



North Front Range
Metropolitan
Planning
Organization

On the Move: Your Quarterly Transportation News & Updates

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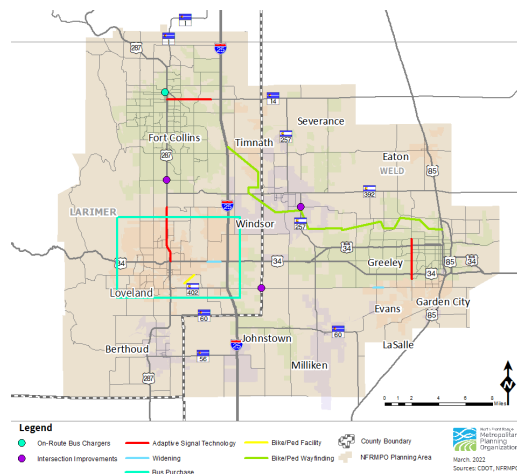
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Read on for the latest transportation updates along the North Front Range.

[Visit our Website](#)

NFRMPO Awards Over \$15M in Federal Funding in Transportation Projects in 2021 Call for Projects

In late 2021 the NFRMPO opened the 2021 Call for Projects to award \$15.8M federal funding in FY2023-2025. The funding programs in the call included Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), and Transportation Alternatives (TA). These programs fund a variety of transportation projects including improvements to roadways and intersections, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, transit vehicle purchases, and projects which reduce congestion and improve air quality.



The Call for Projects was open from October 8 to December 10, 2021. Eight agencies submitted a total of 20 applications. A scoring committee comprised of project applicants and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members scored the CMAQ and STBG project applications, and the NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative scored the TA applications. All projects were scored based on criteria developed for each funding program to provide the greatest benefit to the transportation system in the region.

At their meeting on March 3, 2022 the NFRMPO Planning Council approved projects recommended for funding from the scoring committees and the TAC. Ten projects were fully funded, two projects were partially funded, and six projects have been waitlisted. The map illustrates the project types and locations of fully and partially funded projects. More details on funded and waitlisted

projects can be found on the NFRMPO [Call for Projects webpage](#). The NFRMPO will be holding another Call for Projects in 2022 to award approximately \$15.5M Multimodal Transportation and Mitigations Options Funds (MMOF), a program established through the Colorado State Legislature to promote a complete and integrated multimodal transportation system. Updates added to the 2022 MMOF Call for Projects will be included on the NFRMPO's [Call for Projects webpage](#) in the coming months.

2022 Air Quality Awareness Week

May 2 - May 6, join CDPHE, RAQC, and NFRMPO in promoting National Air Quality Awareness Week (AQAW). The theme for this year is **Be Air Aware & Prepared!** Each day will feature a different topic:

- Monday – Wildfires & Smoke
- Tuesday – Asthma & Your Health
- Wednesday – Citizen Science & Sensors
- Thursday – Environmental Justice & Air Quality
- Friday – Air Quality Around the World



AQAW is held each year to increase awareness of air quality issues and to encourage the public to check the Air Quality Index (AQI) daily.

To participate in this year's event:

- Join the conversation on social media! Use the hashtag #AQAW2022 to describe how you improve air quality and make your community a better place to live. Find, like, and share daily AQAW posts from the RAQC's [Simple Steps. Better Air.](#) program on Facebook @SimpleStepsBetterAir, Instagram @simplestepsbetterair, and Twitter @ozoneaware.
- During AQAW, ask your family, friends, co-workers, or constituents to sign up to receive important air quality alerts from the RAQC, including Ozone Action Alerts. Sign up at [SimpleStepsBetterAir.org](https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colorado_summary.aspx) to receive email or text message notifications.
- Learn about the AQI and check the daily value at https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colorado_summary.aspx.

Public Comment Period to Open for the Four Year Program of Transportation Projects



The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) identifies the federally funded and regionally significant transportation projects to be implemented within the region over a four-year timeframe. The NFRMPO maintains the TIP for the North Front Range region and ensures all federal requirements are met, including consistency with the current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), fiscal constraint, environmental justice, and conformity with air quality requirements.

The 30-day public comment period for the Draft Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-2026 TIP opens on April 1, 2022 and closes on April 30, 2022. A public hearing on the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the FY2023-2026 TIP will be held on May 5, 2022 at the Evans Riverside Library & Cultural Center, after which Planning Council will have the opportunity to adopt the FY2023-2026 TIP. During the public comment period, a copy of the Draft FY2023-2026 TIP will be available at the NFRMPO office and online at <https://nfrmpo.org/tip/>, and comments may be submitted at <https://nfrmpo.org/public-involvement/contact-us/>.

Welcome Jerome Rouser!

