# **Chapter 5: Action Steps**

The Actions Steps identified in this Chapter should be prioritized over the next four years (one plan cycle) to improve active transportation in the NFRMPO region. Action Steps are broken into the following categories: Safety, Monitoring, Land Use and Urban Form, Equity, Local Assistance, Funding, and Wayfinding. With each Action Step, responsible agencies/partners are identified. Additional recommendations, suggestions, and other guidance are spread across corresponding sections of the *ATP*.

# **Safety**

Support the identification of additional rural locations where "State Law: Motorists Must Give 3-FT Clearance" signs may be appropriate and assist with identifying funding opportunities for expeditious installation.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Explore opportunities to supplement crash data by developing and maintaining a regional crowdsourced near miss reporting tool using a platform such as Esri's Crowdsource Reporter.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Support efforts to expand educational programs such as the Bicycle Friendly Driver course (City of Fort Collins and Bicycle Colorado) to other local agencies.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Expand the safety analysis appendix and explore opportunities to expand the NFRMPO's Towards Zero Deaths Policy into a Safety Action Plan with emphasis on a systemic safety risk analysis, specifically for active modes.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, TAC, Planning Council

Work with local agencies to conduct locally specific analysis of bike/ped crash and near miss, and other safety trends.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Monitor the implementation of actions to prevent harmful crashes involving pedestrians identified in the <u>USDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan</u> adopted in November 2020, and get involved where appropriate.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Encourage local agencies to work with law enforcement to enforce laws related to walking and bicycling safety with a focus on aggressive behavior from drivers, speeding, and code violations.

Responsibility: NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

# **Monitoring**

Partner with students from CSU and UNC to conduct trail user surveys, an Economic Impact Assessment (EIA), and a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Poudre River Trail (from LaPorte to Greeley) after its completion in 2022-2023. These analyses will help the region quantify the value these investments bring to Northern Colorado and create a replicable methodology for similar efforts on additional regional corridors.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Continue sharing collected count data with the CDOT statewide database, as well as the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's (RTC) nationwide database.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, Local Agency Staff

Continue purchasing permanent counters to be installed, managed, and maintained by local agencies.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Work with local agency staff to coordinate, train and/or assist with counts (minimum two weeks) at all priority locations identified in the Chapter 2 over a two-year period.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Explore options, including the Eco-Counter API function, to create a regional, public-facing dashboard of count data.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Assign a Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) to all roads within the NFRMPO region and incorporate Bicycle LTS into project scoring and prioritization.

Some roads in the NFRMPO Regional Travel Demand Model (RTDM) currently have an assigned LTS. Further Bicycle LTS assignment should use a methodology that combines bicycle facility type, number of lanes, and posted speed limit in urban areas (adapted from CHCNGA-TPO and Lowry, Furth, Hadden-Loh 2016 and the Connect Loveland Transportation Master Plan) and combines traffic volumes, truck percentages, posted speed limits, and paved shoulder width in rural areas (adapted from Boulder County). Other factors may be introduced as appropriate. The figures should then be refined by local agency staff and public stakeholders using traffic volumes, access and intersection characteristics, crash and near miss history, and other context-specific information.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Incorporate future active transportation facilities into the NFRMPO's RTDM network to improve forecasting and allow active transportation-specific scenario planning using Bicycle LTS (see previous recommendation and existing RTDM methodology).

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, Local Agency Staff

Encourage and support more local participation in the <u>PlacesForBikes City Rating</u> system and League of American Bicyclists' <u>Bike Friendly America</u> program.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Improve regional active modes facility dataset to distinguish striped, buffered, and protected bike lanes; identify designated bicycle routes that meet a standard definition; and identify the varying qualities of soft-surface trails (surface type and width).

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Generate a public facing, interactive, mobile-friendly map of the regional low stress bike network. Explore opportunities to incorporate the map into existing apps or web maps.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, TAC, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative, other Local Agency Staff

Explore opportunities to acquire location-based app data on bicycle travel patterns, such as Strava Metro or Streetlight datasets.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

#### **Land Use and Urban Form**

Continue offering technical assistance in the review of local development plan proposals.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Review and update existing development requirements to ensure bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and access is accommodated in new areas.

Responsibility: Local Agency Staff

Evaluate opportunities in underutilized areas that lack connectivity through connector trails, etc.

Responsibility: Local Agency Staff

# **Equity**

Update and expand the Larimer County Multimodal Index (MMI) to cover the region and explore additional ways to quantify equity, consistent with the NFRMPO's *Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan*.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, Local Agency Staff

Work with staff from the Health District of Northern Larimer County (HDNLC) and the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment (WCDPHE) to conduct deeper analyses into the Community Health Assessment (CHA) results, with specific attention to socioeconomic disparities related to active transportation.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff

Work with local planning partners and other community leaders to evaluate access to active transportation infrastructure and identify potential solutions.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Continually assess opportunities to incorporate well-established tools and analyses focused on transportation equity into project prioritization for the NFRMPO's Call for Projects and other grant opportunities.

These tools and analyses may include the afore mentioned MMI, CHA results, Bicycle LTS, crash and near miss history, and more.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, TAC, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

### **Local Assistance**

#### **Develop an Active Transportation Assistance Program to:**

- Support community and organizational commitments and pledges to improve active transportation, including membership and advancement within the:
  - o The AARP Age-Friendly Network of States and Communities
  - o The League of American Bicyclists' <u>Bicycle Friendly America Program</u>
  - o Main Street America and creating a Main Street Program
- Conduct infrastructure audits (walking, biking, transit) to identify areas for improvement and train local leaders to conduct audits on their own;
- Assist with identification of grant opportunities and submitting grant applications for active transportation infrastructure and program improvements;
- Assist with review of existing local codes and policies, identification of best practices updates or adjustments to those codes and policies, and development of local complete streets policies;

- Host periodic training sessions (in-person, webinars, web training videos) to address areas of interest identified by planning partners;
- Improve and maintain ongoing feedback mediums such as online mapping and feedback tools (Community Remarks, Esri Crowdsource Reporter, etc.); and
- Explore opportunities to host and/or promote regional classes and trainings to improve individual confidence and comfort walking and biking, with a focus on virtual formats and a recording archive.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

# **Micromobility**

Communities considering shared mobility solutions should require prospective vendors to provide adaptive solutions that respond to barriers such as physical and sensory inaccessibility. Findings from a <a href="June 2020 Report">June 2020 Report</a> on perception of emerging mobility services among individuals with disabilities from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) may be referenced.

Responsibility: Local Agency Staff

# **Funding**

With each NFRMPO Call for Projects, identify opportunities to:

- Encourage applications representing a more diverse range of project types that are highly consistent with the intent of each funding program;
- Emphasize the importance of projects that support mode shift away from single occupant vehicle (SOV) travel; and
- Better align funding decisions with NFRMPO target achievement.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, TAC, Planning Council, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

Improve communication between groups with parallel missions (NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative, Weld County Mobility Committee [WCMC], Larimer County Mobility Committee [LCMC], etc.) to identify opportunities to combine funding sources and prioritize projects with multi-faceted benefits (bikeability, ADA compliance, independent living, etc.)

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, Committee Leadership

Continue to regularly update the Regional Active Transportation Corridor (RATC) 10-Year Project Pipeline with cost estimates to position the NFRMPO region more competitively to pursue and respond to various funding opportunities.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative, TAC

# **Wayfinding**

Continue leading the effort to identify wayfinding signage needs on and connecting to all Regional Active Transportation Corridors (RATCs) through a shareable and editable online interactive mapping platform, such as Community Remarks or ArcGIS Crowdsource Reporter. Individual mapping should be supplemented with in-person workshops along the network to field test and refine the initial recommendations.

Responsibility: NFRMPO Staff, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative