

DRAFT

Fort Collins and Greeley Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Areas Conformity Determination

for the

North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Area

FY2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization
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Introduction

This report demonstrates the FY2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) meets the federally prescribed air quality conformity requirements for the Carbon Monoxide (CO) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The conformity determination applies to the Fort Collins and Greeley CO Maintenance Areas.

A conformity determination report for the Denver-North Front Range 8-Hour Ozone Northern Subarea Nonattainment Area was prepared concurrently in coordination with this document to have the same effective date.

Background

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) serves as the Lead Planning Agency for CO air quality issues in the North Front Range region. The NFRMPO has 15 local government members, including 13 municipalities and portions of Larimer and Weld counties.

The NFRMPO is required to conduct an air quality conformity determination on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to determine conformance with the Colorado Statewide Implementation Plan (SIP) and must comply with the Clean Air Act, the Transportation Conformity Regulation, the Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Regulation, and other applicable federal and state requirements.

The conformity determination ensures that transportation plans, programs, and projects do not:

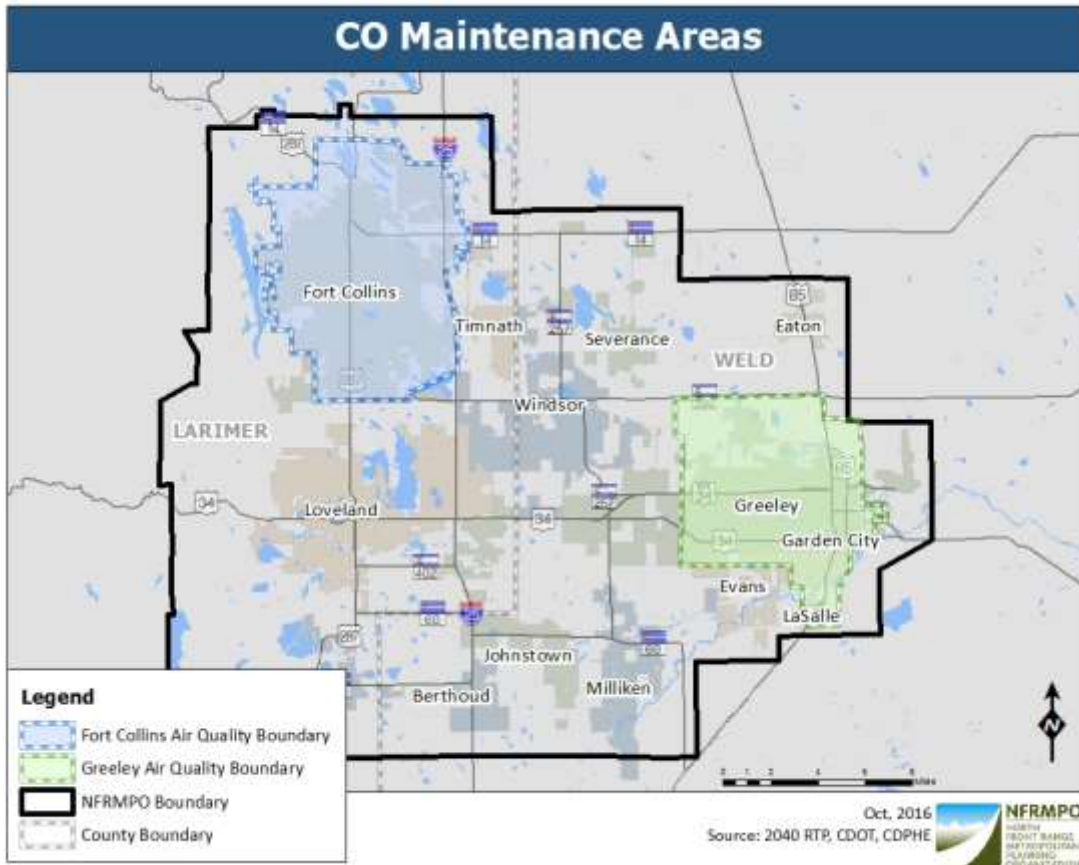
- Create new violations of the NAAQS;
- Increase the frequency or severity of NAAQS violations; or
- Delay timely attainment of the NAAQS or achievement of any interim milestone.

Portions of the cities of Fort Collins and Greeley and their immediate vicinities are designated as maintenance areas for CO, shown in **Figure 1**.

The Fort Collins area was designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as nonattainment for CO in 1979. The last violation of the CO standard in Fort Collins was in 1991. The EPA redesignated Fort Collins as an attainment/maintenance area in 2003 with the approval of the first 10-year maintenance plan. The second 10-year maintenance plan was approved by the EPA in 2013 and demonstrates continued attainment through 2023.

The Greeley area was designated by the EPA as nonattainment for CO in 1977. The last violation of the CO standard in Greeley was in 1988. The EPA redesignated Greeley as an attainment/maintenance area in 1999 with the approval of the first 10-year maintenance plan. The second 10-year maintenance plan was approved by the EPA in 2013 and demonstrated continued attainment through 2019.

Figure 1: Fort Collins and Greeley CO Maintenance Area Boundaries



Finding

The second 10-year maintenance plans for both Fort Collins and Greeley meet the requirements and provisions of EPA’s limited maintenance plan option. To qualify for this option, the maintenance plans demonstrated CO levels at or below 85 percent of the 8-hour standard of 9 parts per million (ppm) for eight consecutive quarters. There are no commitments to Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) in either maintenance plan.

Transportation plans and improvement programs in carbon monoxide limited maintenance plan areas are presumed to automatically satisfy the emissions budget test requirement, and no regional emissions analysis is required.

The FY 2019-2022 TIP meets all conformity criteria as identified in 40 CFR 93.109 and meets all planning requirements identified in 23 CFR 450.

Public Participation

The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) guides the NFRMPO’s public participation activities for all plans and programs. The NFRMPO invited public participation throughout the development of the FY2019-2022 TIP and the associated conformity determinations.

A public hearing notice will be published on May 5, 2018, with the documents made available to the public on April 30, 2018. The documents will be available on the NFRMPO website at

<http://nfrmpo.org/air-quality/> and at the NFRMPO Office as a print copy. The public comment period ends at 5:00 p.m. on May 29, 2018.

The North Front Range Air Quality and Transportation Planning Council (NFRT&AQPC) will hold a public hearing regarding this conformity determination prior to their monthly meeting on June 7, 2018 at the Windsor Public Works Complex at 922 N. 15th St, Windsor, Colorado 80550. Minutes of the NFRMPO Planning Council's public hearing will be available at the NFRMPO office and website: nfrmpo.org.

The FY2019-2022 TIP will be made available for a 30-day public comment period from April 30 through May 29, 2018. Public comments will also be taken at the June 7, 2018 NFRT&AQPC meeting. It is anticipated the TIP will be adopted at this meeting.

***Appendix A: Resolution 2018-XX North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality
Planning Council (NFRT&AQPC) Adoption
(to be provided)***

***Appendix B: Colorado Air Quality Control Commission Conformity Concurrence
(to be provided)***

***Appendix C: U.S. Department of Transportation Conformity Finding
(to be provided)***

