

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

**January 9, 2020  
Berthoud Town Hall, 807 Mountain Ave.  
Berthoud, CO**

**Voting Members Present:**

Dave Clark- CHAIR	-Loveland
William Karspeck	-Berthoud
Kevin Ross	-Eaton
Mark Clark	-Evans
Wade Troxell	-Fort Collins
Brett Payton	-Greeley
Tom Donnelly	-Larimer County
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Don McCleod	-Severance
Barbara Kirkmeyer	-Weld County
Kristie Melendez	-Windsor
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission

**Voting Members Absent:**

Rick Coffin	-CDPHE
Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken
Lisa Laake	-Timnath

**MPO Staff:**

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

**In Attendance:**

Dawn Anderson, Jeff Bailey, Frank Baszler, Jim Becker, Cody Bird, Ed Cannon, Chad Crager, Jim Eussen, Ruth Fletcher-Carter, Lorna Greene, Jamie Grimm, Katie Guthrie, Troy Hamman, Butch Hause, Joel Hemeseth, Omar Herrera, Myron Hora, Mark Jackson, Will Jones, Dave Kisker, Dave Klockeman, Mitch Nelson, Mark Oberschmidt, Heather Paddock, Jim Paulmeno, Karen Schneiders, Jonathon Sera, and Robin Stoneman.

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

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

**Move to Approve Agenda:**

Ross **moved** to approve the, *January 9, 2020 Meeting Agenda as amended*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

**Move to Approve Minutes:**

McLeod **moved** to approve the *December 5, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

## Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Clark opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

### Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

A written report was provided.

### Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

Mike Silverstein, RAQC Executive Director, provided the January RAQC report to the Council. He announced that even though tremendous work has been done to bring the region into compliance with both the .075 ppb and .070 ppb standards, the 2019 4<sup>th</sup>-Maximum 8-Hour Ozone Values (the third year of the 3-year rolling average) have finalized the North Front Range (NFR) as a “serious” nonattainment designation, beginning in 2022. Because of the reclassification to “serious”, the development of an “Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP)” is required by summer 2020. Donnelly enquired whether Silverstein was still committed to his statement made at the September 5, 2019 MPO Council meeting that the NFR would be in compliance with the new .070 ppb federal standard by 2024. Silverstein said he believed it was possible without any additional regulatory requirements being imposed. Following a brief discussion Donnelly asked Silverstein to put his statement into a memo to the Council. Silverstein agreed to send a letter affirming his commitment.

## Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Clark opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

### Reports:

#### Report of the Chair:

Chair Clark explained the Finance and Human Resources Committee responsibilities briefly and encouraged Council members to volunteer for open positions. Council Committees were assigned as follows:

**Finance Committee:** Chair-McLeod; Members- Karspeck, Kirkmeyer, Ross, and Stephens. McLeod will look at scheduling their meetings on a date and time amenable to the entire committee.

**Human Resource Committee:** Chair- Melendez; Members- Mellon, M. Clark, and Payton.

#### Executive Director Report:

Mallette reported the following to the Council:

- A draft letter written to Sean Poole, a Congressional staff person, requesting continued support for I-25. Council was in consensus the letter could be sent as written
- VanGo Dashboard shows the program experienced its first truly consistent year in ridership in the past 5 years.
- Executive Summaries of Planning Council meetings will be going out each Monday following Council meetings, the first one will be sent Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.
- MMOF Call for Projects draft application deadline is January 13<sup>th</sup>. Final applications are due January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 2019 Annual Report was provided to the Council.
- The provided AQCC report announces two upcoming public meetings to engage stakeholders on two potential greenhouse gas emissions topics: a reporting rule and reduction strategies addressing HFC emissions. The meetings are January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> with a public proposal available to the public in February and a public hearing set in May. Comments may also be submitted in writing by January 27<sup>th</sup>.

TAC:

A written report was provided.

Mobility Committee:

The Winter 2020 Newsletter and a written report for Weld County were provided.

Q4 TIP Modifications:

A written report was provided.

**MOVE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:**

Ross **moved** to *approve the Consent Agenda*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Loveland CNG Fueling Station
- FY2019 TIP Project Delay
- 2017 Coordinated Plan Amendment

**ACTION ITEMS:**

North Front Range Regional Rail- Feasibility Study Funding

Director Mallette presented background information and three potential options for funding the North Front Range Regional Rail Feasibility Study. Council discussed the importance of the study including all forms of transit and the ability to withdraw if the draft scope of work is not in the best interest of the Council as a whole.

Kirkmeyer **moved** to *APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-05 WITH OPTION 1 (TAKING \$125K OF MPO OFF THE TOP AND MATCH WITH OTHER MPO FUNDS, POTENTIALLY CPG, WITH LOCAL MATCH OF 17.21% ON THE CPG FUNDS DISTRIBUTED ACROSS ALL MEMBERS OR FORT COLLINS SALES TAX FUNDS) AND WITH "REGIONAL RAIL" REVISED TO "REGIONAL TRANSIT" AND LANGUAGE REVISED TO INCLUDE CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ON EXISTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Expansion of Mobility Program (One Call- One Click)

Alex Gordon, Mobility Coordinator/Transportation Planner II provided additional information on performance measures and funding for the proposed Mobility Program Expansion as requested at the November and December Council meetings. It was noted program expansion into Larimer and Weld Counties as well as the addition of multiple funding partners were primary goals of the program. Progress will be reported to the Finance Committee.

Melendez **moved** to *APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-03 APPROVING THE EXPANSION AND FUNDING OF THE MOBILITY PROGRAM*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Wellington NFRMPO Membership

Mallette reviewed the process required for Wellington to gain membership on the NFRMPO Council. Mayor of Wellington, Troy Hamman explained the rationale for Wellington's request was to create a more relevant partnership in the NFR region. Kirkmeyer indicated the financial implications to the Upper Front Range (UFR) were greater than just the \$42k in CMAQ funding and expressed her desire to balance funding throughout the communities in Larimer, Weld and

Morgan counties. She proposed creating a committee to study the possibilities of resetting the UFR and NFR boundaries. Donnelly agreed, but noted the importance of having a proper balance on the committee. Any changes would have to be approved through both Governor Polis and FHWA.

Chair Clark requested Donnelly and Kirkmeyer provide a proposal at the February 6th meeting. Hamman agreed the study may prove beneficial to Wellington and other communities and agreed to wait a few months.

Payton **moved** to *CONTINUE AGENDA ITEM 16 -WELLINGTON'S NFRMPO MEMBERSHIP TO THE APRIL 2, 2020 MEETING*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### 2016-2020 NFRMPO Targets for Safety Performance Measures

AnnaRose Cunningham, Transportation Planner I provided a presentation explaining the decision to use CDOT targets set in August rather than set new MPO-specific targets. Bracke requested the MPO look at a more aspirational goal of zero deaths for their own targets. Karasko stressed the requirement of using data driven targets. Council discussed looking at an MPO policy pursuing a zero deaths target for next year. Bracke suggested DRCOG may be a helpful resource. The item will go to the January 15th TAC meeting and return to Council for action on February 6th.

#### 10-Year Strategic List of Projects

Criteria & Work Session Process- Chair Clark announced the Work Session for the project ranking and prioritization was 2-5 p.m., Thursday, January 16th at the Windsor Recreation Center. He reminded the Council there is no money attached to these projects, the list is for projects is five years from now, and the goal was to get the list to CDOT on January 23rd in preparation for review by the Transportation Commission. There was a comprehensive discussion on how the work session would be structured.

Council agreed with the dot voting option; 6 dots for Roadway projects and one each for Transit and Non-Motorized. In the interest of time, the draft project list, work session procedure, and project scoring criteria will all be sent out to TAC and Council members January 10th. Each community will come as prepared as possible to help facilitate the timeline of the work session. Submitting votes in advance will allow more time for project scoring and discussion of regional priorities. Bracke encouraged the communities to consider projects that create co-benefits to both the region and Colorado as a whole, citing the combination of safety, transit, and asset management objectives as an example.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

#### Transportation Commission Report /CDOT Region 4

Bracke reported on the following updates from the TC's December meeting:

- An update on the statewide planning process still shows the 10-Year Strategic Pipeline of Projects on target for March, with completion of the overall planning process later in the spring to early summer. Midpoint reports are available.
- Transit Funding for SB1/267 was approved.

- Governor Polis hosted his second roundtable on transportation funding bringing more stakeholders together with the same conclusion that there are no solid answers or single solutions. There is a potential for the State Legislators to develop some feasible options, otherwise, it may come down to more regional and/or local initiatives.

#### I-25 Update

Heather Paddock, CDOT R4 Director, reported there has been a lot of consistent progress on I-25 construction and noted the following:

- The frontage road between SH 56-60 is currently closed for the installation of utilities.
- Bridgework on the Little Thompson River and Big Thompson River will lead to some traffic shifts in the area.
- A noise wall is going up.
- An update on future closures will be out soon.
- Timely funding and design optimization are still being generated for Segment 6.
- CDOT will not be applying for an INFRA grant Segment 5 in 2020, but continues to assist with ideas for securing funds. Paddock encouraged the MPO to include Segment 5 in their strategic list of projects until it is no longer an unfunded need.

#### STAC Report

A written report was provided.

Host Council Member Report- Mayor Karspeck welcomed everyone to Berthoud, The Garden Spot of Colorado, and asked in the interest of time, that anyone with questions or concerns call or email him.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chair Clark requested a motion to go into Executive Session.

McLeod **moved** to *GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTERS, PURSUANT TO C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)f), REGARDING THE ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND NOT INVOLVING: ANY SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE WHO HAS REQUESTED DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER IN OPEN SESSION; ANY MEMBER OF THIS BODY OR ANY ELECTED OFFICIAL; THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY PERSON TO FILL AN OFFICE OF THIS BODY OR OF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL; OR PERSONNEL POLICIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE DISCUSSION OF MATTERS PERSONAL TO PARTICULAR EMPLOYEES.* The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

*The Session lasted approximately six minutes.*

*Chair Clark reopened the regular meeting at 8:58 p.m.*

#### ACTION ITEMS:

##### Executive Director Contract Amendment #2

McLeod **moved** to *APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONTRACT.* The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

### Executive Director Goals 2020

Director Mallette shared her 2020 Goals with the Council, explaining most of these would be self-evident, but she would report her progress back to the Council.

1. Provide training opportunities to learn about the MPO to Councilmembers, TAC and other interested parties.
2. Have the NFRMPO act as an incubator to implement the start of the One Call/One Click center for the region.
3. Individual professional development through professional affiliations

Kirkmeyer acknowledged Mallette for being fair, honest, competent, highly respected, and greatly appreciated. Stephens commented she appreciated Mallette's willingness to work with her as she learned about the MPO as a new member on the Council.

There was no motion for approval. This will be corrected at the February meeting.

### **Meeting Wrap-Up:**

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

No suggestions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff