Executive Summary of the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization Community Advisory Committee

November 11, 2021

Attendees: Anna Rose Cunningham, Medora Bornhoft, Wayne Chuang, Alex Gordon, Doran Azari, Louisa Andersen, Anna Kelso, Gary Strome, Hunter Rivera, Kathleen Mitchell, Kevin Borchert, Cliff Moore

Air Quality Planning

Medora Bornhoft, NFRMPO, and Wayne Chuang, Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC), presented on air quality planning in Colorado. Bornhoft explained the relationship between EPA, USDOT, CDOT, RAQC, DRCOG, Upper Front Range TPR, and the NFRMPO, all of which work together to help the region achieve air quality conformity. The NFRMPO is in nonattainment for two sets of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQs). RAQC is developing the State Implementation Plan (SIP), which will show how the region can attain the standards within the required timeframe. Bornhoft explained transportation conformity, which means that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will not cause new air quality violations or worsen existing violations. Meeting conformity is based on the travel demand modeling and regional emissions analyses. Chuang explained the RAQC, which helps award air quality funding and leads ozone planning for the region. Bornhoft explained the greenhouse gas pollution reduction efforts the State is currently embarking on. Chuang explained how air quality is monitored around the State and how the trends have evolved over the last few years.

Borchert asked how the region has achieved less pollution despite adding more population. Bornhoft explained the CAFÉ standards for vehicles have improved reducing a lot of vehicle pollution. Borchert asked how wildfires factor into ozone monitoring. Chuang explained smoke can slow the development of ozone, which requires sunlight, but ozone is accounted for in looking at sources.

Subcommittees

Cunningham discussed the outreach survey, which is still open for the CAC members to complete. Cunningham recommended shifting the purpose of the subcommittees and sending agendas to all members with a focus on different topics for each meeting. Cunningham added the next meeting will focus on the NFRMPO's Call for Projects, which closes on December 10.

Next meeting agenda topics: History of Larimer and Weld counties through indigenous lands/perspective and recent legislation and its impacts on Colorado.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m. The next meeting date will be January 13, 2022.