



Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—AGENDA

February 22, 2022

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting: 814 9th St. Greeley, CO 80631 (United Way of Weld County) or Microsoft Teams

Call-in information:

(970) 822-7967

Code: 831-032-778#

Meeting Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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- 1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome, Introductions**
 - 2. Review of Agenda**
 - 3. Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)**
 - 4. Approval of December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes**
-

RIDENOCO UPDATE

Recap of 2021 and updates on progress on Trip Discovery and Trip Scheduling implementation

ACTION ITEM

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1) Co-Chair Elections | All |
| Nominate and elect WCMC Co-Chairs for 2022 | |

WORK SESSION

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 2) 2022 Work Plan | All |
| Translate the new Coordinated Plan into a work plan for 2022 through breakout groups. | |

GREELEY-EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES

WCMC MEMBER REPORTS

- 5. Final Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)**
- 6. Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions**
- 7. Next Meeting:**

March 17th, 2022: Hybrid Joint Mobility Meeting– 1-4 pm; Windsor Community Recreation Center (250 11st Street, Windsor, CO 80550)

April 26th, 2022: Hybrid WCMC Meeting– 1:30-3 pm; Location TBD

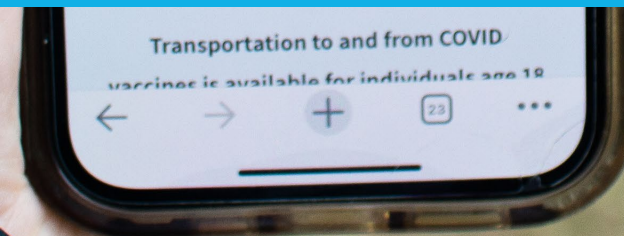


RideNoCo Updates: Looking Ahead into 2022

Weld County Mobility Committee



North Front Range
Metropolitan
Planning
Organization



February 22, 2022

Connecting You & Northern Colorado

Connecting You & Northern Colorado
embodies the two overarching goals of the
program:

1. Improving **individual mobility**, particularly for groups such as older adults, individuals with disabilities, lower income individuals, and people who do not speak English as a first language.
2. Improving **regional mobility** through enhanced coordination and collaboration among regional public and private transportation providers, especially in rural areas of Larimer & Weld counties.



Connecting You & Northern Colorado

RideNoCo is a system that:

The vision of RideNoCo is to **develop a coordinated system that schedules rides across multiple providers with seamless and accessible options for users.**

1 2 3

Is **simple** for anyone to easily find information about available transportation options



Has **robust financial capabilities** related to trip costs, trip payment, invoicing, and eligibility



Provides and shares accurate information to allow for **data-driven decisions**



Empowers and enables providers to share trips to make the best use of vehicles and provide more rides

A Phased Approach

Phase 1

2021

Website + Call Center

- Introduction of RideNoCo
- Central hub to identify transportation options across region and beyond

Phase 2

2022

Trip Discovery

- Ability to find and plan trips on public transit and human service providers in region
- Utilizing GTFS-Flex technology

Phase 3

2023

Trip Dispatching

- Find, plan, and book ride in one place across multiple providers
- Flexibility for transportation providers to schedule riders across different agencies

Ongoing-Data Collection: Where are mobility needs being met and where do gaps remain?

