

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

**November 7, 2019
Fort Collins Community Building
281 N. College Ave.
Fort Collins, CO**

Voting Members Present:

Kristie Melendez - Chair -Windsor
Kevin Ross -Eaton
Mark Clark -Evans
Kristin Stephens -Fort Collins
Robb Casseday -Greeley
Tom Donnelly -Larimer County
Dave Clark -Loveland
Don McCleod -Severance
Lisa Laake -Timnath
Barbara Kirkmeyer -Weld County
Kathleen Bracke -Transportation
Commission

Voting Members Absent:

William Karspeck -Berthoud
Rick Coffin -CDPHE
Fil Archuleta -Garden City
Troy Mellon -Johnstown
Paula Cochran -LaSalle
Elizabeth Austin -Milliken

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director;
Rena Steffen, Administrative Director; and Alex Gordon, Mobility Coordinator/
Transportation Planner II.

In Attendance:

Dawn Anderson, Jeff Bailey, Frank Baszler, Jim Becker, Dan Betts, Jason Brabson, Cari Brown, Ed Cannon, Rich Christy, Jill Couch, Chad Crager, Jim Eussen, Danny Giltinan, Troy Hamman, Wayne Howard, Lanie Isbell, Mark Jackson, Will Jones, Dave Kisker, Dave Klockeman, Shoshana Lew, Katy Mason, David May, Bob McClusky, Mark Peterson, Hunter Rivera, Len Roark, Robin Stoneman, James Usher, Rebecca White, and Angela Woodall.

Chair Melendez called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

There was no comment from the public.

Move to Approve Agenda:

Ross **moved** to approve the, *November 7, 2019 Meeting Agenda*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Move to Approve Minutes:

Casseday **moved** to approve the *October 3, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Melendez opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

No APCD report was provided.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written RAQC report was provided.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Melendez opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

Reports:

Report of the Chair:

Chair Melendez recalled a request from RAQC in September for financial assistance with administrative costs and programs not funded by CMAQ allocations or other sources. She said the Town of Windsor and other entities had declined to respond to the request as it was not seen as an appropriate direction for their community or Northern Colorado as a whole.

Melendez acknowledged Robb Casseday for his many years serving on the Council and thanked him for his efforts and dedication while a member. Other Council members acknowledged Casseday for his many successes and he was presented with a plaque and treats.

Executive Director Report:

Malette provided information on the following:

- A list of the MPO's new phone numbers was handed out. The 800 number was not changed.
- The Executive Director Survey recently went out to Council, TAC, and staff. Some emails were delayed a few days, but everyone should have received theirs as of November 8th.
- Two dates on the 2020 Council calendar fall next to a federal holiday; January 2 and July 2. Council voted to have both dates moved to the next Thursday, the 9th in both cases. The complete calendar will go out before the December meeting.
- February 6th on the 2020 Council calendar did not have a host. Mayor Ross offered to hold the meeting in Eaton.

TAC:

A written report was provided.

Mobility:

A written report was provided.

Quarterly TIP Modification Update:

A written report was provided.

Consent Item:

2020 VanGo™ Fare Increase

D. Clark **moved** to approve *RESOLUTION NO. 2019- 26 TO APPROVE A FARE INCREASE FOR THE VANGO™ VANPOOLING PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Action Items:

Financial Policy Amendment

Mallette explained the UPWP Budget Policy Amendment was a discussion at the August Finance Committee meeting and helps clarify which circumstances are appropriate for the Finance Committee to make approvals and when a vote of the Council is required.

D. Clark **moved** to approve *RESOLUTION NO. 2019-27 TO APPROVE A FINANCIAL POLICY AMENDMENT*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Discussion Items:

One Call/One Click Business Plan

Alex Gordon, Mobility Coordinator/Transportation Planner II, gave the One Call/One Click Center Project presentation to the Council noting presenting the project to Council now provided them the timely opportunity to direct a portion of the Multimodal Options Fund (being discussed later in the meeting) to the \$1.2M needed for the 3-year incubation plan of the regional human service program. Donnelly explained the MMOF was a onetime set aside fund of \$5.6M of from Senate Bill 1 and there would be a 50% match required when using any portion of that money.

Council had a comprehensive discussion regarding the perceived need for \$1.2M funding to create the necessary infrastructure and the ability to sustain the program beyond the suggested three years, the potential financial burden to the communities, the overall use and benefit of transit funds, and having performance measures built in which would require a continued trajectory of growth. Council expressed their general approval of the program but requested the additional information addressing their concerns, which MPO staff committed to provide. The item will return for action at the December Council meeting.

Chair Melendez requested the Wellington Membership Process be moved up on the agenda to accommodate the schedule of the Town of Wellington Mayor and Manager. Council agreed to reorder the agenda.

Wellington NFRMPO Membership Process

Mallette presented the Town of Wellington-MPO Membership Process highlighting both the state and federal processes required for Wellington to acquire NFRMPO membership. Mayor Troy Hamman and Town Manager, Ed Cannon were introduced to the Council. Hamman thanked the Council for their consideration and noted the benefits he recognized with Wellington joining the North Front Range Planning Council. Concerns were raised and discussed regarding what financial impacts there may be to either planning region. This item will go to the Upper Front Range MPO (UFR) on December 5th for approval to leave their membership, based on those results, it may go to the NFRMPO for approval later the same day.

Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF)

Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director, presented the MMOF Call to the Council procedure process. She noted the scoring committee for the call was open to TAC, NoCo, LCMC, & WCMC members, and required one voting member from each applicant entity attend. MPO staff are non-voting representatives. She also clarified it was up to eligible individual communities to appeal to the Transportation Commission with their match relief

requests. Council was amenable to the funding and the transit, Bike & Ped, and Mobility/Multimodal categories but questioned definitions and potentially reallocating points across the criteria. TAC will review and provide additional information following their November meeting. MPO staff will present the information to Council for approval at the December meeting.

10-Year Strategic List of Projects

Mallette distributed a list of funding sources and proposed projects to help the Council distinguish projects needing to be prioritized for CDOT's 10-year project pipeline from those receiving funding through various Senate Bills. She identified the Region 4 highway projects presented to STAC in October. The list identified North I-25 Segments 7 & 8 receiving \$220m while prior Transportation Commission (TC) commitments had identified up to \$310M. Additionally, there was a project on SH119 that identified \$30M and was not seen by all to be a project that should be included. There was disagreement at STAC over the list of projects with no recommendation to the TC on the project list.

Chair Melendez recognized CDOT Director Lew, and Rebecca White, Director, Division of Transportation Development, had joined the meeting. Director Lew discussed the Proposed Project List, explaining the inclusion of the \$30M for SH119 Safety/Mobility Improvements, and agreeing to honor prior commitments for funding the completion of North I-25, Segments 7 & 8. The Council requested a letter be drafted memorializing Director Lew's commitment.

Karasko's presented TAC's recommendation of priority corridors from their October 16th work session. Council indicated they agreed with the list of priority corridors but preferred to prioritize the projects within all these corridors, rather than the corridors themselves, noting projects of any size and cost should be considered.

Following a robust discussion, the Council directed TAC and staff to review criteria from project lists of current regional plans; *2045 Regional Transportation Plan*, US85 and US34 PEL studies, and the Region 4 2018 Ballot Project List to help create a prioritized project list from the identified corridors and develop an appropriate ranking process. The project list and ranking process should be available to the Council at the December 5 meeting. A work session with the elected officials may be requested to evaluate the proposed process and priority list.

Council Reports:

Transportation Commission Report /CDOT Region 4

A Project Status Update for October 29, 2019 was provided. Bracke reported Governor Polis' office hosted a transportation funding roundtable discussion recently to review what funding was needed and what options may be available. A presentation was given by the Colorado Metro Mayors Caucus called "Empower MPO's" which may also be beneficial to the NFRMPO. There was also a presentation on Front Range Passenger Rail after which smaller tabletop discussions were held to discuss different types of funding mechanisms and heading off potential risks, such as rural vs urban areas. Other similar roundtable discussions are expected in the near future. Bracke encouraged all to participate.

I-25 Update

No updates were given.

STAC Report

A written report was provided.

Host Council Member Report- Stephens welcomed everyone to Fort Collins and reported the Fort Collins City Council went to Washington D.C. recently to meet with the DOT, the Legislative Delegations, including staff from Senators' Bennett and Gardner, Representative Joe Neguse, and the President's intergovernmental staff. Discussions were heard on Train noise, long trains, I-25 funding, and the City of Fort Collins' potential upcoming BRT on West Elizabeth. Although there were no specific opportunities to promote I-25, Segment 5 was mentioned, and she hopes there will be positive feedback from their visit.

Meeting Wrap-Up:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

An I-25 Segment 6 presentation from CDOT in December or January was suggested.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff