

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

**November 3, 2022  
Hybrid Meeting**

**Voting Members Present:**

Scott James – Vice Chair -Weld County  
Frank Baszler -Severance  
Kathleen Bracke -Transportation Commission  
Paula Cochran -LaSalle  
Tricia Canonico -Fort Collins  
Jessica Ferko -APCD  
Liz Heid -Eaton  
Jon Mallo -Loveland  
Troy Mellon -Johnstown  
Johnny Olson -Greeley  
Paul Rennemeyer -Windsor  
Kristin Stephens -Larimer County

**Voting Members Absent:**

Fil Archuleta -Garden City  
Elizabeth Austin -Milliken  
Mark Clark -Evans  
Will Karspeck-Chair -Berthoud  
Lisa Laake -Timnath

**MPO Staff:**

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

**In Attendance:** Darin Barrett; Bill Becker; Dan Betts; Eric Bracke; Rich Christy; Alex Donaldson; James Eussen; Myron Hora; Dana Hornkohl; Mark Jackson; Will Jones; Dean Klingner; David Martinez; Deanna McIntosh; Heather Paddock; Evan Pinkham; Elizabeth Relford; Robin Stoneman; Eric Tracy; James Usher

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

**Public Comment:**

**Move to Approve Agenda and Minutes**

Heid **moved** to *APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 3, 2022 MEETING AGENDA AS SUBMITTED*. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico and **passed** unanimously.

Olson **moved** to *APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2022 MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED*. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico and **passed** unanimously.

### **Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda**

Vice Chair James 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 noted the EPA's reclassification of the Denver Metro/North Front Range Ozone Nonattainment Area is taking effect on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The Air Quality Control Commission will be holding a rulemaking hearing on the State Implementation Plan (SIP) in December. NFRMPO staff is working with CDOT and CDPHE on an Intergovernmental Agreement on greenhouse gas modeling. James asked about the role of the IGA, and Bornhoft provided clarification. James requested that the Council be given the opportunity to review the IGA as well.

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

Vice Chair James opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

#### **REPORTS:**

##### Report of the Chair

James stated the officer elections will be held in December and Director Mallette's evaluation is also in December.

##### Executive Director Report

Mallette noted there was a request from Commissioner Stephens to integrate the Colorado Transportation Investment Office (CTIO). Former Loveland Councilmember Cecil Gutierrez is the NFRMPO's representative on the CTIO Board. He will begin attending meetings in January to provide a report. CTIO minutes will be included in the Council packet.

##### 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.

### Q3 2022 TIP Modifications

A written report was provided.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- FY2022 TIP Delay Review

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### Link NoCo Study Recommendations

Gordon outlined the recommendations of the study, including potential governing structures. Gordon stated the public comment period ended on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Rennemeyer **moved** to approve the *NORTH FRONT RANGE LINK NOCO STUDY, RESOLUTION NO. 2022-31* as presented. The motion was **seconded** by Olson and **passed** unanimously.

#### Records Retention Policy

Malette noted the NFRMPO has never had a record retention policy. The policy is based on state schedules using areas that pertain the MPO. NFRMPO staff reviewed the policy and recommended extending the retention period for fleet dispositions and TAC meetings.

Heid **moved** to approve the *RECORDS RETENTION POLICY*. The motion was **seconded** by Mallo and **passed** unanimously.

#### NFRMPO FY2023 Budget Amendment #1

Malette outlined the proposed budget amendment which will allocate an additional \$90,000 for NFRMPO staff salary adjustments, \$30,000 for modeling, \$37,000 for air quality work, and \$10,000 for IT. This was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Finance Committee.

Canonico **moved** to approve the *NFRMPO FY2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT #1, RESOLUTION NO. 2022-32* as presented. The motion was **seconded** by Mallo and **passed** unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### 2022 Public Involvement Plan (PIP)

Cunningham outlined the contents of the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) which is federally required and updated on the same cycle as the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The plan covers all NFRMPO activities, including the RideNoCo program. The plan has four guiding principles: Meet people where they are, provide options for involvement and be adaptable, be a good community partner, and consistently evaluate throughout the public outreach process. Existing strategies include online media such as the NFRMPO website, social media, and newsletters. Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic are included such as continuing to host hybrid meetings. New strategies include incorporating technology such as Mural, virtual engagement events such as online open houses, plan specific outreach strategies, micro plans, expanded partnerships, and the equity planning tool. The PIP has an equity focus to ensure the NFRMPO is engaging with all members of the community. The

PIP outlines a social media policy that outlines the expectations for interactions on social media. The public comment period for the PIP closed on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

James asked how the public comment period went. Cunningham noted there have been a few comments from staff from local agencies.

#### NFRMPO Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan

Gordon provided an overview of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and the contents of the TDM Action Plan. The goals are to improve data collection, invest in infrastructure and resources, enhance partnerships and collaboration, communicate the purpose, benefits, and successes of TDM, and to create and enhance regional TDM programming. Some of the recommendations are already underway, including the creation of a US34 Transportation Management Organization (TMO), the RideNoCo Trip Discovery Tool, the creation of a Safe Routes to School subcommittee under NoCo Bike & Ped, outreach, and resource development. The public comment period ended on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Multiple comments were received including reorganization of information within the plan and requests for additional data.

Rennemeyer asked what the next steps are for the US34 TMO. Gordon noted the next steps are to apply for grant funding to hire somebody to begin building the TMO. Olson asked what measurements will be used to ensure the strategies outlined in the plan are successful. Gordon stated potential measurements are the number of strategies implemented and the amount of money that is invested in TDM strategies.

#### FAMLI Opt Out

Malette noted Colorado voters approved Proposition 118 in November 2020 that created the FAMLI program. Governments can opt out of the program if they provide equal or better benefits than what the FAMLI program provides. The NFRMPO provides a greater benefit to employees than provided by the FAMLI program. Malette requested the NFRMPO opt out of the program and noted staff could choose to opt in if they choose to do so.

Rennemeyer asked if there are any staff members who wanted to opt in. Malette noted she has not heard from any staff members. Olson asked if an employee were to choose to opt into the program, would they continue to receive NFRMPO benefits. Malette noted they would receive both benefits.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Transportation Commission – Bracke thanked everyone who helped with the Transportation Commission’s North I-25 tour. Bracke noted she participated in the opening of the new Bustang Outrider service from Sterling to Denver and Greeley.

CDOT R4 Update – Paddock noted I-25 construction is continuing. CDOT finished the process of acquiring the US-85 right-of-way. CDOT Region 4 submitted a Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant for two railroads on US-34. There is an anticipated Request for Proposals (RFP) for the design of the SH14 and I-25 interchange. There will be a study on US287 from Ted’s Place to the Wyoming border looking at passing lanes and safety improvements.

STAC Report – A written report was included.

Colorado Transportation Investment Office- A written report was included.

I-25 Coalition – James stated Paddock covered all the updates provided at the I-25 Coalition.

US34 Coalition – James noted officials were asked to return to their respective governing bodies to confirm that they are willing to provide funds that will go towards the local match for the TMO grant.

Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME) – Stephens stated NAAPME has collected \$328,000 so far from the retail delivery fee. Rideshare dollars have not come in yet as those are collected quarterly. This fee is enough to repay the loan given by CDOT for startup costs. Herman Stockinger and Jessica Ferko were named to the board. There will be a meeting in December to approve the Annual Report.

Front Range Passenger Rail District – Olson noted the board has extended an offered Andy Karsian for the General Manager/ Executive Director position of the Front Range Passenger Rail District.

Host Council Member Report – Mallo introduced Mark Jackson and Bill Becker. Jackson noted Nicole Hahn is the new City Engineer for the City of Loveland. Work is continuing on westbound US34. Loveland is finishing the design and right-of-way acquisition for the Taft Avenue-Eisenhower Boulevard intersection project. Becker outlined redevelopment projects in Downtown Loveland.

**MEETING WRAP-UP:**

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO Staff