

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

**December 16, 2021
Virtual Special Council Meeting**

Voting Members Present:

Will Karspeck- Chair -Berthoud
Kathleen Bracke -TC
Mark Clark -Evans
Lanie Isbell -Eaton
Scott James -Weld County
Jon Mallo -Loveland
Frank Baszler -Severance

Voting Members Absent:

Fil Archuleta -Garden City
Elizabeth Austin -Milliken
Paula Cochran -LaSalle
Lisa Laake -Timnath
Troy Mellon -Johnstown
Johnny Olson -Greeley
Paul Rennemeyer -Windsor
Kristin Stephens -Larimer County
Dena Wojtach -CDPHE-APCD

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; **Becky Karasko**, Transportation Planning Director; **Cory Schmitt**, Mobility Manager; **Alex Gordon**, Transportation Planner III; **Medora Bornhoft**, Transportation and Air Quality Planner III

In Attendance:

Abdul Barzak, Allison Baxter, Rick Coffin, Mark Jackson, John Jacus, Evan Pinkham, Randy Ready

Chair Karspeck called the Special MPO Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Move to Approve Agenda:

Isbell **moved** to *APPROVE THE December 16, 2021, SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AS SUBMITTED*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Agenda

Chair Karspeck opened the Special Council meeting and Vice Chair James discussed Weld County's request for a stay on EPA's recent nonattainment area boundary expansion. Mallette then explained the expansion of the nonattainment area and how it would impact the NFRMPO, the NFRMPO's request for the boundary expansion to be data driven, and the request for the NFRMPO to be a Declarant.

Declaration to Support Weld County – Draft Letter

Bornhoft provided an overview of the expansion of the nonattainment area to include all of Weld County into the Northern Subarea. She discussed the differences between the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards and the difference in the boundaries between the two with the new designation by EPA. She then discussed three implications of why this boundary redesignation would adversely impact the NFRMPO. These include: the costs and time associated with expanding the Land Use Allocation Model and Travel Demand Model; a conformity determination on the area must be completed by

December 30, 2022; and going forward two conformity determinations would have to be completed on the area in Weld County. Bornhoft then discussed the draft Declaration in support of Weld County's stay request.

Weld County Request for Nonattainment Area Expansion Stay

John Jacus with Davis, Graham, & Stubbs LLC, stated that Weld County had submitted a request for Judicial Stay on the 2015 nonattainment area expansion to the D.C. Circuit Court on December 15, 2021. He then discussed Weld County's reasoning for requesting the judicial stay and the merits of their request.

Next Steps

Mallette stated with the consensus of the Planning Council members present at the meeting, staff would finalize the declaration and provide it to Chair Karspeck for his signature prior to submitting it.

The Special Council meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Special Council Meeting minutes submitted by: Becky Karasko, NFRMPO Staff