On the Move Q2 | April 3, 2020



On the Move: Your Quarterly Transportation News & Updates

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Read on for the latest transportation updates along the North Front Range.

Visit our Website

The 2020 Census is Here!

EVERY & NE COUNTS Census 2020

Each decade a nationwide Census is conducted to count all persons living in the US. April 1 is Census Day, the reference date for the official count of the US population. The 2020 Census will be used to determine the number of Congressional representatives for each state as well as the distribution of trillions of federal funds over the next 10 years.

Census data is vital for the Northern Colorado region. The State of Colorado receives over \$13.1B in federal funding each year based on 2010 Census data, approximately \$2,300 per person per year. Federal transportation dollars account for \$200 out of the \$2,300 per person total. In addition to federal funds, population estimates are used to distribute some State funding for transportation as well.

All responses to the US Census are confidential, and your participation is essential for securing the federal funding needed for our region.

You can complete the Census online at https://my2020census.gov

Walk or pedal your way into summer!

With warmer weather on the horizon, Northern Colorado communities are planning dozens of events to celebrate biking and walking for transport, fun, and health. Find an event that moves you!



Fort Collins Bike Summer

Bike Fix-It Bonanza

Saturday, May 2 and Saturday, May 9 Locations TBD

Bicycle Friendly Driver Training,

Thursday, May 7 and Tuesday, June 16 5:30pm-7:00pm 281 North College Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80524

Open Streets Sunday May 31, Location TBD

To register for any of these events, visit the Fort Collins Engage website.

Stay in the know as more Bike Summer events are announced at <u>fcgov.com/bicycling/bikesummer</u>



June in Fort Collins is Shift Your Ride Month

Everyday Cycling Tuesday, June 9, 281 North College Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80524



Loveland Walk and Bike Month

<u>8-week Bike to Work Challenge,</u> Wednesday April 29 thru Wednesday June 24.

Tour De Pants Festival & Roaring 20s Bike Tour on 4th Street, Saturday, May 16, 11:00am-4:00pm

Tails on Trails Walk to celebrate the 27th Annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day, starts/ends at the Foote Lagoon Amphitheater (500 E. 3rd St.), Wednesday, May 27, 9:00-11:30am

Outdoor Gear & Bike Swap Foundry Plaza, Saturday, May 30 from 10:00am-2:00pm

Bicycle Poker Ride Start/end at the Foundry Plaza, Saturday, May 30 at 10:30am

Walk and Bike Month Blast-off on a Blender Bike Chilson Center lobby, June 1 - June 5.

Walk & Talk Wednesdays Start/end at the Foote Lagoon Amphitheater, Friday, June 3, 10:00am June 17 & 24, 11:30am - 1:00pm.

Walk For Health Class Start/end at the Senior Center Indoor/outdoor guided walk series for active adults, Friday mornings at 8:00am, June 5 - August 28.

Walk to Work Day

Wednesday, June 10, Multiple Locations

Bicycle Friendly Driver Training

Tuesday June 16 5:30pm-7:00pm 281 North College Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80524

Bus to Work Day Wednesday, June 17, Multiple Locations

Bike to Work Day Wednesday, June 24

6:30am-9:30am

Art by Foot Fridays Start/end at the Foote Lagoon Amphitheater, Friday, June 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 8:00am

Blender Bike Rides at the Summer Reading Program Kickoff event Loveland Public Library Friday, June 5, 6:00-8:00pm

Full Moon Walk Old St. Louis Natural Area, Friday, June 5, 8:00-9:00pm

Multiple Locations



Save the Date! Colorado's Bike to Work Day is Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Check <u>Bicycle Colorado's website</u> to see a list of all the Bike to Work Day events in Colorado and to find one in *your* community! National Trails Day Sunset Vista Natural Area, Saturday, June 6, 9:00am-12:00pm

Glow & Go Family Bike Ride Fairgrounds Park, Saturday, June 6, 8:00pm

Walk and Bike Day at the City of Loveland Farmer's Market Fairgrounds Park, Sunday, June 7, 9:00am to 1:00pm

History & Architecture By Bike Guided Ride with a "Germans from Russia" theme Start/end at Sunnyside Park, Saturday, June 13 at 3:00pm

Tour De Brewer Guided Bike Rides Start/end at the Chilson Center, Short and Long rides available. Saturday, June 13 at 4:00pm

Loveland Bike to Church Day Sunday, June 21, various times and locations.

Loveland Bike to Work & Home Day

Wednesday, June 24, various times and locations.

Walk Your Dog Day at River's Edge Natural Area Saturday, June 27, 6:00-8:00pm

Poudre Express begins operating between UNC and CSU

The Poudre Express began operating between Greeley, Windsor, and Fort Collins on January 2, 2020. Within the first three months, the service averaged 90 to 100 riders per day. Stops include, but are not limited to, the Greeley Regional Transportation Center (RTC) with connection to Ace Express; the University of Northern Colorado (UNC); the Town of Windsor; the Harmony Transfer Center, with connection to Bustang; Mulberry and Mason, with connection to MAX; and Colorado State University (CSU) with connection to Bustang and Transfort.



The first regional bus service to cross the Larimer and Weld county boundary in nearly a decade, the Poudre Express operates between the Greeley Regional Transportation Center and the CSU Transit Center seven times per day, Monday through Friday. Greeley Evans Transit operates the service with financial support from the cities of Fort Collins and Greeley, the Town of Windsor, CDOT, and CSU.

Unique to this service in the region is the Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program. The GRH program reimburses Poudre Express riders for the cost of a ride home based on the Participation Guidelines posted on the GET website.

More information about the regional service is available at <u>greeleyevanstransit.com/regional</u>.

Fort Collins Transportation Projects Fair



On February 27, the City of Fort Collins hosted a Transportation Projects Fair at the Lincoln Center to a crowd of about 200 people. The Projects Fair included tables related to bicycle and pedestrian projects, transit projects, the Multimodal Index (MMI) created by the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment's Built Environment Group, CSU projects, and NFRMPO projects. More information about projects was uploaded to the <u>Virtual Open</u> <u>House</u>.

Project Spotlight: Trail Wayfinding in Loveland



In January, the City of Loveland installed new wayfinding elements across its 23-mile paved trail system. Wayfinding is defined as any information that guides people through a physical environment and enhances their understanding and experience of the space. Loveland's improvements were focused in areas where residents and visitors found it challenging to navigate a safe and accessible route separate from the road network. Funded through Loveland's share of Colorado Lottery Dollars, the comprehensive trail sign program will provide better communication, safety and connectivity to community amenities, including 14 parks or open land areas. The improved wayfinding has implications for the region and the State as well. Loveland sits at the crossroads of six of the NFRMPO's 12 Regional Non-Motorized Corridors (RNMCs), including part of the Colorado Front Range Trail that will eventually connect New Mexico to Wyoming along Colorado's Front Range.

The wayfinding project included:



- New logo and blue color
- Naming and identification for each section of trail
- Wayfinding signs that provide distances, directions, warnings and street names (350)
- ¼-mile markers that show distances along the paved trail & identify trail locations in case of emergency (84)
- Kiosks to display current maps and regulations (15)
- Striping for safety on underpasses and sharp curves (12)
- Etiquette/Rule signage to encourage trail courtesy (40)
- Safety and cautionary signage (30)
- Safety gates for trail closures (10)

Big Thompson River Trail (Rossum Drive to South Highway 287)

Civic Center Trail (South Highway 287 to Denver Avenue)

Boyd Lake Trail (Denver Avenue to County Road 11C)

North Trail (County Road 11C to North Taft Avenue)

Westside Trail (North Taft Avenue to

Update of recreation trail and bikeways map is available at <u>www.cityofloveland.org/trails</u> or at the Chilson Center and other City Buildings. West Highway 34)

Front Range Trail (County Road 11C north to East County Road 30)

Long View Trail (57th Street & Taft north to Trilby Road-Fort Collins)

A map with sections can be found <u>here.</u>

UNC Students using math to address urban planning issues

NFRMPO staff had the opportunity to speak with undergraduate math students at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in March regarding the topics they have chosen to explore for a semester long project. The class, focused on professional applications of math, was split into three teams that each chose a unique planning-related question to answer. The questions they are addressing include:

- What would be the impacts of a large mixed-use development on traffic patterns in downtown Greeley?
- How can cities optimize and prioritize their investments in bicycle infrastructure?
- Are Colorado communities prepared to address changing employment patterns by industry?



Students described their projects to NFRMPO staff, who offered insight into how planning professionals are working to answer similar questions and what tools, concepts, and other considerations play into local, regional, and the state decisionmaking process. Toward the end of the spring semester, students will validate their models with results from the NFRMPO's Land Use Allocation Model (LUAM) and Regional Travel Demand Model (RTDM). The students are also partnering with other professionals across the State and country working in relevant fields.

Greeley Center for Independence receives new upgraded van

GCI is a non-profit organization serving a variety of individuals with disabilities through affordable, accessible housing; home health services; a Supportive Living Program for adults with brain injury; a Therapy Center; and wellness programs. The upgraded 2019 Dodge Caravan will serve their clients throughout Weld County with space for two wheelchairs. The van replaces a vehicle beyond its useful life.



More information about GCI is available at their website: www.gciinc.org

The NFRMPO partnered with the Greeley Center for Independence (GCI) to purchase a van for their clients using Federal Transit Administration §5310 funds from CDOT's 2019 Consolidated Capital Call for Projects (CCCP). As part of the partnership, GCI will provide transportation to its clients while the NFRMPO will manage the grant and reporting.

Multimodal Options Fund Awarded to Eight Communities

In December 2019, the NFRMPO opened the Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF) Call for Projects to award \$5.6M in state funding established through Senate Bill (SB)1 in 2018 to build a complete and integrated multimodal system through the region. NFRMPO member communities were encouraged to submit applications to achieve the following goals: benefit seniors by making aging in place more feasible, benefit residents of rural areas by providing them with flexible public transportation services, provide enhanced mobility for persons with disabilities, provide safe routes to school for children, and increase access to and /or usage of multi-use facilities.



Multimodal Options Fund Candidates

Eight NFRMPO member communities submitted a total of 13 projects. Of the 13 projects, seven were bike and pedestrian projects, four were for multimodal studies, and two were transit. Project applications included:

- Constructing sections of multi-use trails;
- Embranding land and an and the manifest of the land
- Enhancing local access to regional trails;
- Constructing sidewalks and multimodal improvements along roadway segments;
- Providing safe routes to schools; and

• Preparing transportation plans focusing on multimodal improvements and safety. Additionally, Planning Council approved two funding set asides for projects sponsored by the NFRMPO: *Expansion of the Mobility Program* including creation and operation of a One Call/One Click Center and staff support, and the *North Front Range Premium Transit Analysis*.

A scoring committee comprised of project sponsors met on February 11 to review the applications and score the projects. The scoring committee recommended fully funding 12 projects and partially funding one project. The recommendations from the scoring committee were discussed at the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting in February and Planning Council in March. Planning Council approved all of the projects and funding recommendations at their meeting on April 2.

Upcoming Planning Initiatives

Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan

Timeline

Kickoff in spring 2020, Adoption by NFRMPO Planning Council in early 2021



What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice is fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, national origin, or educational level with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

The NFRMPO analyzes the benefits and burdens for all location-specific transportation projects located in or near an area with a substantial EJ population. Through the analysis, staff determine whether the activity will result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on human health or the environment that is:

- predominantly borne by a minority and/or low-income population, or
- suffered by the minority and/or low-income population and is appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude compared with non-minority and/or non-low-income populations.

What will the NFRMPO EJ Plan include?

- Analysis of access to the decision-making process across the region.
- Identification of partnerships and engagement strategies.
- Clearer definitions of the benefits and burdens that incorporates local and regional context.
- Consideration of additional EJ populations, including those with above average rates of limited English proficiency (LEP), older adults, individuals with disabilities (ambulatory, self-care, independent living, hearing, vision, or cognitive difficulties), and zero-car households.
- Recommendations for improving EJ analysis and increasing EJ considerations on transportation projects.

Non-Motorized Plan Update

Timeline

Kickoff in spring 2020, Adoption by NFRMPO Planning Council in early 2021



Background

2013 Regional Bicycle Plan

This plan solidified the vision for bicycle travel between communities with the creation of twelve Regional Bicycle Corridors (now called Regional Non-Motorized Corridors or RNMCs). The RNMCs represent the major bicycle and pedestrian connections between NFRMPO communities. This Plan also included:

- a consolidated summary of the existing bicycle infrastructure, data, and design standards
- tools to support the 15 NFRMPO member communities' local bicycle planning and accommodation initiatives
- an analysis of opportunities to connect and enhance the local and regional bicycle systems
- guidance to help local agencies pursue state, federal, and other funding opportunities

2016 Non-Motorized Plan

This plan builds on the foundation of the 2013 Regional Bike Plan by reaffirming the importance of the RNMC network for bicycle and pedestrian connections between communities and updating and expanding the tools, analysis, and guidance supporting local and regional planning efforts.

What will this update include?

- In-depth analysis of the RNMC ultimate and temporary alignments, important local connections and critical gaps, and major barriers and opportunities for completion
- Addressing best practices and policies for emerging micro-mobility solutions (electric bikes, scooters, and skateboards, etc.)
- Updated tools, analysis, and guidance supporting local and regional planning efforts

2020 Public Outreach season begins in June



Every year, NFRMPO staff attends community events and festivals to have conversations with the public about the various projects and plans the agency is undertaking. In 2020, NFRMPO staff will attend the following events:

Johnstown BBQ Day (June) Berthoud Day (June) Eaton Day (July) LaSalle Day (July) Milliken Beef n Bean Day (August) Severance Day (August)

Loveland Corn Roast Festival (August) Windsor Harvest Festival (September) Fort Collins Earth Day (September) Fort Collins Open Streets (September) Evans Heritage Day (September) Taste in Timnath (October)

At these events, NFRMPO staff will discuss ongoing projects like the 2020 Non-Motorized Plan, the Environmental Justice Plan, and air quality efforts. Coming back this year is the transportation trivia wheel, which was a hit with kids and adults alike. New for this year is a game of Pin the Wheel on the Bus, a MAX-like bus with movable wheels.

NFRMPO staff will also host or cohost tables for Bike to Work Day, Fort Collins Open Streets, and other events around the region.

More outreach events will be posted on the NFRMPO Calendar at<u>nfrmpo.org/calendar</u>.

Get Involved

See what's happening at the NFRMPO and join us at one of our upcoming events or meetings. For a comprehensive and up to date calendar of events, visit https://nfrmpo.org/calendar/, and to download meeting materials, visit https://nfrmpo.org/meeting-materials/.

Due to the current circumstances regarding COVID-19 many meetings are being conducted virtually. Please check our for the most up to date information.

Upcoming Events

April 15, 2020 **Technical Advisory Committee** (TAC)

April 28, 2020 Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)

May 6, 2020 North I-25 Coalition

May 7, 2020 **Planning Council**

May 22-25, 2020 Memorial Day Weekend -NFRMPO Office Closed

Recurring Meetings

North I-25 Coalition meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Southwest Weld County Services Center.

NFRMPO Council meets the first Thursday\ of each month at 5:30 p.m. The location rotates among the NFRMPO member jurisdictions.

North I-25 Funding Committee meets the first Friday* of each month at the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse.

NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am at the Windsor Recreation Center

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Windsor Recreation Center.

June 6, 2020 Johnstown BBQ Day

June 6, 2020 Berthoud Day

June 24, 2020 Bike to Work Day 2020 **Mobility and Access Priority Group** (formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition) meets the first Thursday every other month (April & June) at 1:30 p.m. at the South Transit Center.

Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) meets the third Thursday every other month (May) at 1:30 p.m. the NFRMPO Office.

Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) meets the fourth Tuesday every other month (April & June) at 1:30 p.m. at a rotating location.