

Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, September 13, 2017
Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room
250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550

1. Introduction

- ❖ Aaron Fodge, CSU
- ❖ Kyle Fehr, City of Evans
- ❖ Mitchell Nelson, Town of Severance
- ❖ Terri Blackmore, NFRMPO
- ❖ Sarah Boyd, City of Greeley
- ❖ Sreyoshi Chakraborty, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Suzanne Bassinger, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Wade Willis, Town of Windsor
- ❖ Zac Wiebe, Larimer County

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The August 9, 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. NFRMPO and NoCo Fiduciary Agreement

Willis explained the history of event registrations for NoCo Bike & Ped events, including American Planning Association (APA) and Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA). Both organization process transactions, but do not serve as a bank account. Blackmore shared a copy of the draft fiduciary agreement and stated the NFRMPO Board supports the agreement. The Collaborative will have to pay a small fee that will be audited due to the use of NFRMPO's Tax ID. NFRMPO will receive 10% of the funds after the event is reconciled for administrative costs. Willis stated the Collaborative has not tried to make money on the events and the fee will likely be minimal for the support the group gets from the NFRMPO. Blackmore confirmed the 10% is based on staff time for payment processing.

Willis inquired about the validity of the group with respects to the signature. Blackmore explained the recording of minutes should legitimize a person to sign on behalf of the Collaborative. Willis is concerned that the small attendance might not represent the entire Collaborative. Blackmore explained the group would have to set quorum based on what the true representation will be. Willis asked the group for straw poll on the basic structure of the agreement. The group generally felt comfortable with the agreement. Willis will bring the agreement back to the group next month for a formal vote.

4. Non-Motorized Funding Project Recommendation

Bassinger presented the Poudre River Downtown Project, explaining that a major funder dropped out. This project would build a natural area, trail connection, and a bridge over the Poudre River. Phase 1 of the \$8.5M project is the area for which funding is requested. The plan is for the trail to cross the river with a new bridge and connect with the future BNSF right-of-way underpass to eliminate the last at-grade crossing along the trail. The project will also include a wildlife corridor, fish passage, and heritage walk. The City is waiting on the State Historic Preservation Office (SHIPO) and Army Corps of Engineers to begin work, but project is construction-ready due to lost funding. The total ask is \$383,000.

Willis stated the Great Western Trail Authority pulled their funding request because of concerns over securing the local match.

Willis presented the trail from River Bluffs Open Space (Larimer County) to Kyger Reservoir and Highway 392 to fully-construct the Greeley #2 Trail. Willis has already budgeted \$800,000 for the project. He is not anticipating problems, but will have engineering completed next year. Willis anticipates the project will be at-grade. The trail creates a regional connection, eventually to Eaton. Jacoby Road does not currently have a shoulder nor a safe alternative. Larimer County has to verify the connection to River Bluffs Open Space on Larimer County property, including traversing a prairie dog colony.

Wiebe presented the Long View Trail as an alternative project in the event that Fort Collins and Windsor are unable to use the funds. Blackmore felt additional federal dollars could not be allocated to a project currently out to bid with federal dollars.

Pros and cons from the group discussion:

City of Fort Collins	Windsor
Pro	Pro
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shovel-ready • Regional corridor • Part of larger corridor project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good 2019 start date • More regional in nature • Greater opportunity to improve safety
Con	Con
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not funded, they will start making cuts in ADA and bike connections to the trail • Fort Collins must confirm they can federalize the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Might be more timely for future funding pool • Budget might be light • Federalizing might be a concern for Windsor

The group discussed the Great Western Trail project as a viable option if the local match could be brought to the table by Windsor, Severance, and Eaton. Willis and Nelson will follow-up on the project. Willis will summarize the discussion to TAC next week.

5. I-25 Expansion and Trail Connectivity Memo

Blackmore shared that all contractor proposals came in above CDOT’s budget upset limit. Non-motorized pieces will not be cut in the project scope. The project team will request funds from the Transportation Commission. A Best and Final Offer (BAFO) may be requested of companies that submitted.

The Collaborative would like to see if the I-25 non-motorized components meet the ADA standard, City of Fort Collins’ design standards, and the State’s Safe Routes to School program standards. NFRMPO staff will re-circulate the letter for edits and share a copy with TAC.

6. NoCo Workshop Committee

Willis is recommending not having a November workshop due to lack of resources and other conflicting events within the region in October and November. Blackmore suggested this decision will give the Collaborative and the NFRMPO more time to work out Fiduciary agreement.

7. 2018 Walkability Action Institute

The group ran out of time to discuss the Walkability Action Institute and will discuss it in October.

8. Updates / Other Business

Blackmore shared that CDOT has an open call for Safe Routes to School projects. A regional non-profit is working with the NFRMPO to help write grants for others in the region for non-infrastructure training grants. A local match would be necessary. Anyone interested should contact Ryan Dusil. Blackmore shared that the USDOT has release a notice of funding availability for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Program. New regulations limit that funds are capped at \$50 million for any one state. NFRMPO staff will send out information to the Collaborative

Bassinger shared the BNSF corridor is currently being constructed. The City is hoping to submit a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grants proposal next year for this corridor.

Boyd stated Greeley opened its new Transit Center on Friday, September 8 and the City is looking towards more multi-modal transfer opportunities.

Chakraborty stated Fort Collins is currently doing the manual bike counts across the City. Sunday is the City's fall Open Streets event. Zagster Bike Share is looking to expand options.

Nelson stated Severance is working on the Weld County Road 74 Coalition that will include bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

Wiebe shared that the Long View Trail is out to bid. The Front Range Trail connection near Boyd Lake will be completed around October 1 and will have a grand opening event. The gap in the Poudre River Trail near River Bluffs Open Space has a development review opportunity to complete a trail segment with the Town of Timnath.

Fehr stated Riverside Park had its groundbreaking for a refurbished trail in Evans. There are new bike lanes on 17th Avenue to Greeley.

9. NFRMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Willis will attend the September TAC meeting to represent the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative