



**Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—AGENDA**  
**December 7, 2021**  
**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

- 
- 1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions**
  - 2. Review of Agenda**
  - 3. Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)**
  - 4. Approval of October 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**
- 

**ACTIVITY**

- 1) End of Year Gratitude** All  
Reflecting on another challenging pandemic-affected year for transportation

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 2) CDOT Funding** Ewert/Schmitt  
Funding awards made for 2022, including additional support for local agencies

**PRESENTATIONS**

- 1) LinkNoCo** Gordon  
NFRMPO LinkNoCo public comment feedback, analysis on corridors, and project next steps
- 2) Northern Colorado Clean Cities Electrification Project** Lopez  
Serving low-income households through discounted rides and EV infrastructure

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1) Via Pilot in Southwest Weld** Bitzer/Schmitt  
Reflecting on pilot, looking ahead at 2022
- 2) 2022 Brainstorming Session** All  
Explore Coordinated Plan implementation goals, activities, and training opportunities for 2022.

**GREELEY-EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES**

**WCMC MEMBER REPORTS**

- 
- 4. Final Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)**
  - 5. Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions**
  - 6. Next WCMC Meeting: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**– Hybrid meeting hosted at United Way of Weld County  
(814 9<sup>th</sup> St., Greeley, CO 80631)



## LINKNoCo

UNITING THE NORTH FRONT RANGE

### Project Overview and Understanding

Winter 2021/2022



1



## Agenda



1. What is LINKNoCo?
2. What are the anticipated outcomes of LINKNoCo?
3. What is the public engagement process?

LINKNoCo

2

2

# 1 What is LINKNoCo?

3



## Project Background

- 2045 Regional Transit Element (RTE) adopted (2018)
- NFRMPO Planning Council request to study regional transit to complement Front Range Passenger Rail (2019)
- Premium transit is anything above local bus (bus rapid transit, express bus, rail, etc.)
- Focus on community connections



LINKNoCo

4

4

## Project Vision



- Define a North Front Range premium transit network and advance to most promising corridors
- Link regional (North Front Range) communities
- Promote ease of use and safety, focusing on all users equitably
- Offer a competitive alternative to driving to help reduce regional traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions
- Provide inclusive and accessible stakeholder engagement



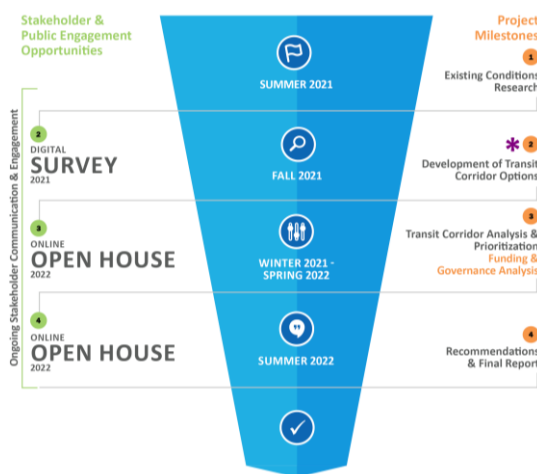
LINKNoCo

5

5

## Project Process and Schedule

\* CURRENT STEP IN THE PROCESS



LINKNoCo

6

6

## What is Premium Transit?

- Rapid Boarding  
Curb or Near Level
- Transit Exclusivity
- Real Time  
Information
- Pedestrian Focused  
Access
- Connects Regional  
Destinations
- Unique Branding  
and Identity



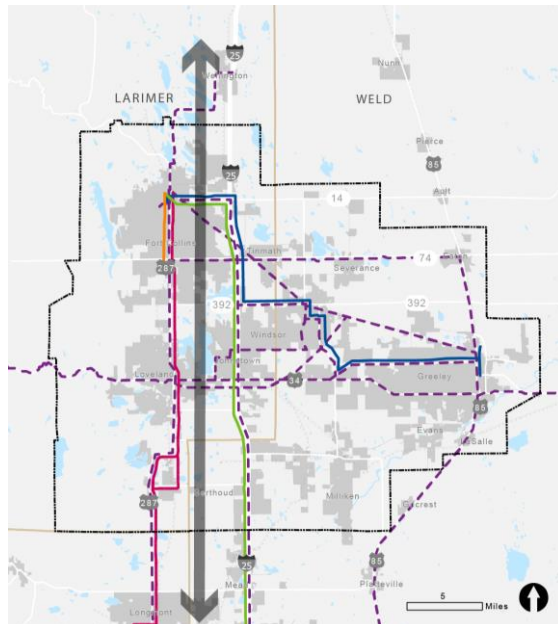
- Rail, Bus, + Other  
Technologies
- Off-Board Ticketing
- Lighting, Seating,  
Stop Amenities
- Priority Operations  
+ Signaling
- Frequent service  
throughout the day
- Integration with  
Bike Network

LINKNoCo

7

7

## Baseline Corridors



- Legend**
- NFRMPO Boundary
  - County Boundary
  - 2045 RTE Evaluated Corridors
  - Potential Future Passenger Rail
- Existing Premium Transit Corridors**
- FLEX
  - MAX
  - Bustang - North Line
  - Poudre Express

LINKNoCo

8

8

## Baseline Corridors

Fort Collins to Eaton (Harmony Road/Weld County Road 74)

Fort Collins to Wellington (SH1)

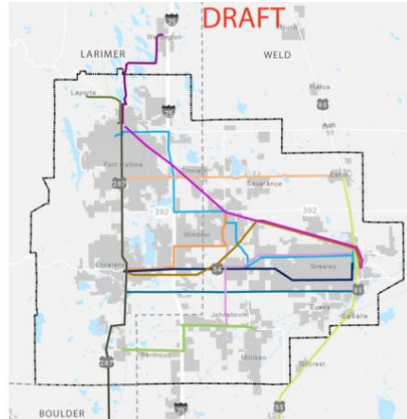
Loveland to Greeley (US 34)

Eaton to Denver Region (US 85)

Windsor to Loveland (US 34/Weld County Road 17)

Greeley to Fort Collins Regional Rail (Great Western Railway)

Greeley to Loveland Regional Rail (Great Western Railway)



Milliken to Berthoud (SH 60, I-25, and SH 56)

Loveland to Evans (SH402 - Freedom Pkwy)

Greeley to Johnstown (Weld County Road 17 and US34)

Fort Collins to Laporte (Laporte Avenue and Overland Trail)

Fort Collins to Windsor to Greeley (Poudre Express)

Fort Collins to Longmont/Boulder (FLEX/US 287)



LINKNoCo

9

9

2

## Anticipated Project Outcomes

10



## Anticipated Project Outcomes

- Proposed set of top performing transit corridors
- Proposed action plan to advance key corridors – critical next steps
- Proposed governance structure to support funding and implementation
- Proposed funding action concepts



LINKNoCo

11

11

3

## Public Engagement

12





## Public Engagement

Our approach will be multicultural and inclusive to all communities within northern Colorado. We will use a variety of tools to provide input opportunities that are easy and accessible.

### Notification Outlets:

- Website
- Email and hotline
- Social and traditional media

### Communication Materials:

- English and Spanish
- Direct mailers
- Fact sheet
- Presentations

### Input Tools:

- Digital survey
- Self-guided online meeting
- In-person events

LINKNoCo

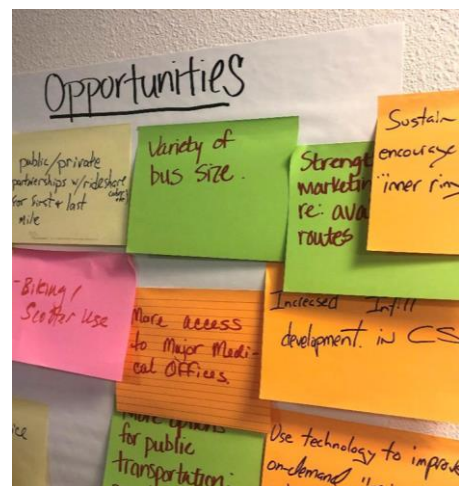
13

13



## Stakeholder Coordination

1. Technical Advisory Committee (existing)
2. Policy Advisory Group
3. Guidance Committee
4. Project Ambassadors
5. Two online open houses/questionnaires
  - (1) Range of options and initial evaluation
  - (2) Recommendations



LINKNoCo

14

14





## Spread the word and stay in touch!

### LINKNoCo

UNITING THE NORTH FRONT RANGE

#### Quick Links:

[What is Link NoCo?](#) | [What is Premium Transit?](#) | [What are the desired outcomes?](#)  
[Building on Previous Efforts](#) | [LinkNoCo Timeline](#) | [Get Involved](#) | [Questions?](#)

#### What is LINKNoCo?

The NFRMPO desires to expand premium transit service to connect communities by preserving existing transit operations and identifying other areas that can move forward with premium transit services.

**LINKNoCo will set the vision for a complete premium regional transit network and recommend top priority corridors for implementation to unite the North Front Range community.**

#### What is Premium Transit?

Premium transit means a service that offers more amenities and/or more frequent service than most local bus services. Current regional premium transit services that you might be familiar with in the area include Bustang, FLEX, MAX, and the Poudre Express.



#### Website

[nfrmpo.org/transit/linknoco/](https://nfrmpo.org/transit/linknoco/)

#### Email

[info@linknoco.com](mailto:info@linknoco.com)

#### Hotline

(970) 387-8058

LINKNoCo

15

15



## Thank You!



- Thank you for reviewing the presentation
- Additional information is available on the website at:

<https://nfrmpo.org/transit/linknoco/>

- Direct questions or comments to:

Alex Gordon, PTP  
 Transportation Planner III  
 North Front Range MPO  
 Email: [info@linknoco.com](mailto:info@linknoco.com)  
 Phone: (970) 387-8058

LINKNoCo

16

16





**Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—MINUTES**  
**October 26, 2021**  
**1:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

---

**1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

- Lisa Bitzer, Via Mobility Services
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Andrew Jones, The Arc
- Leiton Powell, GET
- Michelle Johnson, GET
- Abdul Barzak, Town of Severance
- Blake Van Jacobs, CDOT
- Garrett Mumma, CO Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Nichole Seward, Weld Area Agency on Aging
- Celeste Ewert, Envision
- Moira Moon, CDOT
- Margie Martinez, United Way
- Janet Bedingfield, 60+ Ride
- Robyn Upton, Greeley Citizens Bus Improvement Committee

NFRMPO staff: Alex Gordon, Cory Schmitt, Hanna Johnson

**2. Review of Agenda**

**3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)**

**4. Approval of June 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Ewert motioned to approve the June 2021 minutes. Bedingfield seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Schmitt announced a federal grant opportunity. These funds are for Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility grants, with specific goals of better coordinating transportation among organizations receiving funds from federal agencies with a December 6<sup>th</sup> deadline. Teets stated that he would like funds to go to several locations in Greeley. Ewert noted that it would be difficult to put something together in 6 weeks; there would be a significant amount of work to put together a competitive proposal. Ewert noted that only a few WCMC entities are already receiving federal transportation funds, which limits who can collaborate. Members decided not to pursue a proposal.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**NFRMPO Coordinated Plan**– Gordon presented about the update to the Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan. This strategic plan encompasses the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and lower income people and applies to the work of public transit and human services transportation agencies, not just RideNoCo. During the outreach process, the NFRMPO heard five overarching themes: regional mobility, rural support, cost barriers, information sharing, and service limitations due to limited funding. The five strategies are coordination, education/communication, collaboration, infrastructure/funding, and non-mobility improvements. Gordon outlined the next steps: Planning Council discussion November 4<sup>th</sup>, LCMC action date: November 18, and Planning Council adoption: December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teets notes that Weld County has not kept up with



population growth. Teets made a motion that the WCMC recommend approval of the Coordinated Plan. Barzak seconded the motion.

**RideNoCo Technology Steering Committee**– Schmitt presented about the RideNoCo Technology Steering Committee and demoed the RideNoCo [website](#). Schmitt noted that NFRMPO staff are always accepting feedback on the website. The Trip Discovery tool, Phase 2, is currently going through the procurement process. Phase 3 is the trip dispatching and scheduling. RideNoCo is forming a steering committee to ensure that this scheduling software is user friendly and works for both transportation providers and riders. Ideal members include providers, riders, caregivers, and other stakeholders. The draft schedule envisions meetings once a month. Bedingfield, M. Johnson, Mumma, Bitzer, and Jones volunteered to participate on the steering committee.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Via Mobility Pilot Update** – Bitzer updated the group on the Via Mobility Pilot in southwestern Weld County. Since the launch on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, there have been 179 trips to date with 51 registered riders. There was a recent successful group outing for the Platteville Senior Center. Via and the NFRMPO are discussing how to obtain funding to keep the service going. The service is costly – a local match of \$85-\$95k would be needed to maintain service. There has been a lot of ridership from Johnstown, Milliken, and Platteville. Via has a variety of vehicles they utilize, depending on needs and ridership for that day. Teets noted that he saw one of the Via vans in Greeley a few days ago. Bitzer noted that the SW Weld Pilot has had a variety of populations accessing the service and that it is capturing more than just older adults.

**Community Outreach and Committee Membership** – H. Johnson shared the RideNoCo Outreach Strategy and received feedback from WCMC members. Slides are included in the meeting packet.

**2022 Meeting Dates and Format** –Schmitt showed the proposed 2022 meeting schedule (attached) and asked how members would like to meet. Teets proposed a hybrid meeting option. Jones seconded the idea of a hybrid meeting. Teets would like to see all meetings in one location. Schmitt asked if anyone would like to volunteer their location and would be able to accommodate hybrid meetings. Bedingfield noted that there is room for 10 to 12 at their office. Martinez noted that United Way can seat quite a few people. Bedingfield and Teets noted that two joint meetings a year is a good format. United Way needs to double check that their audio set up would work but noted they do have an OWL for hybrid meetings. Martinez is unsure if United Way have the capacity to host all meetings but is available to host the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **GREELEY EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES**

Powell noted that things are going the best they can, given the national shortage of drivers and operators. GET has not had to reduce or cancel any service. Ridership is trending upward, including Poudre Express. Greeley is working on their [Greeley Master Transportation Plan](#). This plan should be adopted in April of 2022.

### **WCMC MEMBER REPORTS**

- Jones (Arc of Weld County): Executive Director, Larry McDermott, has retired. Amelia Koehmstedt is the interim director while the search is underway for a new Executive Director.
- Bedingfield(60+Ride): Slowly rebuilding transportation ridership as grocery delivery still makes up about half of 60+ service. Focusing on fundraising, recruiting volunteer drivers, and onboarding



new administrative assistant who lives in Windsor. 60+ Ride may be receiving an accessible vehicle through the Weld County AAA but not sure yet.

- Barzak (Town of Severance): Town of Severance is working to finalize a TAP/MMOF trail project to submit to CDOT soon to connects to all the schools within the community. A Corridor Plan is set to be adopted within the next few months and will be a big improvement to standards for bike & ped as well as vehicles on major corridors.

### **Final Public Comment *(2 minutes each)***

#### **5. Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions**

- a) Topics for the December agenda include a presentation about the LinkNoCo Premium Transit Study ([accepting survey responses now](#)).

#### **6. Adjourn**

- a) Martinez motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 pm. Ewert seconded. WCMC meeting will be December 7, 2021.

# 2022 Mobility Calendar

-  LCMC
-  WCMC
-  MAPG
-  Joint Mobility

## January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2022 Meeting Dates:

- 1/20: LCMC
- 2/3: MAPG
- 2/22: WCMC
- 3/17: Joint
- 4/7: MAPG
- 4/26: WCMC
- 5/19: LCMC
- 6/2: MAPG
- 6/28: WCMC
- 7/21: LCMC
- 8/4: MAPG
- 8/30: WCMC
- 9/15: LCMC
- 10/6: MAPG
- 10/25: Joint
- 11/17: LCMC
- 12/1: MAPG
- 12/13: WCMC