

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

**September 1, 2022  
Hybrid Meeting**

**Voting Members Present:**

Will Karspeck -Chair	-Berthoud
Scott James – Vice Chair	-Weld County
Frank Baszler	-Severance
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission
Tricia Canonico	-Fort Collins Alternate
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Liz Heid	-Eaton
Jon Mallo	-Loveland
Johnny Olson	-Greeley
Paul Rennemeyer	-Windsor
Kristin Stephens	-Larimer County

**Voting Members Absent:**

Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken
Mark Clark	-Evans
Jessica Ferko	-APCD
Lisa Laake	-Timnath
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown

**MPO Staff:**

**Suzette Mallette**, Executive Director; **Becky Karasko**, Transportation Planning Director; **Cory Schmitt**, Mobility Manager; **Rachel Stillwell**, Accountant; **Alex Gordon**, Transportation Planner III; **AnnaRose Cunningham**, Transportation Planner II; **Jerome Rouser**, Transportation Planner I; **Sheereen Ibtesam**, Outreach Specialist

**In Attendance:** Dan Betts; Eric Bracke; Rich Christy; Wayne Chuang; Dan Dean; Jamie Grim; Nicole Hahn; Will Jones; Katrina Klobberdanz; Dean Klingner; Dave Klockeman; Jon Murray; Elizabeth Relford; Jan Rowe; Mike Silverstein; Robin Stoneman; James Usher

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

**Public Comment:**

No public comment was provided.

**Move to Approve Agenda and Minutes**

Rennemeyer **moved** to *APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 MEETING AGENDA AS SUBMITTED*. The motion was **seconded** by Olson and **passed** unanimously.

Baszler **moved** to *APPROVE THE AUGUST 4, 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)

Silverstein stated the State Implementation Plan (SIP) was approved by the RAQC Board and further explained the SIP approval process. Silverstein reviewed the progress that has been made to achieve the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards. Reformulated gasoline will be required once the more severe nonattainment area is set by EPA. EPA projects the region meeting the 2008 standard by 2027 but will not meet the 2015 standard by 2024. James asked to clarify what issues exist at the NREL station because it is consistently out of compliance. Silverstein stated the same issues exist at NREL as the other sites. James asked to clarify if the focus for the SIP is NO<sub>x</sub> or VOCs. Silverstein stated NO<sub>x</sub> is the focus. Lawn and garden will be a priority because there is the ability to electrify. RAQC is not currently proposing new strategies compared to the previous SIP. Olson asked to clarify what happened in 2017 regarding the extension for the ozone standard. Silverstein explained Governor Hickenlooper requested a one-year extension to meet the standard, but Governor Polis rescinded the request. The region did not attain in that year, meaning the one-year extension would have not helped meet the standard. Olson asked to clarify why 2020 did not see a reduction despite the reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Silverstein explained the reduction in VMT was temporary and there were significant wildfires. Mallette asked if electric vehicles are accounted for in the SIP. Silverstein stated the SIP is short-term and benefits from EVs will take time. Heid asked if electrification recategorizes emissions from one category to another. Silverstein noted the SIP relies on what is currently happening.

### NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Karasko referred to the NFRMPO's greenhouse gas fact sheet in the Council packet. The Conformity Determination document is out for public comment, and a public hearing will be held prior to the October 6, 2022 Planning Council meeting. Bracke suggested sharing the fact sheet with CDOT.

## **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda**

Chair Karspeck opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

### **REPORTS:**

#### Report of the Chair

Karspeck yielded his time to Councilmember Mallo, who highlighted Dave Klockeman, the retiring City Engineer for Loveland.

#### Executive Director Report

Mallette highlighted the Bike & Ped Safety Reporter Tool and the NoCo Shift Your Ride Challenge. Mallette introduced Rachel Stillwell, the NFRMPO's new Accountant.

#### TAC

A written report was provided.

#### Mobility

A written report was provided.

#### Finance

A written report was provided.

#### Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

A written report was provided.

#### VanGo™ Dashboard

A written report was provided.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Stephens **moved** to *APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously. The consent agenda included one item:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Unaudited Financials

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

### Amendments to Articles of Association

Mallette reviewed the updates to the Articles of Association. Mallette noted CDOT did not want to have a transit representative in the Articles of Association.

James **moved** to amend the *ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION NO. 2022-25* as presented. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico and **passed** unanimously.

### Revised FY2019 MMOF Project Extension Requests

Cunningham stated Planning Council approved six MMOF projects at the August 2022 meeting, and one project was not included. Cunningham stated the *Greeley No. 2 Ditch Trail* project is requesting an extension.

Rennemeyer **moved** to approve the *REVISED 2022 MMOF CALL FOR PROJECTS, RESOLUTION NO. 2022-22*. The motion was **seconded** by Baszler and **passed** unanimously.

### Off-Cycle August 2022 TIP Amendment

Cunningham reviewed the August Off-Cycle TIP Amendment, which included seven revisions from CDOT and the NFRMPO. The 30-day public comment started on August 10 and will end on September 8. TAC discussed the amendment and recommended Planning Council approval.

Rennemeyer **moved** to approve the *OFF-CYCLE AUGUST 2022 TIP AMENDMENT, RESOLUTION NO. 2022-26*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### 2045 RTP Update and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Analysis

Mallette explained NFRMPO staff has been working on the GHG Transportation Report and will be presenting to the Transportation Commission (TC) on September 14, 2022. Karasko reviewed the draft presentation that will be taken to TC. Mallette noted the NFRMPO uses a four-step model, while DRCOG and CDOT use an Activity Based Model (ABM). Bracke noted TC has allocated funding to MPOs to upgrade their models and will want to contextualize how that funding is being used. Karasko noted the update for the 2050 RTP will start soon, and NFRMPO staff will complete the GHG process over the next year. Bracke stated the NFRMPO should take credit for the work being done in the region. James asked what the GHG Planning Standard is. Karasko noted the GHG Planning Standard is the official name of TC's GHG Transportation Rule. Councilmembers discussed the question about whether the region cares about air quality. Councilmembers agreed storytelling is important and the region does care about air quality.

### LinkNoCo Study Recommendations

Gordon stated the consultant will be at the October Council meeting to discuss the recommendation. TAC will discuss the recommendations prior to the next Council meeting.

### VanGo™ Update & Policy Modifications

Mallette reviewed the VanGo™ program, especially how COVID-19 has impacted the program. VanGo™ instituted policies during COVID to support riders, including waiving the seat reservation fee, reducing the minimum occupancy limits, modifying the reduced-schedule participation, adding a ¼-time option, and

increasing the coordinator stipend. Staff is recommending maintaining the COVID policies, except for waiving the seat reservation fee, and proposing a dynamic minimum occupancy, changing the reduced schedule, and adapting the coordinator stipend depending on the number of riders per vehicle. The program plans to purchase 10 vans in 2023 and invest in outreach strategies. Revenue for these strategies will come from fares, van sales, and the Fort Collins sales tax exchange funds.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Transportation Commission – CDOT is working on finalizing the CDOT 10-Year Plan update. Bracke is interested in data from the Free Fare for Better Air month in August. Bracke stated TC is working on coming up to Northern Colorado to see North I-25 progress.

CDOT R4 Update – A written report was included.

STAC Report – A written report was included.

Front Range Passenger Rail District – The District is planning a retreat for members in September.

Host Council Member Report – Progress is being made on S Timberline Rd., south of Harmony Road into an arterial with multimodal improvements. Linden Street opened after a complete rebuild into a convertible street with reduced parking, more space for outdoor dining, and better lighting. The Lemay Avenue Railroad Overpass was selected as a winner in the Mountain States awards.

**MEETING WRAP-UP:**

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions  
None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Alex Gordon, NFRMPO Staff