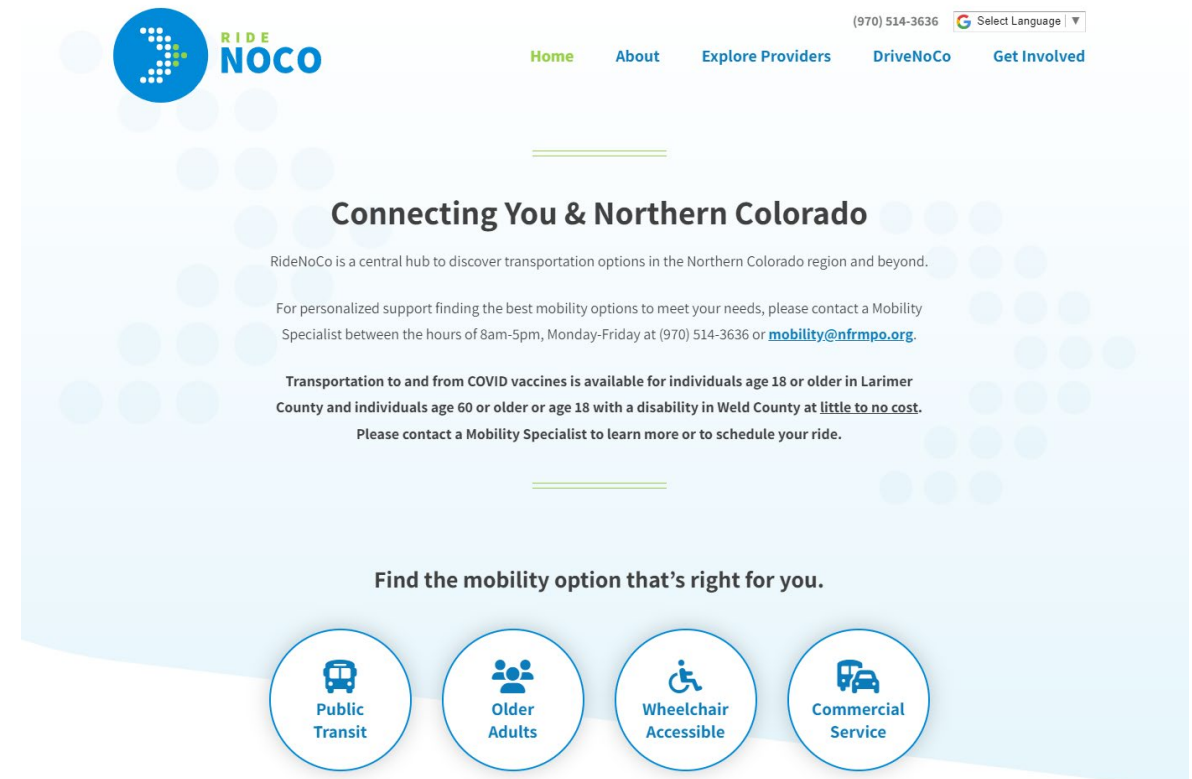
Phase 1: Website + Call Center

Phase 1 2021

Status: Complete

In 2021:

- 772 website visits
- 94 calls



Phase 2: Trip Discovery

- **Find and plan trips on RideNoCo website**
 - With public and human service transportation providers + walking/biking
- **Utilizing GTFS-Flex Technology**
 - Allows demand-response and volunteer driver services to be incorporated
 - Complements CDOT's Connected Colorado project
- **Vendor selected**
 - IBI Group with support from Trillium

Phase 2
2022

Status: In Progress

Phase 3: Trip Dispatching

Phase 3 2023

Status: In Progress

- **Empower providers and riders**
 - Find, book, and pay for ride in one place
- **Trip Scheduling Steering Committee**
 - Arrive at a system that meets the wants and needs of providers
 - Consultant being brought on board to facilitate process
 - Meetings to begin February 2022
- **Goal:** Scheduling platform debuting late 2022/early 2023

Trip Scheduling Steering Committee

Vision

A coordinated scheduling system that schedules rides across multiple providers with seamless and accessible options for users



Listen



Formulate



Evaluate



Guide

Steering Committee Members



60+ Ride of Weld County	SAINT Volunteer Transportation
Berthoud RAFT	Via Mobility Services
Greeley Evans Transit	Berthoud Area Transportation System (BATS)
Foothills Gateway	Arc of Weld County
Red Feather Lakes	CO Division of Vocational Rehab
Larimer County Office on Aging	Weld County AAA

Here's to 2022!



Cory Schmitt

Mobility Manager

cschmitt@nfrmpo.org

(970) 999-0072

RideNoCo

8am-5pm, M-F

mobility@nfrmpo.org

(970) 514-3636

2021 Coordinated Plan Executive Summary

Check out the entire 2021 Coordinated Plan on the NFRMPO website.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the **2017 Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan)** is to identify transportation issues, service overlaps, and gaps for vulnerable populations including older adults, individuals with disabilities, and low income individuals within the urbanized portions of Larimer and Weld counties as well as goals and strategies to address these identified issues.

As a recipient of FTA \$5310 funds, the NFRMPO updates the **Coordinated Plan** every four years

with guidance from the Larimer and Weld County Mobility Committees, local stakeholders, transportation providers, and other members of the public. The need for improved transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities has been known and continues to be an issue in both large and small communities within the NFRMPO region. Current programs and strategies are not enough to meet this growing demand and require additional support.

RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

Throughout the **Coordinated Plan** development process, stakeholders identified issues with transportation availability, specifically for trips that cross municipal or county boundaries; transportation affordability for rural areas, if transportation options exist; a lack of awareness about what services exist; and finding enough transit drivers to maintain levels of service. The following recommended strategies were drafted to address these concerns.

Strategy 1: Coordination

Local transportation providers, human service agencies, stakeholders, and other community groups will work together to reduce barriers for access to transportation. An example of this strategy is *RideNoCo*, the NFRMPO's One Call/One Click Center program.

Strategy 2: Education

Disparate programs exist for vulnerable populations to meet their basic needs, so there should be an investment in travel training, cross-promotion, and proactive educational campaigns like the Rider's Guides to help educate the community on potential transportation options.

Strategy 3: Collaboration

Similar to coordination, transportation providers, human service agencies, stakeholders, and other community groups work best when they work together. These face-to-face or digital networks can make it easier to share strategies and address regional needs. Examples include the Larimer

County and Weld County Mobility Committees, which each meet bi-monthly.

Strategy 4: Infrastructure and Funding

Additional funding and service is important to addressing goals. Programs like Dial-a-Taxi, new and replacement vehicles, and local assistance to apply for new grants can be useful tools to improve service for vulnerable populations.

