NFRMPO Planning Council March 4, 2021 Meeting

Remote Attendee Instructions

To access the audio for the meeting:

- 1) Call-in Number: (646) 749-3312
- 2) Once prompted, enter the Access Code: 353-381-469
- 3) Once you have entered the conference call, please mute your line. PLEASE DO NOT VERBALLY ANNOUNCE YOURSELF. There will be a rollcall during the meeting and if you arrive late you will be asked for your name.

To access the online portion of the meeting:

- 1) Please mute your computer's sound to avoid feedback.
- 2) Please go to: https://www.gotomeet.me/NFRMPO/march-2021-council-meeting
- **3)** Enter your name and email then enter.
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Once the Planning Council Meeting has begun:

- 1) We will do a roll call once the meeting has been called to order.
- 2) Please keep your line muted unless you are speaking, this will help to cut down on background noise and make the audio clear for all participants.
- **3)** Please <u>do not</u> place the call on hold, doing so could cause hold music to play and make participation by all other participants on the call impossible.
- **4)** Please use the Chat box function as shown below, to indicate that you wish to speak by typing in your name, for example:

"I have a question regarding the TIP Amendment"

and wait to be recognized by the Chair before proceeding with your question or comment, so others do not talk over you and your question can be recorded for the Minutes.

5) Each time you speak, <u>please state your name for the record</u> before proceeding with your question or comments.

If at any time during the meeting you have any questions or technical difficulties accessing the meeting, please contact Alex Gordon at (970) 289-8279 or <u>agordon@nfrmpo.org</u>.



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

Monthly Report from the Air Pollution Control Division to the North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council Thursday, March 4, 2020

Air Pollution Control Division (Division) Updates:

- The draft Colorado GHG Inventory Report is open for public comment through March 31, 2021. The draft report and comment form are available at https://cdphe.colorado.gov/public-information/air-pollution-control-division-public-comment.
- The Division's draft Climate Equity Framework is open for public comment through April 5, 2021. The draft framework was developed to help ensure that Colorado's response to climate change is guided by principles of racial equity and economic justice. The draft framework and comment form are available at https://cdphe.colorado.gov/air-pollution/climate-change#equity.
- The Colorado Air Quality Enterprise held a Board meeting on March 2. The agenda included CDPHE presentations on air monitoring efforts, toxicology and health response efforts, and health equity and environmental justice efforts. Additional information is available here: <u>https://cdphe.colorado.gov/air-quality-enterprise</u>.
- The Division is seeking input on an upcoming rule to reduce emissions from transportation in Colorado. The Division will be hosting a series of meeting over coming months, with listening sessions scheduled on March 11, 10:30-12, and March 18th, 6-8 pm. Additional information is available at https://cdphe.colorado.gov/reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions-from-transportation.
- The Division is developing a regulation for a GHG emissions and energy efficient management and audit program for manufacturing sectors in Colorado. A summary of the initial rule concept and stakeholder meeting information is available at <u>https://cdphe.colorado.gov/greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-energy-efficiency-</u> management-and-audit-program-for-manufacturing-in.
- A friendly reminder that the Division maintains various Air Quality Alert email lists, including Colorado Air Quality Health Advisory alerts and winter air quality advisories and indoor burning alerts. For additional information and to subscribe to an email list, please visit: <u>https://cdphe.colorado.gov/public-information/air-quality-advisories</u>.

February 18-19, 2021 Commission Meeting:

- Commission meeting materials and additional information are available at https://cdphe.colorado.gov/aqcc.
- The Commission set a hearing to consider a proposal to revise Regulation Number 6, Part to incorporate by reference changes the EPA made its New Source Performance Standards and/or Emission Guidelines.



- The Commission set a hearing to consider revisions to Regulation Number 8, Parts A and E to incorporate by reference changes the EPA made to is National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants rules.
- The Commission adopted revisions to Regulation 7, Part D, Section III, requiring oil and gas operators to install zero-bleed or zero-emission pneumatic devices for both new and existing operations.
- The Commission denied a request to set a hearing to consider revisions to Regulation 22, Part A.
- The Commission concurred with DRCOG's conformity determination of its 2050 Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.
- The Colorado Energy Office presented the Greenhouse Gas Roadmap to the Commission.
- CDPHE's Executive Director consulted with the Commission regarding plans to create a proclamation regarding racism as a public health crisis.

March 18-19, 2021 Commission Meeting:

- March 18: The Commission will meet jointly with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Division staff and Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission staff will each provide a presentation regarding their efforts to comply with SB19-181. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to provide comment, and members of the commissions will have an opportunity to discuss and coordinate their respective efforts.
- March 19: Representatives from CDPHE will provide an update to the Commission regarding the Commerce City-North Denver (CC-ND) data project and associated storyboard to look at the connections between the environment and public health in one of the Denver metro area's central urban communities.
- The Division will present the Draft Climate Equity Framework to the Commission.
- The Commission staff will engage in a work session with the Commission regarding potential changes to the Commission's Procedural Rules.





Date: February 24, 2021

From: Mike Silverstein Executive Director

To: North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization

Subject: Monthly Briefing Memorandum

The RAQC is devoting significant attention to the development of a mandatory employer-based trip reduction program proposal. The following describes the proposal to date and the Board's efforts moving forward.

Employer Trip Reduction Program

Our region continues to violate federal ozone standards and will become a "severe" nonattainment in 2022. As such, the RAQC Board has directed the evaluation of numerous voluntary and mandatory approaches to reduce emissions in the ozone nonattainment area.

The RAQC's Control Strategy Committee has been tasked with developing a regulatory proposal to reduce single occupant vehicle commute trips, which in turn would reduce air pollution. A flexible "ETRP" regulation is under development and stakeholder input is being sought.

The current draft ETRP framework would require:

- Large employers (with 250+ workers at a site) to develop and deploy a plan that encourages employees to reduce their drive-alone commute trips.
- Employers to appoint a transportation coordinator to manage efforts.
- Beginning in 2023, 25% of employees at large employers not commute alone to work during weekday morning hours.
- That the standard increase to 40%, beginning in 2025.

The standards equate to not driving to work alone approximately 1 day per week in the beginning and then twice per week later on. The ETRP would require large employers to develop programs that encourage/support other commute options. Any reasonable technique for achieving these compliance rates can be deployed, such as:

- Carpooling/ridesharing.
- Bus/transit use.
- Flex/compressed schedules.
- Teleworking.
- Vehicle electrification.

The employers are responsible for demonstrating compliance by occasionally surveying employee commuting behaviors. Holidays, sick days, vacation days, part-time status also count. Waivers and alternative compliance approaches are under discussion.

Also, a number of alternatives are under consideration, such as different requirements for unique regions based on geography, density, transit service, and type of employer. The Committee is working to estimate the costs of compliance and the potential ozone-causing and climate impacting emissions reductions (costs/benefits).

In the ozone nonattainment area, there are approximately 800 large employers employing over 500,000 employees. In the North Front Range region, there are approximately 80 large employers employing about 70,000 employees. An employer outreach program is under development.

The State has recently announced that a similar approach for reducing vehicle trips across Colorado will be considered as part of a greenhouse gas pollution reduction proposal. The State has been looking to the RAQC's robust stakeholder process as it develops its own proposal for consideration by the Air Quality Control Commission during the summer months. These two very similar and complementary efforts will likely merge into one collaborative initiative.

Over the next few months, the RAQC and its committee will work together with the State and stakeholders to finalize the proposal for the RAQC Board's and then the AQCC's consideration. The RAQC Board will continue to discuss the ETRP proposal at its upcoming March 5 and April 2 meetings.

More information on the proposal is available at https://raqc.org/etrp-resources



MEMORANDUM

To: NFRMPO Planning Council

From: Medora Bornhoft

Date: March 4, 2021

Re: NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Background

Ongoing and Upcoming Air Quality Tasks

- **Employer-Based Trip Reduction Program (ETRP):** The NFRMPO continues to participate in the Regional Air Quality Council's (RAQC's) Employer-Based Trip Reduction Control Strategy Work Group, which has been developing the draft large employer trip reduction program for consideration by the AQCC. The RAQC board is scheduled to discuss the proposal framework at their meeting on March 5 and consider approval on April 2. See **Item 12** on the Council's agenda and pages 34-37 of the Council packet for additional information on the ETRP.
- **GHG Pollution Standards:** The NFRMPO is participating in CDOT's Transportation GHG Advisory Group, which is providing input on the upcoming GHG Reduction Transportation rulemaking by the AQCC on GHG pollution standards for transportation plans, as well as a CDOT Policy Directive (PD) on implementation guidance for GHG pollution standards.
- **GHG Inventory and Climate Equity Framework:** NFRMPO staff will review and submit comments to the APCD on the Draft 2021 CO Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Report and the Draft Climate Equity Framework. The public comment periods are open through March 31 and April 5, respectively. More information is available at the following links:
 - o Draft 2021 CO Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Report and Public Comment Form
 - o Draft Climate Equity Framework
 - o <u>Climate Equity Framework Feedback Form</u>
 - o BETA Climate Equity Data Viewer

Action

NFRMPO staff invites feedback on the ongoing and upcoming tasks of the NFRMPO Air Quality Program.



NFRMPO 2021 Legislative Update

March 2021

HB21-1056	Cost Thresholds For Public Project Bidding Requirements
Bill Summary:	The bill repeals the lower cost amount for CDOT projects (\$150,000 for CDOT compared to \$500,000 for other agencies) related to the Construction Bidding for Public Projects Act. CDOT would no longer need to prepare a bid estimate when it proposes to undertake a project itself rather than awarding the project to a contractor through competitive bidding if the cost of the project is reasonably expected to exceed \$500,000 for any fiscal year. The bill would also increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the maximum cost for a CDOT project that is exempt from transportation commission approval. The bill also limits the existing requirement that CDOT pay all employees performing work on any public project local prevailing wages in accordance with specified federal acts to projects that cost more than \$500,000.
NFRMPO Analysis:	The bill would reduce some bureaucracy for CDOT, hastening some projects.
Sponsors:	R. Pelton / C. Hansen
Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to House Transportation & Local Government
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1056

HB21-1066 CDOT Financial Reporting Requirements

Bill Summary:	This bill modifies monthly financial reporting requirements for CDOT, specifically sufficient financial information for the controller to complete a review of legal over-expenditures, any deficit fund balances, and a budget to actual report for all budget lines within the annual general appropriations act; and CDOT to submit a monthly budget report of the expenditures made from each budget category and the unexpended and unencumbered balance of each budget subcategory and to make each report publicly available on the department's website.
NFRMPO Analysis:	The bill updates CDOT financial reporting requirements to the Transportation Commission.
Sponsors:	R. Bockenfeld / D. Michaelson Jenet / J. Smallwood / R. Woodward
Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to House Transportation & Local Government
Upcoming Action:	N/A
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1066



HB21-1076 Carpooling Service Internet Application Register with CDOT

Bill Summary:	The bill requires the owner or operator of a carpooling service internet application to register annually with CDOT. Owners or operators are also required to disclose to users of the internet application that carpooling service companies are not regulated by the state; that the state does not conduct medical examinations, vehicle inspections, or insurance verification in relation to the provision of carpooling service; and that background checks on drivers might not be conducted. The bill also requires that the amount that can be charged to a user through the internet application be reasonably calculated to cover the direct and indirect costs of providing carpooling service and limits the number of passengers that a driver providing carpooling service through the internet application may transport at any one time.
NFRMPO Analysis:	The bill would require carpooling service applications (apps) to register with CDOT and make clear their relationship to the State.
Sponsors:	J. McCluskie / P. Will / K. Donovan
Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to House Transportation & Local Government
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1076

HB21-1095	811 Locate Exemption For County Road Maintenance
Bill Summary:	To prevent routine and emergency maintenance activities from triggering the excavation notification requirement, the bill specifies that "excavation" does not include routine or emergency maintenance of right-of-way on county-owned gravel or dirt roads performed by county employees that does not lower the existing grade or elevation of the road, shoulder, and ditches; and does not disturb more than 6 inches in depth during maintenance operations.
NFRMPO Analysis:	This legislation would help counties avoid having to alert the statewide notification association of all owners and operators of underground facilities of its intent to engage in excavation.
Sponsors:	M. Baisley / C. Kipp / J. Ginal / R. Woodward
Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to House Transportation & Local Government
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1095



HB21-1127	County General Fund Money For Roads And Bridges
Bill Summary:	Current law prohibits a county from appropriating county general fund money for roads and bridges and, subject to an exception for disaster emergency response within the county, from transferring county general fund money to the county road and bridge fund. The bill authorizes a county to use county general fund money to fund roads and bridges by eliminating these existing prohibitions.
NFRMPO Analysis:	This bill will allow counties to access additional transportation funding, especially for the maintenance of roads and bridges.
Sponsors:	A. Pico
Last Action:	2/19/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to House Transportation & Local Government and Finance
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1127

SB21-076	Fund Electronic Third-party Vehicle Transactions
Bill Summary:	Current law provides for the implementation of an electronic system to transmit registration, lien, and titling information to the Department of Revenue (DOR). The system is currently funded through gifts, grants, and donations. The bill imposes a per-transaction fee up to \$3, set by the DOR, on third-party providers that issue registrations and titles to administer the system.
NFRMPO Analysis:	This bill funds access to titling information.
Sponsors:	R. Scott
Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in Senate and Assigned to Senate Transportation & Energy and Appropriations
Upcoming Action:	N/A
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-076

SB21-084	Local Government Authority Roughed-in Roads
Bill Summary:	Current law allows local governments to prohibit the operation of trucks and commercial vehicles on designated roads. The bill expands this to allow local governments to prohibit the operation of motor vehicles on roughed-in roads, which are areas where the ground has been cut with the intention to make a road but has not been improved enough to qualify as a road.
NFRMPO Analysis:	This bill allows local control over roughed-in roads, not just paved roads.
Sponsors:	J. Smallwood / M. Gray



Last Action:	2/16/2021: Introduced in Senate and Assigned to Senate Transportation & Energy and Appropriations
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-084

SB21-110 Fund Safe Revitalization Of Main Streets The bill transfers \$30 million from the general fund to the state highway fund to Bill Summary: provide additional funding for the department of transportation's revitalizing main streets and safer main streets programs. NFRMPO Analysis: This funding has been used in multiple NFRMPO communities and expanding the fund could benefit additional communities. This program benefits economic development and provides support during the pandemic and beyond. R. Zenzinger / K. Priola / L. Herod / T. Exum Sponsors: Last Action: 3/2/2021: House Committee on Appropriations Refer Unamended to House Committee of the Whole 2/16/2021: Introduced in House and Assigned to Senate Transportation & Local Government Upcoming Action: Not Set Web Link: https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-110

SB21-165	CDOT Project Procurement Methods
Bill Summary:	The bill requires CDOT to solicit construction contracts for public projects by invitation for bids, also known as the design bid build method of procurement, unless CDOT determines, based on specific written findings that CDOT posts on its website prior to awarding a contract, that it is not feasible to do so.
NFRMPO Analysis:	This change in procurement methods may impact future transportation projects within Colorado that are funded by CDOT.
Sponsors:	R. Zenzinger / K. Priola / L. Herod / T. Exum
Last Action:	3/2/2021: Introduced in Senate and Assigned to Senate Transportation & Local Government
Upcoming Action:	Not Set
Web Link:	https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-110



Statewide Transportation Funding

Summary: No bill has been proposed in the General Assembly as of March 3, 2021 related to transportation funding. The following ideas have been floated:

- Add a fee to the purchase of a gallon of gas
- Increase fee to register electric vehicles
- General fund transfers for transportation projects
- Road-usage charge in which drivers pay a fee based on the number of miles driven in lieu of a fuel tax

The General Assembly has stated they intend to tie fee increases to inflation.

Governor Polis recommended stimulus funding as part of his budget proposal, including \$220 million in "shovel-ready public works and infrastructure projects," mostly for the department of transportation and parks improvements.

The Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance (NCLA) has prioritized:

- Regional and local funding options such as a P3 commitment or Regional Transportation Authority
- Expansion of state funding through package approach to include:
 - o Dedicated transportation funding in the state's General Fund
 - o Transportation bonding program
 - Support fee and gas structure to ensure all users of the road, including electric vehicles, pay their fair share of the costs of the transportation infrastructure



MEMORANDUM

To: NFRMPO Constituents

From: AnnaRose Cunningham & Alex Gordon

Date: March 1, 2021

Re: Creation of an NFRMPO Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The NFRMPO is completing the <u>Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan</u> with anticipated adoption in Spring 2021. A recommendation in the EJ Plan is the creation of an advisory committee to provide feedback to NFRMPO staff throughout the transportation planning process. The committee will be made up of residents from a variety of communities in the region, specifically those that have typically been left out of the transportation and planning processes. NFRMPO staff have developed the framework for the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and are accepting applications from individuals residing in the NFRMPO area who are not currently serving on any of the NFRMPO committees to participate on the CAC.

The CAC will provide a special advisory role in the planning process as it will provide a necessary communication link between the NFRMPO staff and the communities it serves. Specifically, the Committee is being established to provide active citizen participation in the metropolitan planning process undertaken by the NFRMPO. The CAC will support NFRMPO staff by helping to implement the goals and strategies outlined in the NFRMPO's <u>EJ Plan</u> and <u>Public Involvement Plan (PIP)</u>. The CAC will work with NFRMPO staff, either individually or collectively, to address technical work and make recommendations to the NFRMPO Planning Council through an established process.

The CAC will bring residents from the NFRMPO region together for their unique perspectives to the NFRMPO transportation and air quality work tasks. The CAC will meet bi-monthly, with the first meeting scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** as a virtual only meeting.

To ensure geographic and social equity of the committee based on what is identified and defined in in the <u>EJ Plan</u>, the NFRMPO is encouraging members from small communities (those less than 50,000 in population), vulnerable populations, and communities of concern to apply. These communities are identified in the application as well. To apply to be a member of the CAC, please fill out the application which can be found here: <u>https://forms.gle/4VwRa2CGGBR4pAxZA</u>. **NFRMPO staff will review the first round of applications the week of April 5, 2021.**

Please contact AnnaRose Cunningham (<u>arcunningham@nfrmpo.org</u>) or Alex Gordon (<u>agordon@nfrmpo.org</u>) with any questions.



Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—MINUTES February 23, 2021 1:34 p.m. – 2:44 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

- Abdul Barzak, Town of Severance
- Janet Bedingfield, 60+ Ride
- Andrew Jones, Arc of Weld County
- Margie Martinez, United Way of Weld County
- Leiton Powell, GET
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Robyn Upton, Greeley Citizens Bus Committee
- Karen Wainscott, Envision

NFRMPO staff: Alex Gordon, Cory Schmitt

- 2. Review of Agenda
- 3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)
- 4. Approval of December 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Teets motioned to approve the December 3, 2020 minutes. Jones seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

No items this month.

PRESENTATIONS

No items this month.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

One Call/One Click Center Update – Schmitt provided updates on the progress of the One Call/One Click Center, including: the website scope of work (SOW) is out through March 19 and the name "RideNoCo" has been chosen. Schmitt showed four draft logos, and WCMC members provided feedback they preferred the green and bolded text but ensuring there is contrast to read from afar. Schmitt also noted the One Call/One Click Center phone number has been set up as (970) 514-3636.

Vaccine Transportation – Schmitt stated he has been working with different agencies around the region on ensuring transportation for vaccine recipients. Martinez noted Larimer and Weld counties have been working together on a POD (Point-of-Distribution) at the Ranch. Gordon asked about United Way Weld County's Ride United program, and Martinez noted they are working with Mile High 2-1-1 to administer Lyft rides as a "last resort" as well as working with 60+ Ride and Greeley Evans Transit (GET). Bedingfield noted 60+ Ride is preparing a campaign for volunteers for vaccines but is waiting until they know more about dates and locations. The group also discussed RSVP and the Windsor Senior Rides Program. Schmitt stated he was on a phone call and they had discussed "vaccine dates", where a driver and other person could get the vaccine at the same time and they would then have their follow up appointment at the same time. Teets asked how the information is getting out there and the need to make sure it is not all technologyfocused. Martinez noted the need to talk to people and spread awareness through word-of-mouth. She also noted the region will have a better idea about the transportation need after the pod event. Bedingfield

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noted there is a phone number to call for information about vaccines and appointments: (970) 400-2111. The group discussed the Pods will be on weekends, which may help with recruiting volunteers. There are also CASTA webinars focused on transit and vaccines coming up, which Gordon and Schmitt will distribute.

Coordinated Plan/Work Plan Discussion – Gordon showed a Google Sheet of projects that will help bring awareness to the transportation needs throughout Larimer and Weld counties. Gordon will share the link with the group and asked for help distributing the link. Gordon noted the group will hold elections at the next WCMC meeting, with the hopes of creating a regional Executive Committee with the Larimer County Mobility Committee. Teets noted he sent a proposal from the Greeley Citizens Bus Improvement Committee. Bedingfield noted she would like to see a focus on collaboration and finding more ways to work together.

GREELEY EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES

Powell stated GET is at about 50 percent of pre-COVID capacity and ridership is gradually increasing. Powell noted GET is following President Biden's Executive Order and TSA's Security Directive regarding masks on buses and at bus stops and the transit center. Those who do not comply could be fined or face federal prosecution. Powell also stated there is a survey out regarding Poudre Express, available on the GET website.

WCMC MEMBER REPORTS

- Teets noted WAND voted on a chair and vice-chair at their last meeting, electing Teets as Chair and Upton as Vice-Chair. The group is working on its list of 10 priorities.
- Wainscott stated Envision has a new van, which has been positively received by clients and staff.
- 5. Final Public Comment (2 minutes each)
- 6. Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions
 - **a)** Topics for next meeting include discussing the Coordinated Plan and vaccine transportation.

7. Adjourn

a) The meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm. The next WCMC meeting will be April 27, 2021.