



North Front Range  
Metropolitan  
Planning  
Organization

## ***On the Move:* Your Quarterly Transportation News & Updates**

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Read on for the latest transportation updates along the North Front Range.

[Visit our Website](#)

## **2021 NFRMPO Planning Council & TAC Elections**



Severance Mayor Don McLeod,  
2021 Planning Council Chair



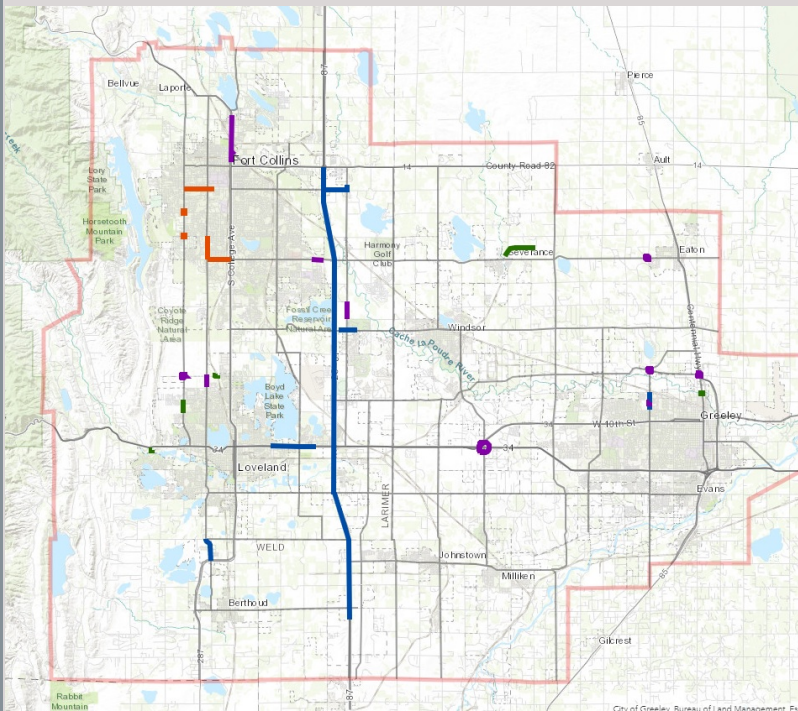
Berthoud Mayor Will Karspek,  
2021 Planning Council Vice-Chair

At their December meeting, the North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning

Council (NFRMPO) elected new officers for serving during 2021. The Planning Council voted to elect Don McLeod, Town of Severance Mayor, as Planning Council Chair and Will Karspeck, Town of Berthoud Mayor, as Vice-Chair. Dave Clark, City of Loveland Councilmember, will serve as Immediate Past-Chair. The Planning Council officers make up the Executive Committee and work cooperatively to set the Planning Council's meeting agendas.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) also elected officers for 2021 at their December meeting. TAC re-elected Mitch Nelson of the Town of Severance as Chair and re-elected Eric Tracy of Larimer County as Vice Chair. Dave Klockeman of Loveland will continue to serve as Past Chair.

## Construction in Northern Colorado



The NFRMPO collects data about upcoming construction projects located on Regionally Significant Corridors (RSCs) happening in Larimer and Weld counties. These projects can be found through the [online map](#) which is updated regularly to keep residents and visitors informed. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) also provides updates on construction along I-25, including closure information, which can be found [here](#).

To see the most up-to-date map with construction projects scheduled from January through June 2021, [visit the construction page on our website](#).

Please contact [NFRMPO staff](#) if a project is missing or needs to be updated.

## Winter Driving Tips

Winter driving can be hazardous and frightening, especially with Colorado's sudden weather changes and heavy snowstorms. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has several resources to help anyone who is driving in Colorado be safe on the roads. Click on the photo to see the Winter Wise tips or view CDOT's [Winter Travel Center](#). Keep up to date on driving conditions and road closures at [COtrip.org](#) or [sign up for travel alerts and news](#).

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

- HAVE A PLAN**
  - Prepare a winterized emergency kit with water, food, blankets, extra clothes, jumper cables, blankets and first aid kit.
  - Always plan your route in advance.
  - Let someone know your route and ETA.
  - Check road conditions at [CDOT.org](#).
- SAFETY CHECK**
  - Give your vehicle a tune-up before long trips. Get an oil change if necessary.
  - Inspect the battery, brakes and jacks.
  - Make sure the wiper blades work properly.
  - Have a full tank of gas.
  - Check your headlights, brake lights, turn signals, emergency flashers and interior lights. Be sure to check trailer brake lights and turn signals.
- SCRAP WINDOWS**
  - Scrape all frost, ice and snow off your windows.
  - Don't forget the back window. It's essential to scrape your back and side windows for full visibility.
- CHECK TIRE TIRES**
  - Check the air pressure in all tires, including spare tires.
  - Make sure your tires have good tread.
  - During winter months, invest in a set of snow tires which is critical to stopping safely on snow and ice. Regular tires simply don't compare to winter tires.
- TRACTION LAMPS**
  - CODE 18 COMMERCIAL CHAIN LAW** - Commercial and truck/trailer chain laws. For the safety of the traveling public, it's critical to use chains for the entire length of the Colorado chain law.
  - CODE 18 PASSENGER TRACTION LAMPS** - All passenger vehicles must have appropriate all-weather tires with 3-to-8 inch depth. Vehicles must have one of the following: winter tires, tires with multiple tread patterns, chains or alternative traction devices such as an anti-lock.
  - CODE 18 PASSENGER CHAIN LAW** - All passenger vehicles have chains, except for 4x4 and 4x4i vehicles with all-weather tires with 3-to-8 inch tread depth.

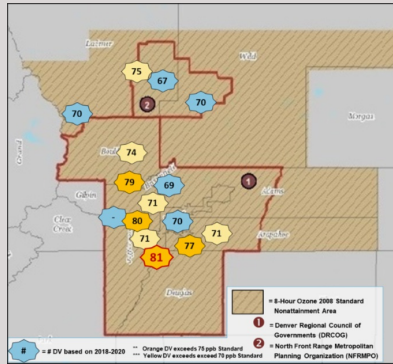
**WHILE ON THE ROAD**

- DRIVE FOR CONDITIONS**
  - Don't drive faster than you can see, stop, and react to. In poor visibility, cut back on speed and increase your following distance.
  - Don't forget to turn on your headlights.
  - If you're stuck in a traffic jam, do not leave your vehicle. Stay in your vehicle until help arrives.
- LEAVE PLENTY OF ROOM**
  - Don't tailgate. Leave extra room between your vehicle and others in the same lane. If you're in the right lane, don't tailgate. If you're in the left lane, don't tailgate.
  - Great pedestrians and bicyclists roam when you see them on the road.
  - Wash your safety when approaching first responders or law enforcement regarding emergency incidents on the side of the road.
- HOW TO THE PLUG**
  - PASSING ON THE RIGHT** - This is never a good idea. Plugs are designed to push all the way to the right of the lane. That's dangerous for you and temporarily obstruct your view.
  - DRIVING THROUGH THE PLUG** - Plugs need to slip, decelerate and sand, to make sure you stay back. Drive to four car lengths. If you're too close, decelerate and sand could hit your car. You also never know when a plug might need to be suddenly stop, make sure you have plenty of room to do the same.
  - TRUCKS AND BICYCLES** - Trucks and bicycles driving through plugs should cover all lanes and clear the road more quickly to one way. This is the safest and most efficient snow removal method. As a bicyclist or pedestrian, it's important to be visible to the driver. If you're stuck in a plug, call emergency services or contact your local emergency services.

**TRAVEL TIPS**

- Travel Law winter CDOT.gov
- Report road conditions to [CDOT](#)
- Report road conditions to [CDOT](#)

# 2020 Air Quality for the North Front Range



Monitor	2020 4 <sup>th</sup> High	2018-2020 DV
Chatfield State Park	83	81
NREL	87	80
Rocky Flats	84	79
Fort Collins - West	75	75
Highland	83	77
Boulder Reservoir	76	74
Welch	77	71
Greeley - Weld Tower	72	70
Rocky Mtn. Nat'l Park	72	70
Aurora East	77	71
CAMP	74	70
La Casa	78	71
Fort Collins - CSU	67	67
Wolby	78	69
Blackhawk <sup>1</sup>	75	-

Each year the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) provides the NFRMPO with a summary of the condition of air quality in the region. The 2020 ozone season was hotter and dryer than other recent years and included multiple wildfires resulting in several exceedances of the standard.

[Click here to read the full update.](#)

## CDPHE funds six 'quick win' bike and pedestrian projects across the region

Six NFRMPO member communities were awarded up to \$5,000 to make low-cost, quick implementation improvements that encourage and support biking and walking. Throughout 2020, CDPHE worked with staff from the NFRMPO, the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment (WCDPHE), and the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment (LCDHE) to identify projects that impact vulnerable populations, support Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and/or address known bike/ped network connectivity issues. The funding recipients and their projects include:

- City of Greeley** – Trailhead amenities, such as benches and a bicycle repair station, at the new Poudre River trailhead at Island Grove Regional Park. The improvements will improve access to active transportation and recreation opportunities in an underserved area of the City. This project will be completed in early 2021.
- Town of Berthoud** – Painted curb extensions and bollards at the intersection of Third Street and Welch Avenue to narrow the pedestrian crossing distance, improve driver behavior, and increase visibility of pedestrians. This project will be completed in early 2021.
- Town of Milliken** – Wayfinding signage to the community's parks to increase awareness and usage. This project will be completed in early 2021.
- Town of Severance** – Fencing, seeding, and mulching along the Great Western Trail near Weld County Road (WCR) 74. The improvements will discourage motorized vehicles from accessing the trail, easing trail safety and maintenance concerns. This project was completed in Fall 2020.
- Great Western Trail Authority** – Fencing at various county road access points of the Great Western Trail between Eaton and Severance to discourage motorized vehicles from accessing the trail. These improvements will complement 5.5 miles of recently constructed trail. This project will be completed in early 2021.
- City of Loveland** – Bicycle repair stations installed at the northbound FLEX regional bus stop at US287 and 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Sunset Vista Natural Area, and Mehaffey Park, as



well as “Bikes May Use Full Lane” signage on 57<sup>th</sup> Street between Taft Avenue and US287. These projects were completed in Fall 2020.

CDPHE identified Northern Colorado as a focus area following a walking audit event hosted by the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative near Old Town Berthoud in fall 2019. The event resulted in a list of recommended actions, including proposed improvements at the intersection of Third Street and Welch Avenue in Berthoud. The Collaborative plans to host additional walking audits and showcase many of these quick win projects to encourage similar investments across the region.

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## Welcome Cory Schmitt!

Welcome Cory Schmitt, the NFRMPO’s new Mobility Manager! Cory joins the NFRMPO after serving as the Mobility Manager with Boonslick Regional Planning Commission in Missouri. Cory brings both experience in the mobility world and a passion for serving others. As a social worker, he sees mobility management as a natural way to incorporate the social work principle of centering the individual and their unique needs into the transit and mobility conversation to ensure everyone can get where they need and want to go.



Cory’s main task will be developing the NFRMPO’s One Call/One Click Center based on the [Larimer County Senior Transportation Implementation Plan](#) to empower residents of Northern Colorado with a centralized hub to find and access the best transportation options to meet their needs. The One Call/One Click Center is funded through the Multimodal Options Funds (MMOF) program and was approved by the NFRMPO Planning Council in January 2020.

Cory can be reached at [cschmitt@nfrmpo.org](mailto:cschmitt@nfrmpo.org) or (970) 999-0072.

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## Funding for Transportation Services for Vulnerable Populations, Including Seniors



To help agencies that did not receive CARES Act funding, the Colorado Legislature set aside \$1M in “Transportation Services for Vulnerable Populations, including Seniors” for the State Fiscal Year, which ends in June 2021. These funds are earmarked for non-profit and governmental agencies that help provide mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities with decision-making power granted to the State’s five metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). For the NFRMPO, CDOT allotted \$115,000. Through a survey sent out to the Larimer and Weld County Mobility Committees, two agencies applied for the funding: 60+ Ride and Envision. Each agency will use the funds to offset losses in funding due to COVID restrictions.

Larimer County used CARES Act funding to help transportation providers including

## Estes Park Piloting Winter Transit Service from November to May



The Town of Estes Park started a pilot off-season transit service using its new fully electric trolley in November. The new service will be free to all riders, providing an air quality benefit within the Denver Metro-North Front Range Ozone Nonattainment Area and increased mobility for people who need it. Each Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., the service will begin its trips at Talons Pointe/Falcon Ridge and travel to the Lower Stanley Village at Reel Mountain Theater. The trolley has a wheelchair lift to ensure mobility for individuals with a mobility device.

During the summer, Estes Park runs multiple trollies as part of the Estes Transit system. This will be the first service provided in the winter with the pilot running through May 26, 2021. Capacity will be capped to 13 total passengers at a time to ensure proper social distancing.

Find out more about the service, including schedules and specific stops, at [www.estes.org/shuttles](http://www.estes.org/shuttles).

## MPO Training Series



The NFRMPO has a variety of programs, plans, and initiatives. To help new Planning Council members and members of the public learn about these efforts, NFRMPO staff is preparing and uploading training videos to the [NFRMPO website](http://www.nfrmpo.org) and [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...). Keep an eye out for more training videos as they come online. View the playlist at [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCSdSIUQ\\_7i6mhIW-kF4v3vAiuqd9XbEp](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCSdSIUQ_7i6mhIW-kF4v3vAiuqd9XbEp)

### Trainings Currently Available:

[What is an MPO?](#)

[Regional Transportation Plan \(RTP\)](#)

[Land Use and Travel Models](#)

[Regional Transit](#)

[Congestion Mitigation Process \(CMP\)](#)

[Transportation Improvement Program](#)

[Transportation Performance Management \(TPM\)](#)

[Mobility](#)

Get Involved

See what's happening at the NFRMPO and join us virtually at one of our upcoming events or meetings. For a comprehensive and up to date calendar of events, visit <https://nfrmpo.org/calendar>, and to download meeting materials, visit <https://nfrmpo.org/meeting-materials>.



Due to the current circumstances regarding COVID-19 many meetings are being conducted virtually. Please check our [Events Calendar](#) for the most up to date information.

## Upcoming Events

**January 6, 2021**  
I-25 Coalition Meeting

**January 7, 2021**  
Planning Council

**January 13, 2021**  
NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative

**January 20, 2021**  
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

**January 21, 2021**  
Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC)

**February 15, 2021**  
**President's Day**  
- NFRMPO Office Closed

## Recurring Meetings

**North I-25 Coalition** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**NFRMPO Council** meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative** meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**Mobility and Access Priority Group** (formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition) meets the first Thursday every other month (February) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC)** meets the third Thursday every other month (January & March) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

**Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)** meets the fourth Tuesday every other month (February) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.