

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
419 Canyon Avenue, Suite 300 Fort Collins, CO 80521

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June 6, 2018



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**.

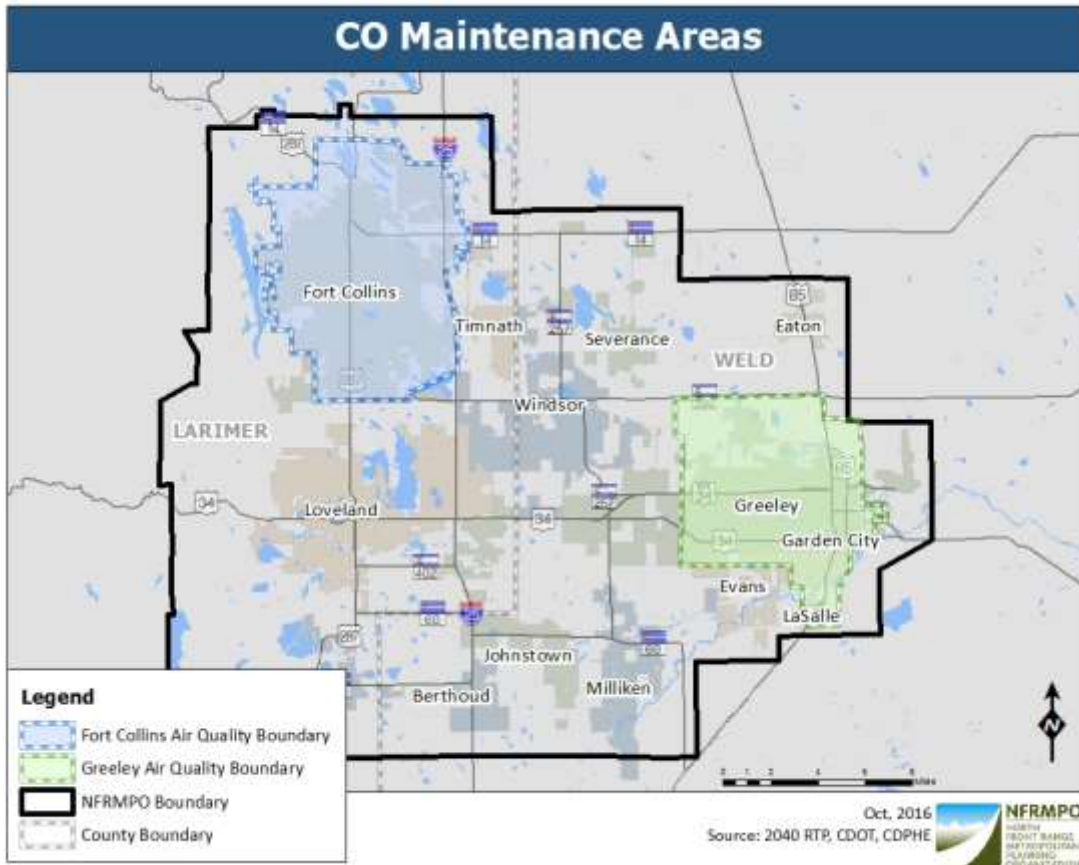
The Fort Collins area was designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as nonattainment for CO in 1979. The last violation of the CO standard in Fort Collins was in 1991. The EPA redesignated Fort Collins as an attainment/maintenance area in 2003 with the approval of the first 10-year maintenance plan. The second 10-year maintenance plan was approved by the EPA in 2013 and demonstrates continued attainment through 2023.¹

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 2019.²

¹ 78 FR 56164, <https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-21987>, 2013

² 78 FR 46816, <https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-18439>, 2013

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 2018-08 North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality
Planning Council (NFRT&AQPC) Adoption***



RESOLUTION NO. 2018-08
OF THE NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY PLANNING
COUNCIL
ADOPTING CONFORMITY DETERMINATIONS
FOR THE NORTH FRONT RANGE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA
FY2019-2022 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

WHEREAS, 49 CFR PART §450 requires development through continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive (“3C”) multimodal transportation planning process of a fiscally constrained Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Council as the NFRMPO is the agency responsible for developing and amending the RTP and TIP; and

WHEREAS, portions of the cities of Fort Collins and Greeley are currently designated as maintenance areas for carbon monoxide (CO) for which the Planning Council performs conformity determinations; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Council through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (2008) has agreed to perform ozone conformity determinations for the Northern Subarea of the Denver-North Front Range 8-hour ozone nonattainment area which includes portions of Larimer and Weld counties outside the NFRMPO contained in the Upper Front Range Transportation Planning Region (UFRTPR); and

WHEREAS, Section 93.122(g) of the conformity rule allows conformity determinations to rely on previous regional emissions analyses if all regionally significant projects were included in the previous analysis; and

WHEREAS, the FY2019-2022 TIP retains the regionally significant projects programmed in FY19, FY20, and FY21 from the FY2018-2021 TIP and does not add any new regionally significant projects; and

WHEREAS, the previous regional emissions analysis air quality conformity determinations conducted on the NFRMPO’s fiscally constrained FY2018-2021 TIP using the 2040 planning assumptions were within the federally approved emissions budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Council received no public comment opposing the finding of conformity during the public comment period or during the public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council, the fiscally constrained FY2019-2022 TIP conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) demonstrating a positive air quality conformity determination.

Passed and adopted at the regular meeting of the North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council held the 7th day of June, 2018.

Tom Donnelly, Chair

ATTEST:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director

Appendix B: Colorado Air Quality Control Commission Conformity Concurrence



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

June 8, 2018

Suzette Mallette
Executive Director
North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization
419 Canyon Avenue, Suite 300,
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Dear Ms. Mallette,

The Colorado Air Pollution Control Division (Division) has reviewed your agency's transportation conformity determinations for the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Division's initial review and consultation with the NFRMPO occurred in February 2018. In addition, the Division participated in the requisite interagency consultation discussion, held June 6, 2018, at which consulting agencies' staff members agreed that the projects in the new TIP conform to the relevant State Implementation Plan elements and to State and Federal regulations.

The NFRMPO and the Division's analyses indicate that emissions budgets for these pollutants will not be exceeded in any of the TIP's programming years. Therefore, the Division concurs with these conformity determinations.

Should you have any questions regarding this concurrence, please contact Rick Coffin at (303) 692-3127.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Colclasure".

Chris Colclasure, Planning and Policy Program Manager, APCD

CC: Rick Coffin, APCD
Marissa Gaughan, CDOT
Bill Haas, FHWA
Becky Karasko, NFRMPO
Medora Kealy, NFRMPO
Alana Koenig, CDOT
Tim Russ, EPA



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

