bryce Reeves - CDOT
Matt Ruder - Loveland
Jake Schuch - CDOT
Kathy Seelhoff - CDOT

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS:
Wilkinson introduced Tim Kemp, 2017 TAC representative for the City of Fort Collins

PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2016 TAC MINUTES
Bailey moved to approve the November 16, 2016 TAC meeting minutes. Wilkinson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION
McConnellogue presented on the Northern Colorado Clean Cities (NCCC) Idle Reduction Challenge. NCCC hosted an alternative fuel vehicle Drive-n-Ride event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Windsor Recreation Center, prior to the TAC meeting. NCCC is federally funded through the Department of Energy to form local coalitions and provide partners with resources to invest in alternative fuel technology. The Idle Reduction Challenge is a pledge to reduce vehicle idling at the community, county, and industry level. The City of Fort Collins was the first to join the Challenge,
signing a proclamation on December 12, 2016. Griek presented on Refuel Colorado, an energy coaching program for fleet managers and communities to invest in alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. Refuel Colorado helps clients identify appropriate Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure and grant opportunities, free of charge. Refuel Colorado also operates The Alt Fuels Program, Workplace Charging Program, and Group Buy / Power Purchase Program.

CONSENT AGENDA

2016 Non-Motorized Plan - Wilkinson moved to recommend Council approval of the Consent Agenda. Lundquist seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Election of 2017 TAC Officers - Karasko introduced the TAC Officer Election process. Bracke nominated Anderson to continue as 2017 TAC Chair. Schneider seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Bracke nominated Wagner to continue as 2017 TAC Vice-Chair. Bailey seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

FY2016 TMA Program of Projects (POP) - Averill described the project adoption process for §5307, §5310, and §5339 programs, fact sheets, and funding tables included in the TAC packet. Bailey moved to recommend Council approval of the FY2016 TMA Program of Projects. McDaniel seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

FY2017 UPWP Amendment #2 - Averill described the proposed station area project, which will be focused along the MAX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line. The project identifies barriers to transit-oriented development (TOD) that have led to missed development opportunities along the corridor. The project outcome could include changes to the City’s land use code. Holdren asked who will manage the project. Averill responded it will be managed under the Transfort Service Management Group. A new project manager will need to be identified due to staff changes. Averill estimates it is a 12 to 18 month project. Bailey moved to recommend Council approval of FY2017 UPWP Amendment #2. Wilkinson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

OUTSIDE PARTNERS REPORTS (verbal)

Northern Colorado (NoCo) Bike & Ped Collaborative - Fodge stated the December 14, 2016 meeting drew 26 attendees. In 2016, more health practitioners regularly attended the meetings and trail counts were a major focus. In January, CDOT will decide whether to purchase Strava data communities can use to visualize bicycle and pedestrian concentration across their network. The NFRMPO completed a GIS layer of the all non-motorized facilities in the region. Fodge stated a 2017 Bike & Walk Conference will not occur. Instead, the group hopes to host a NoCo-themed session at Bicycle Colorado’s Fall Summit. Additionally, the group will host quarterly workshops around the region in 2017. Representatives Tom Glass and Chris Kehmeier from the Governor’s Office attended the December meeting to discuss the “16 in 16” initiative. They expressed an interest in bringing the Governor to Northern Colorado to ride the Poudre Trail. Bracke and Anderson expressed gratitude for the group’s work in 2016.

Regional Transit Items - Jones announced GET will break ground on its Regional Transit Center in February. The Greeley City Council approved the GET 5-10 Year Strategic Plan on December 20, 2016. Bracke stated Greeley will implement a transit signal priority pilot project on 10th Avenue in February, to be used only when buses are behind schedule. Wilkinson stated Fort Collins is deploying their first signal priority soon and may consider parameters similar to Greeley’s pilot. Bailey reported Loveland City Council has allowed COLT to begin negotiations to obtain a city-owned property for their future Transit Center. Bailey will report progress in the coming months. COLT is also looking to hire a full-time transit manager. Averill reported Transfort is looking into Sunday service and will report news in the coming months. Schneider reported Bustang service to Broncos games was successful in 2016.
Senior Transit Items - Thomas reported on the Larimer County study of rural senior services through the Senior Transportation Coalition. The study includes a survey to gauge needs of rural residents. Loveland has reinstated its travel training for seniors. Thomas anticipates the State Legislature will act on the Strategic Action Plan on Aging during the 2017 session.

Regional Air Quality Council - Brimmer reported the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) approved the State Implementation Plan (SIP) on November 17, 2016. It will go to the State Legislature for review and then EPA for final approval in the spring. Lower conformity budgets will be set in the fall. In 2017, RAQC will perform modeling and create control measures for a future SIP. RACQ will also begin an alternative fuels study, a zero emission vehicle mandate, commercial lawn and garden programs, and a low VOC consumer products and industrial maintenance coding project.

PANEL

Regional Vehicle Travel Time Collector Panel: Fort Collins, Greeley, and Loveland -

On behalf of Joe Olson, Wilkinson presented on the TrafficCast BlueTOAD Bluetooth data collection system operating at 30 major intersections in Fort Collins. The devices gather signals from Bluetooth enabled devices to monitor travel times and speeds between intersections. The City uses the data to inform time-of-day signal timing adjustments, evaluate capital projects, monitor traffic incident and construction impacts, and maintain an online dashboard. Wilkinson hopes to tie real-time data into signal timing and create an online traffic monitoring tool for the public.

Bracke presented on the Acyclica WiFi data collection system used at 24 major intersections in Greeley, mainly along 10th Street, US 34, and US 85. Greeley uses the data to analyze peak hour corridor traffic, delays by traffic movement, and actual speed versus posted speed. Bracke hopes to use the system to analyze the cost of lane closures.

Matt Ruder presented on Loveland’s use of Acyclica WiFi data collection system at six locations on Taft Avenue and US 34, with two to four additional locations to come in 2017. Loveland analyzes travel time, traffic volume, and origin/destination data to inform signal timing adjustments by day of week. Ruder hopes to use the data for before/after signal timing studies, real-time traffic monitoring, time/space diagrams, coordination of intersecting corridors, and correlation of WiFi data with other count data.

Averill asked how many vehicles are identified by the system daily. Wilkinson stated it is approximately four percent of traffic and newer Spectra model units will get up to 10-12 percent. Jones stated there are implications for transit planning. Wilkinson asked Bracke and Ruder if their data is housed internally. Bracke and Ruder said it is housed by Acyclica. Schneider asked about downsides to each system. Bracke cited maintenance issues and time constraints, which limit extensive use of the data. Wilkinson stated prioritizing types of analysis within constraints is difficult and privacy is a concern from the public. The BlueTOAD data will guide Fort Collins’ first congestion report. Ruder stated before/after studies of signal timing adjustments in Loveland have shown decreased travel times after adjustments are made.

DISCUSSION

FY2018-2019 UPWP Timeline and CDOT MOA - Karasko presented on behalf of Blackmore. Karasko corrected the agenda item to reflect the two-year UPWP. The UPWP timeline has changed and staff will bring draft task lists to TAC in January to allow a CDOT contract by October 1. Transit agencies will now be parties in the UPWP process per a new MOA between CDOT, the NFRMPO, and transit agencies. The full UPWP document will be presented to TAC in February or March.

FY2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program - Buckley stated, in response to a TAC request at the November 16, 2016 meeting, the NFRMPO staff reviewed Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments and Modifications using and Amendment threshold of $2M or 25 percent change in federal funds instead of $1M or 25 percent. Staff found only two of 36 Amendments fell below the $2M threshold, but both projects exceeded the 25 percent threshold. Buckley stated the adjustment
would put the NFRMPO threshold more in line with other Colorado MPOs based on population. McDaniel asked how many projects would have gone to the Council with the adjustment. Buckley stated all 36 Amendments still would have gone to the Council because all six with funding changes exceeded the 25 percent threshold. The remaining 30 projects were either new projects or deleted projects. Modifications are processed by NFRMPO staff and go to TAC quarterly for informational purposes. Karasko stated new projects or deleted projects would also be Amendments. Schneiders stated the adjustment will impact CDOT heavily, particularly on the I-25 expansion project. TAC concurred unanimously the FY2018-2021 TIP should continue to Council with the $2M or 25 percent threshold.

REPORTS

2017 TAC Meeting Schedule - Karasko stated TAC meetings will end at 3:30 in 2017 due to a room scheduling conflict.

ROUNDTABLE

Karasko stated the NFRMPO will host an open house on March 2, 2017 prior to the March Council meeting at the NFRMPO’s office. Wilkinson stated Fort Collins’ first Eco-TOTEM bike counter on Remington Greenway has been installed. Wilkinson also stated Bracke received a lifetime achievement award from ITE in mid-December for his work in Northern Colorado. Bracke stated 65th Avenue is under construction through the winter and the Comprehensive Signal Timing Program funded through CMAQ is complete. Schneiders and Schuch introduced Bryce Reeves, a new Local Agency Coordinator with CDOT. Schneiders also introduced Jacquelyn Giles, who will perform environmental clearance of local agency projects with CDOT. Wagner stated the 13 quiet zone railroad crossings will go into effect on December 28, 2016 in Windsor. Anderson stated the US 85/37th Street Access Control Project in Evans is on schedule. Evans is also wrapping up acquisition on the 65th Avenue Project and hopes to begin construction by April 1, 2017.

MEETING WRAP-UP

Final Public Comment - There was no final public comment.

Next Month’s Agenda Topic Suggestions - There were no suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by:
Ryan Dusil, NFRMPO Staff

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at the Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room.