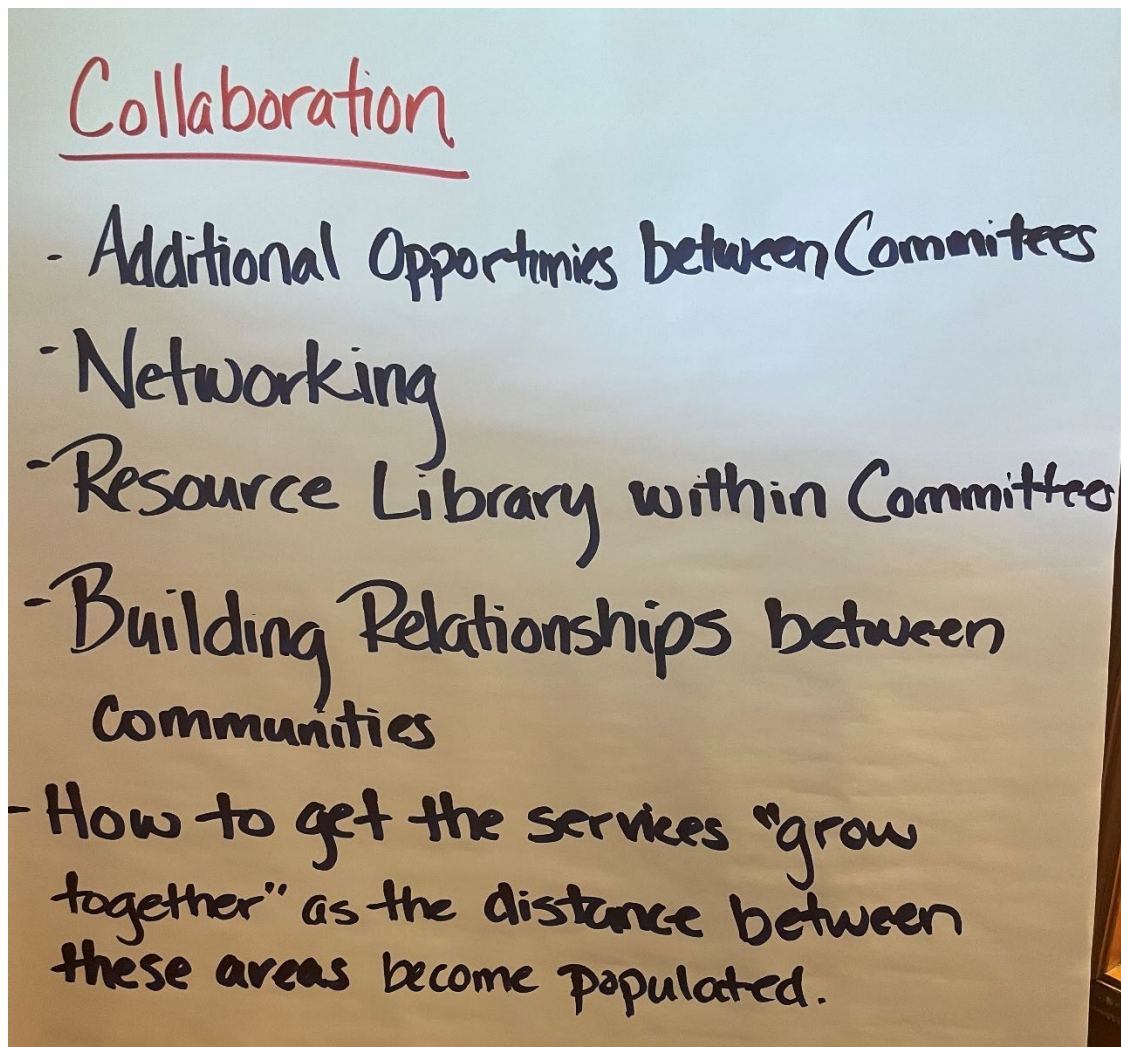
Strategy 5: Non-Mobility improvements

Bureaucracy can stand in the way of best addressing the needs of vulnerable populations. Strategies like addressing transportation access during zoning, identifying options for active transportation to address public health concerns, and other non-transportation focused strategies can help reduce demand for specialized services.

Joint Mobility Meeting Breakout Groups Summary:

1. Collaboration

- Additional opportunities between committees
- Networking
- Resource Library within Committees
- Building Relationships between communities
- How to get the services "grow together" as the distance between these areas become populated.



2. Coordination:

- Amend definition to include "organizations and groups"
- Add reduce barriers and improve rider experiences

How:

- Develop reciprocity agreements among providers for common eligibility criteria to with passengers
- Coordinate with healthcare providers
- Shared database to track customers across providers
- Pooling funding for trips taken on multiple providers (i.e. don't let cost of trip be a barrier to coordination)
- Shared service standards so that providers are accountable to customer experience (no dropped riders without contacting providers)

- Identify gaps in available services and seek funding to address gaps
- Coordinate applications to funding/grant opportunities
- Establish means for cross-jurisdictional service and transfer points for providers

Performance Measures:

- Number of shared trips and transfers between providers
- Increase of customer satisfaction survey response
- Increase in healthcare stakeholder participation in mobility committees
- 1 database used by x number of providers
- The amount awarded through grants
- The decreased number of denials for long distance trips
- The amount of money for pooled flexible funds
- The number of trips paid for with funding pool

Strategy 1: Coordination

- Amend Definition to include "organizations + groups"
- Add "Reduce Barriers" and "Improve rider experiences"

How:

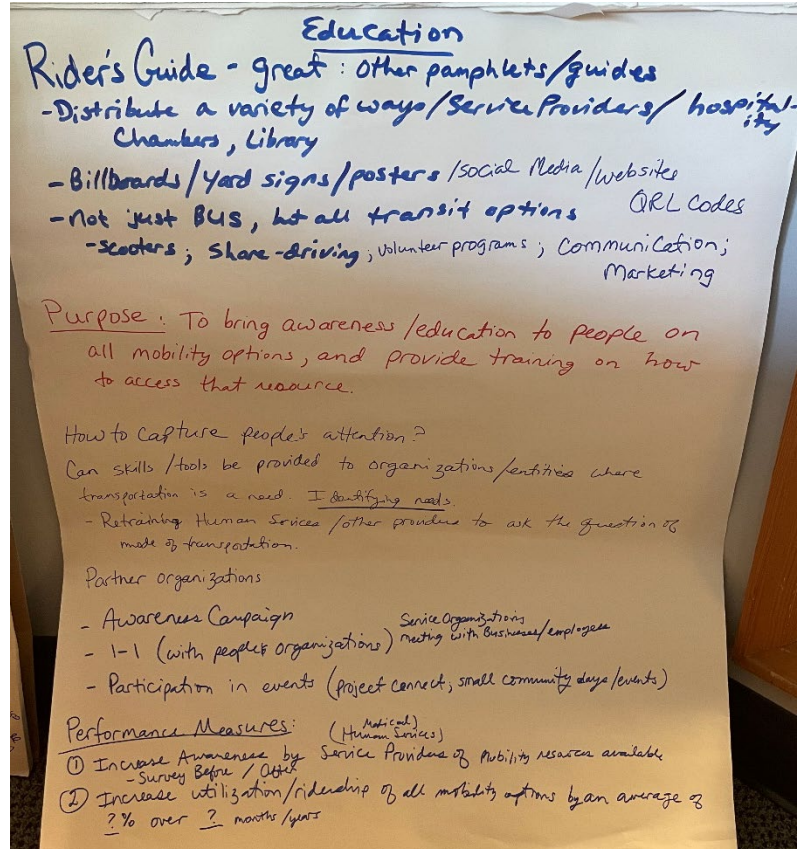
- Develop reciprocity agreements among providers for common eligibility criteria to share passengers
- Coordinate with healthcare providers
- Shared database to track customers across providers
- ~~Coordinate~~ ^{Pooling} Funding for trips taken on multiple providers (i.e. don't let cost of trip be a barrier to coordination)
- Shared service standards so that providers are accountable to customer experience (No dropped rides w/o contacting providers)
- Identify gaps in available services and seek funding to address gaps
- Coordinate applications to funding/grant opportunities
- Establish means for cross-jurisdictional service + transfer points for providers

Performance Measures:

- # Shared trips + transfers between providers
- # Customer satisfaction survey responses
- Healthcare participation in mobility committees
- 1 ~~data~~ database used by # providers
- \$ awarded through grants
- # denials for long distance trips
- \$ pool of flexible funds for trips paid for w/pool

3. Education

- May want to add "communication" or "marketing" to strategy title
- Rider's Guide
 - o Great
 - o Include other organization's pamphlets/guides (for example GET, TransFort, etc.)
- Billboards/ yard signs/ posters/ social media/ websites/ QR codes
- No just bus but all transportation options
 - o Carpooling, volunteer programs



Purpose:

- To bring awareness/education to people on all mobility options and provide training on how to access that resource.

How to capture people's attention?

- Can skills/tools be provided to organizations/entities where transportation is a need. Identify needs.
- Retraining human services/other providers to ask the question of mode of transportation

Partner organizations

- Awareness Campaign
- 1-1 (with partners)
- Participation in events (project connect, small community days/events)
- Service Organizations
- Meeting with Businesses/employers

4. Infrastructure and Funding

Activities:

- Inventory of current infrastructure to identify needs
 - o Look at hard infrastructure like vehicles
 - o And soft infrastructure like volunteer drivers and recruitment

Purpose:

- Improve mobility options for everyone

Method:

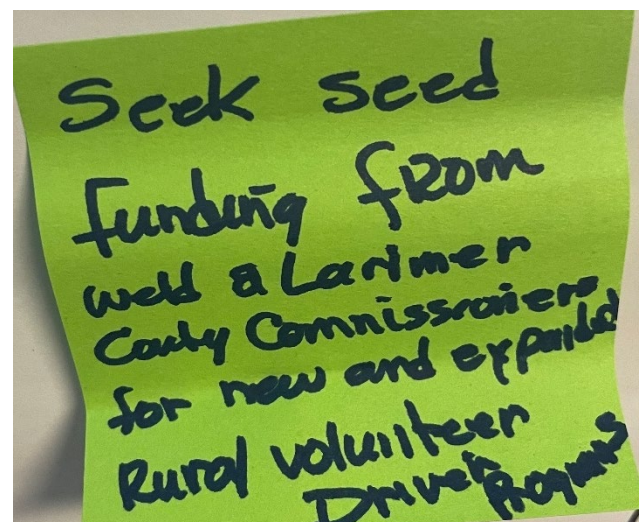
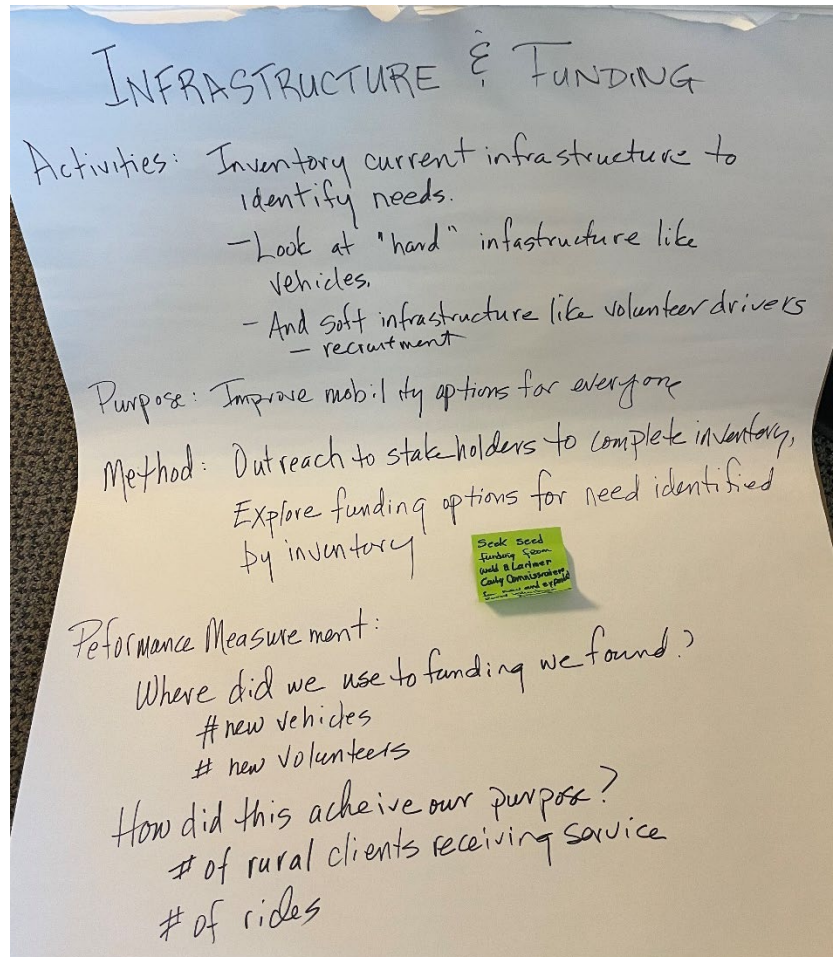
- Outreach to stakeholders to complete inventory, explore funding options for need identified by inventory

Performance measurement:

- Where did we use the funding we found?
 - o Number of new vehicles
 - o Number of new volunteers
- How did this achieve our purpose?
 - o Number of rural clients receiving service
 - o Number of rides

Comments from others:

- Seek seed funding from Weld and Larimer County Commissioners for new and expanded rural volunteer driver programs



5. Non-Transportation Improvements

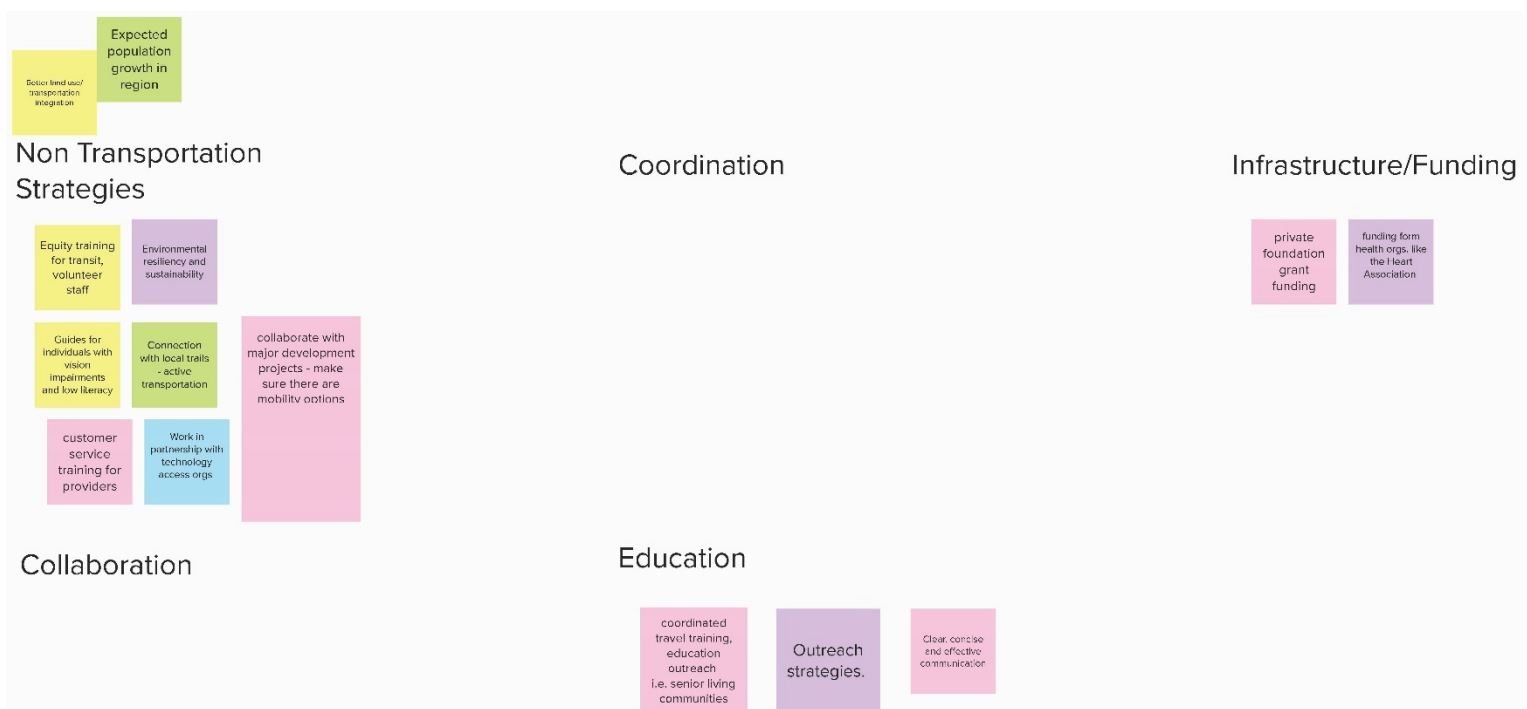
- Better land use/transportation integration
- Expected population growth in region
- Equity training for transit and volunteer staff
 - o Customer service training for providers
- Environmental resiliency and sustainability
- Guides for individuals with vision impairments and low literacy
- Connection with local trails/active transportation infrastructure and programs
- Collaborate with major development projects – make sure there are mobility options

