

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

**February 3, 2022
Hybrid Meeting**

Voting Members Present:

Will Karspeck – Chair	-Berthoud
Jeni Arndt	-Fort Collins
Frank Baszler	-Severance
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission
Mark Clark	-Evans
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Lanie Isbell	-Eaton
Lisa Laake	-Timnath
Scott James – Vice Chair	-Weld County
Jon Mallo	-Loveland
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Johnny Olsen	-Greeley
Paul Rennemeyer	-Windsor
Kristin Stephens	-Larimer County

Voting Members Absent:

Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken
Dena Wojtach	-CDPHE-APCD

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director; Cory Schmitt, Mobility Manager; Merideth Kimsey, Accounting Manager; Alex Gordon, Transportation Planner III; Medora Bornhoft, Transportation and Air Quality Planner III; AnnaRose Cunningham, Transportation Planner II

In Attendance:

Aaron Fodge, Abdul Barzak, Allison Baxter, Brad Buckman, Candice Folkers, Charla Glendening, Dan Betts, Dana Hornkohl, Dean Klingner, Elizabeth Relford, Eric Tracy, Evan Pinkham, Heather Paddock, Jan Rowe, Jim Eussen, Josie Hadley, Katlyn Kelly, Kelly Zuniga, Mark Peterson, Myron Hora, Natalie Shishido, Paul Trombino, Robin Stoneman, Wade Willis, Will Jones, Dave Klockeman, Mark Oberschmidt, Omar Herrera, Scott Charpentier, Randy Ready

Chair Karspeck called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Public Comment:

Chair Karspeck read public comment submitted via email.

Move to Approve Agenda and Minutes

Rennemeyer **moved** to *APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 3, 2022 MEETING AGENDA AS SUBMITTED* and *APPROVE THE JANUARY 6, 2022 MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Karspeck opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

A written report was provided.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written report was provided.

NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Bornhoft stated the court ruling of the Weld County requested Stay, on the 2015 Ozone Boundary, is expected to occur in March 2022. Bornhoft provided updates on the two working groups MPO staff is participating in for the GHG Planning Standards. Bornhoft stated a small number of GHG mitigation measures are anticipated to be approved in April rather than a more robust list that may limit the ability to show compliance. The NFRMPO is working with DRCOG, APCD, and CDOT on the appropriateness of doing some MOVES modeling in house as opposed to having it only completed by APCD.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Karspeck opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Report of the Chair

Chair Karspeck reviewed the discussions held at the CDOT Region 4 TPR Chair meeting including discussion of the 10-Year List of Projects, the Regional Priority Program (RPP) formula, and funding for I-25.

Executive Director Report

Malette updated Council on the NFRMPO conflict of interest form and introduced the NFRMPO's new transportation planner, Jerome Rouser, who started at the NFRMPO in January and will be working remote until May. Malette provided updates on the Link NoCo premium transit analysis including the top three corridors the analysis will focus on: US34 between Greeley and Loveland, Great Western between Greeley and Fort Collins, and Windsor to Loveland. Malette encouraged Council members to join the policy committee if their community is connected to any of the three corridors. James asked for clarification on how the Great Western corridor was selected as opposed to another East/West alternative. Gordon clarified the corridors were chosen based on the consultant's analysis and public outreach. Bracke asked about other corridors including US 287. Gordon stated the analysis is focusing on corridors that currently do not have transit service.

TAC

A written report was provided.

Mobility

A written report was provided.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

A written report was provided.

CONSENT AGENDA:

No items this month.

ACTION ITEMS:

Transfort FY2022 Program of Projects (POP) – Katlyn Kelly, City of Fort Collins – presented the FY2021 Program of Projects for the Fort Collins Transportation Management Area (TMA). Fort Collins is the designated recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds in the TMA, which also includes BATS, COLT, and the NFRMPO. Kelly briefly reviewed the three updated FTA Sections 5307, 5310, and 5339 apportionments for the region. No negative comments were received during any of the opportunities for public comment.

James asked for clarification on the Capital Costs of Contracting item. Kelly explained it is the paratransit service Transfort provides which is contracted out.

Rennemeyer **moved** to approve the RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03 *REVISING FY2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) REGARDING FTA \$5307, \$5310, \$5339 FORT COLLINS/LOVELAND/BERTHOUD TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA (TMA) PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FFY22*. The motion was **seconded** by Isbel and **passed** unanimously.

January 2022 TIP Amendment – Cunningham described the TIP Amendment which includes the addition of one new project. TAC recommended Planning Council approval of the TIP Amendment.

James **moved** to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04 *APPROVING THE JANUARY 2022 AMENDMENT TO THE FY2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)*. The motion was **seconded** by Rennemeyer and **passed** unanimously.

2018-2022 NFRMPO Targets for Safety Performance Measures – Cunningham reviewed the targets for safety performance which were set by CDOT in August 2021 for the five-year performance period. Cunningham reviewed Council's questions asked during the January meeting including how the federally required safety targets integrate with the NFRMPO's Safety Policy adopted in 2020, the 10-year list of projects, and CDOT's safety and project planning efforts. Olson asked for details on how the scoring criteria in the Call for Projects align with CDOT's scoring criteria for safety programs. Cunningham replied she is not familiar with CDOT's scoring criteria but outlined the changes which were made during the 2021 Call. Project sponsors were asked to give crash data and points were available within the STBG program based on if the project addressed the most prevalent crash types at the project location and included proven countermeasures. James asked for clarification on what constitutes a proven countermeasure. Cunningham stated it is based on the FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures, details of which are included in the 2021 Call for Projects Guidebook.

Rennemeyer **moved** to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02 *TO SET TARGETS BY SUPPORTING THE 2018-2022 TARGETS ESTABLISHED BY CDOT FOR THE SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

NFRMPO TDM Scope of Work – Gordon reviewed what Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs) are and why NFRMPO Staff is pursuing work on TDM. Gordon presented a scope of work for a Northern Colorado TDM Work Group including the goals and the vision for a TDM program in the region. Olson asked if developing a TDM program could be used as a mitigation strategy to help the NFRMPO achieve compliance with the GHG Planning rule. Gordon stated that is still to be determined. Olson asked if NFRMPO dollars could be used to establish this program. Mallette stated that would be a Council decision and Gordon stated the idea is not unprecedented and is similar to what is currently being done by DRCOG in the Denver region. Isbell emphasized the importance of ensuring the smaller communities get a voice in the development of such program. Stephens stated the initiative is important with the possibility a program being mandatory in the future.

2021 Call for Projects – Cunningham gave an overview of the applications submitted by local agencies for the 2021 Call for Projects for STBG, CMAQ, and TA funding programs and the sets of analysis on projects provided to Council. Bornhoft reviewed the Preliminary GHG Emissions Reduction analysis. Olson asked when we would have the GHG emissions reductions tools and whether the estimated reductions from this Call for Projects would change based on the tools approved by CDOT. Bornhoft stated some tools should be available in April and May. James asked about the timeline for the public process on the mitigation measures. Bornhoft replied she is not aware of a timeline. Bracke stated she will take the questions and concerns from Council to the TC. Olson stated a comparison of the tools used by the NFRMPO and the tools approved by CDOT should be presented once the information is available. Cunningham gave a brief overview of the Locational Equity and Performance Measure Analysis.

Sponsors of all projects recommended for funding or waitlisted by the Scoring Committees presented on their projects. Councilmembers asked questions about the following projects:

- City of Fort Collins- On-Route Bus Chargers – How long does it take to charge the electric buses and what are Transfort's current ridership numbers. Kelly stated Transfort will follow up with answers to those questions.
- City of Loveland – US34 EB Widening Construction – Why were CMAQ emissions performance measures not recorded in the Performance Measure analysis. Cunningham stated the information included in the analysis was based on the project application. Klockeman stated TAC and the Scoring Committee discussed how some of the information can be standardized in future Calls.
- Town of Windsor – Eastman Park Ultimate Intersection & RR Crossing Improvement – Are there developer contributions included in the funding, specifically from Future Legends. Herrera stated

there are some contributions from adjacent developers, but he is not aware of contributions from Future Legends.

- City of Greeley – 9th and 10th Street Mobility Enhancements – Has the project been presented to City Council, have the safety measures been reviewed against crash data on the corridor, what is the GET ridership along the corridor, and if the City coordinated with CDOT on the project and whether the project will require devolution of the State Highway. Baxter stated the countermeasures identified address the crash types observed along the corridor and GET Route 1 is one of the highest performing routes in the City. The City of Greeley will continue to coordinate with CDOT on the devolution of the corridor, but the project is not contingent on devolution. The project information has been provided to City Council that has indicated support and expressed the need for intentional public engagement and was identified in the development of the Greeley on the Go Transportation Master Plan. Olson stated the Greeley City Council will plan to discuss the project prior to Planning Council approval.
- Town of Severance – Great Western Trail – Clarification was requested on the funding of the project since the full Great Western Trail had already been funded. Barzak stated this project includes elements not included in the construction by the Great Western Trail Authority.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission – Bracke outlined the discussions at the Region 4 TPR Chair meeting, stated she will take Council’s questions and concerns about the GHG mitigation measures and tools to the TC, and emphasized the importance of transportation safety.

CDOT R4 Update – Paddock stated CDOT is working on prioritizing the next four years of projects and funding included in the 10-year list and planning totals for the region. Planning totals will be presented at STAC and TC and will continue to incorporate the ten percent funding off the top for transit projects. Construction along I-25 is ongoing, safety measures are being implemented including temporary variable speed limit signs. CDOT launched a media campaign to help provide situational awareness around snowplows.

I-25 Coalition/US34 Coalition – Vice Chair James reiterated safety concerns on the roadways including I-25, and the Coalitions are continuing to look into pursuing funding through new and existing funding sources.

Nonattainment Enterprise Zone: Stephens outlined the purpose of the Nonattainment Enterprise which is to mitigate transportation related emissions within the Denver Metro/North Front Range Ozone Nonattainment area. The intention of the enterprise is to fund projects through grant opportunities which reduce traffic and air pollution and will be funded through a fee on retail deliveries and rides. A rulemaking to set the fees will be open on February 24 and is anticipated to be adopted on April 14. James asked for details on the timeline for when the grant opportunities will be open and if the grants will be competitive emphasizing the need for geographic equity in the process. Stephens stated that specifics have not been determined yet. Mallette had asked Stephens to coordinate with Staff moving forward which was agreed.

Host Council Member Report – Rennemeyer updated Council on several transportation projects being worked on in the Town of Windsor, noted the Future Legends Sports Park is projected to open in July, and stated the Town broke a record for single family permits in 2021.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month’s Agenda Topic Suggestions

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: AnnaRose Cunningham, NFRMPO Staff