Education:

- Coordinated travel training, education, outreach, i.e. senior living communities
- Clear, concise, and effective communication

Infrastructure/Funding:

- Private foundation grant funding
- Funding from health organizations like Heart Association





Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—MINUTES

December 7, 2021
1:33 p.m. – 2:53 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

- Lisa Bitzer, Via Mobility Services
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Andrew Jones, The Arc of Weld County
- Michelle Johnson, GET
- Abdul Barzak, Town of Severance
- Blake Van Jacobs, CDOT
- Celeste Ewert, Envision
- Skyler Potocek, Northern Colorado Clean Cities
- Janet Bedingfield, 60+ Ride
- Robyn Upton, Greeley Citizens Bus Improvement Committee
- Dan Betts, Rep. Ken Buck's Office
- Jan Rowe, CDOT R4
- Ana Colon, Boulder County M4A
- Chris Montoya, Adeo
- Diego Lopez, Northern Colorado Clean Cities
- Kathi Sargent, The Arc Weld County

NFRMPO staff: Alex Gordon, Cory Schmitt, Hanna Johnson

2. Review of Agenda

3. Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)

Teets wanted to comment a breakdown of the Federal Infrastructure Bill.

4. Approval of June 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

ACTIVITY

The group discussed gratitude for the end of the year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Schmitt announced the CDOT funding awards for 2022, including the new supporting funds for Envision's transportation services. Ewert noted that the NFRMPO applied for \$100,000 on behalf of Envision as part of their annual \$5310 mobility management applications.

PRESENTATIONS

LinkNoCo– Gordon presented about the LinkNoCo Project including an overview of the project and the feedback received during public outreach. The LinkNoCo project was started as a recommendation from the NFRMPO Planning Council to complement Front Range Passenger Rail. This focuses on community connections within the region. The project identifies potential corridors and then evaluates corridors that will increase regional mobility through inclusive, accessible, and equitable stakeholder engagement. This plan should be completed in summer or fall of 2022; the next steps include analysis on corridors and identifying governing structures and funding.



Teets asked if having roundabouts can be a problem for transit on the proposed regional routes analyzed by LinkNoCo; he also asked if the park and ride at HWY 34 and I-25 will return. Gordon replied that the existing park and ride is still open, and the new park-n-ride at Centerra will open in 2022. The alignment of the bus route, including the ability to get through roundabouts, would be planned as a later phase of the LinkNoCo project. Teets noted that there should be transit from Greeley to Johnstown.

Gordon then shared results from the first public engagement survey. The survey was opened for three weeks; the goal was to identify corridors to carry forward for deeper analysis. Teets asked if outreach was conducted in person. Gordon noted there was not much in person outreach for this part of the project. The survey asked participants to identify their top three corridors, if any connections were missing, etc. Three quarters of respondents were from Fort Collins, Loveland, and Greeley; one quarter was from other communities. The top corridors identified in this survey were:

1. FLEX from Fort Collins to Loveland, Berthoud, and Boulder
2. Loveland to Greeley via US 34
3. Greeley to Fort Collins via Great Western Railroad Corridor
4. Poudre Express
5. Berthoud to Fort Collins via BNSF rail corridor

More information can be found at www.nfrmpo.org/transit/linknoco/. Teets requested that Greeley's Citizen Transportation Board get a presentation of this project.

Northern Colorado Clean Cities Electrification Project– Lopez presented about the Northern Colorado Clean Cities (NCCC), a non-profit sponsored by the US DOT's Clean Cities Program and the Colorado Energy Office. A few grants available include:

- Charge Ahead Colorado
 - o Opens January 2022
- ALT Fuels Colorado
 - o Opens January 2022

These grants typically have 3 rounds each year. Another grant opportunity is the Colorado EV Stations; EV stations in the Front Range Urban areas and Rural areas get between 65% and 80% matching funds from the State of Colorado. There are EERE funding opportunities for projects that seek to develop affordable, efficient, and clean transportation options. The project approach must include EVs/charging infrastructure in underserved communities and multifamily housing or curbside charging for PEV. Clean Cities would like WCMC to help identify projects and stakeholders for these EERE funds. A Concept Paper will be due in March of 2022; six weeks later the application will be due. Lopez noted that Clean Cities also partners with local dealerships to provide incentives for Electric Vehicle purchase. Teets asked if Lopez would talk in front of a board or a council. Lopez said that they do that often and give resources. Teets asked if he could go in front of Greeley and Evans' councils and the Greeley Citizen's Transportation Advisory Board.

Lopez can be reached at 970-439-2926 or adlopez.nccc@gmail.com if the group has follow up projects or questions. Rowe asked if carshare programs for low-income communities have come in for any of these grants. Lopez said yes; one example is a bikeshare program for low-income communities. They have only seen one carshare program succeed with receiving funding and this was a program in Denver through Lyft. Lyft wants high density, so they are leaning towards Colorado Carshare. NCCC sees a lot of potential for carshare and micro-mobility options.



DISCUSSION ITEMS

Via Mobility Pilot Update – Bitzer updated the group on the Via Mobility Pilot in southwestern Weld County. Since the launch on August 2nd, there have been 275 trips to date with 63 registered riders. Via and the NFRMPO are working to keep the pilot going after the end of this year. Teets asked if the NFRMPO could give Via a grant for the next year. Schmitt noted that most of the service area is not within the NFRMPO boundary but rather within the Upper Front Range Transportation Planning Region (UFRTPR); the NFRMPO is working to create partnerships to keep the project going.

2022 Brainstorming Session – Schmitt noted that the NFRMPO Planning Council formally adopted the Coordinated Plan last week. The WCMC and LCMC will formally draft work plans for 2022 at their next meetings and will bring them together to create some overall regional goals at the first Joint Mobility Committee meeting in March. Teets noted increasing awareness of WCMC in rural areas. H. Johnson noted that the mobility program's outreach efforts will include WCMC recruitment. Ewert noted that marketing and education and awareness was discussed during the last Joint Mobility Committee and that it may be helpful to start the next Joint Meeting off with a recap of the August meeting. Bedingfield noted that it is so important to work together and collaborate and communicate as the group moves forward.

GREELEY EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES

Schmitt read Powell's email update: GET is working on hiring and training operators; they are seeing staffing get better. They are attempting to bring back routes 5 and 6 at a 20 minute headway. GET is working to replace their shelters. M. Johnson also noted that GET is working on [Greeley On the Go](#) – their transportation plan update.

WCMC MEMBER REPORTS

- Colon (Boulder County Mobility for All): Boulder County is finalizing our draft of the coordinated human services transportation plan (Coordinated Plan), titled Mobility and Access for all ages and abilities plan, and they will be realizing it for public comment this month. Boulder's LCC, Boulder County Mobility and Access Coalition, is formalizing their charter to focus on implementing the coordinated plan over the next 5 years.

RIDENOCO REPORT

RideNoCo has acquired a vendor to create the trip discovery tool. The Technology Steering Committee now has representatives from both WCMC and LCMC.

Final Public Comment (2 minutes each)

Teets requested the last NFRMPO Planning Council's meeting minutes.

5. Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions

- a) None.

6. Adjourn

- a) Teets motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 pm. Ewert seconded. The next WCMC meeting will be a hybrid meeting on February 22, 2022 at United Way Weld County.

2022 Mobility Calendar

-  LCMC
-  WCMC
-  MAPG
-  Joint Mobility

January

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August

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November

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December

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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