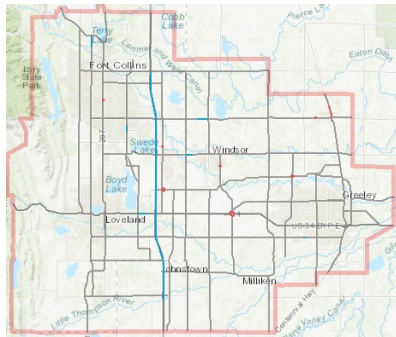
Welcome Jerome Rouser, the NFRMPO's new Transportation Planner! Jerome joins the NFRMPO after serving as a Transportation Planning Intern at Mid-America Regional Council in Kansas City, Missouri. Jerome is currently completing his Master's in Urban Planning at the University of Kansas. He will graduate in May. He is interested in expanding transportation options to improve regional connectivity, particularly for those without access to vehicles.



While completing his master's degree, Jerome served as the American Planning Association (APA) representative for the KU chapter of the Kansas Association of Planning Students (KAPS). While at KU, he also served as a Graduate Research Assistant on a project that studied ways to make public transportation on college campuses more comfortable and safer for women and other vulnerable populations. While completing his bachelor's degree, Jerome interned at the Partnership for Public Service in Washington D.C. which inspired him to pursue a career in public service.

Jerome can be reached at jrouser@nfrmpo.org or (970) 422-1096

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 July through December 2022, [visit the construction page on our website](#).

FHWA Survey

YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT!

Every four years, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) conduct an on-site review of the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO). The NFRMPO is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Fort Collins/Greeley region.

FHWA and FTA invite you to directly express your opinion to them about the efforts of the NFRMPO and its partners, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Public Transit Operators within the Fort Collins/Greeley Region, in their planning work to address major transportation issues facing the region.

There are several ways you can share your thoughts:

1. Complete the [survey](#) by **Tuesday, May 31st, 2022**
2. Please direct any comments by email to both: aaron.bustow@dot.gov and raae.tunison@dot.gov

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback. We appreciate your time and opinions!

The survey can be found here: <https://forms.gle/Xurq4EsKknwNFogS8>.

Via Pilot in Southwestern Weld County



Via Mobility Services and the NFRMPO have partnered to bring a new transportation option to rural communities in southwestern Weld County on a pilot basis at no charge to riders. This pilot service is supported by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 funds that support rural public transportation. The pilot ran from August 2021 through the end of February

2022.

During the duration of this pilot, Via provided 440 rides and registered 74 riders across 11 communities. 42% of trips transported riders to health-related services.

Due to the wide success of this pilot, the NFRMPO and Via are currently working to secure funds to continue the service beyond March. For more details about the Via Pilot Service, [please click here.](#)

Envision 5310 Funding Support

Beginning in January 2022, the NFRMPO has expanded its' funding support for [Envision Creative Support for People with Developmental Disabilities.](#)

Following the delivery of an MPO-supported wheelchair accessible van in January 2021, the MPO now provides support for all of Envision's transportation services for people

supported by reimbursing Envision for a portion of all rides completed by the organization. This support assists Envision with more effectively and efficiently meet the mobility needs of people they support, and in turn increases access to the broader community and region.



Envision's Executive Director Celeste Ewert shared: "I'm sure that many of you who are reading this understand that providing transportation services is extremely costly, and with the increase in gas, maintenance and other expenses it's only more challenging. Prior to this grant, Envision was losing about \$120,000/year in providing this critical service to people. Thanks to the collaborative effort with the NFRMPO, this grant significantly contributes to our ability to continue providing transportation. We are very grateful to have been awarded this very generous grant!"

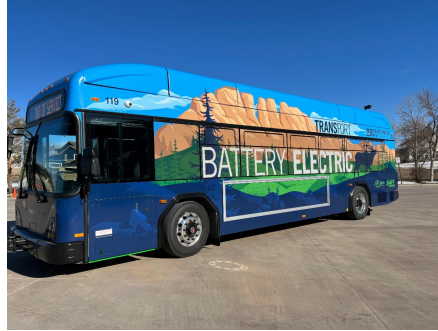
If interested in learning more about ways the NFRMPO can potentially support your organization's transportation activities, please reach out to Cory Schmitt at cschmitt@nfrmpo.org.

Partner Agency Updates

Transfort Receives First Electric Buses

Transfort's first battery electric buses have been delivered and you might see them around Fort Collins for testing and Operator training over the next month. Transfort hopes to have them in-service later this spring.

Plans to purchase additional battery electric buses and charging stations are already underway and Transfort expects delivery and installation to be complete by late 2023. In all, Transfort has funding for a total of 11 battery electric buses by 2025 making 21% of the fleet battery electric. Transfort plans to convert its entire 53-bus fleet by 2040. Stay tuned for more information about the [City of Fort Collins Earth Day event](#) where you'll be able to see these buses up close and talk to Fort Collins staff about the fleet electrification plan.



A future with all electric buses will reduce tailpipe emissions, creating cleaner air for the community. The transition to emissions-free public transit is a strategy for municipal sustainability and in [Our Climate Future](#) (the City of Fort Collins Climate Action Plan).

State Implementation Plan



The Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC), in partnership with the Air Pollution Control Division (APCD), is undertaking planning efforts to bring the region into compliance with federal air quality standards for ozone. As part of this effort they are developing elements of a State Implementation Plan (SIP) for submittal to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Public engagement in this process is highly encouraged and multiple avenues for participation are available over the upcoming months.

- Public Listening Sessions focusing on ozone will be hosted on April 26th and May 14th. More information will be available in the upcoming weeks on the [APCD](#) and [RAQC](#) websites
- Draft elements of the State Implementation Plan are presented monthly at RAQC Board meetings, presentations and draft elements are posted to the [RAQC website](#) following each meeting
- The RAQC will be hosting a [Modeling Forum on May 18th](#) to review ozone modeling efforts conducted in support of the State Implementation Plan
- [Control Strategy Committee and Work Group](#) efforts are ongoing and open all parties interested in helping to identify and advance strategies to improve air quality in the region

For more information on the planning process please visit the RAQC's [Air Quality Planning page](#) or reach out to [Jessica Ferko](#).

CDOT Transit Construction Update

Centerra-Loveland Mobility Hub

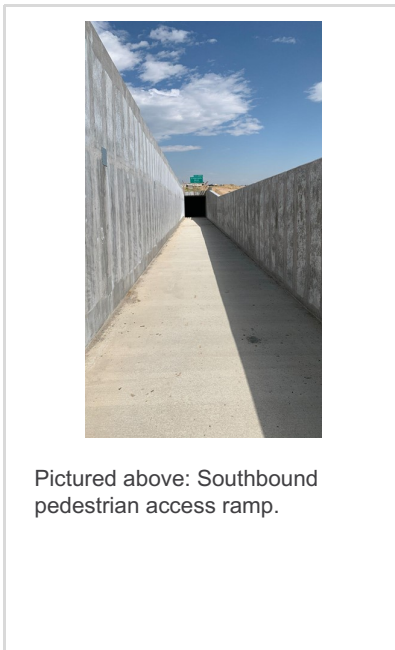
Construction continues on the Centerra-Loveland mobility hub, with construction on the mobility hub and surrounding pavement expected to finish by the third quarter of 2022. This exciting infrastructure project will greatly improve transit options along the interstate and in the region, with CDOT's Bustang service planning to increase bus frequency on its North line (Ft. Collins to Denver) in the near future. The Centerra-Loveland Mobility Hub was the first mobility hub to be funded in the state and will be the first to be completed in late 2023.



In the photo above, you will see two concrete walls which encompass the southbound pedestrian access ramp. The northbound pedestrian access ramp is being prepped for concrete and can be seen in the image above to the right. The center-loading platform design will allow [Bustang](#) buses to pull off the interstate from the tolled express lane that they will operate in towards the center median to pick up passengers instead of exiting the interstate. This improved design will result in significant travel time savings for passengers and reduce greenhouse gas emissions! The highway improvements at this location will also be constructed with enough room to accommodate a third general purpose lane in the future in addition to the tolled express lane. See the updated video below to see how buses and passenger will move through the station: [I-25 North Mobility Hub animation](#)



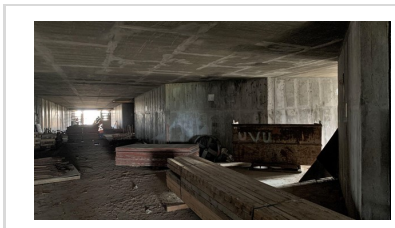
Pictured above: Southbound pedestrian access ramp.



Pictured above: Southbound pedestrian access ramp.



Pictured above: The east entrance to the mobility hub's pedestrian access tunnel. The tunnel's ceiling has been poured and the concrete forms were being removed on the day of this visit (mid August 2021). With the infusion of additional funding from project partners including the Centerra Metro District, the facades of the entrances will be decorated with designs that mimic the landscapes, flora, and fauna of the region



Though it is still bare concrete, the pedestrian access tunnel has taken its final shape! The photo above is from the west entrance looking east. To the right, you can see the entrances to both ramps that will take riders up to the bus stop.

Berthoud Mobility Hub

Further south at CO 56, the Berthoud Mobility Hub is beginning to take shape as part of the North I-25 Segment 6 project, which is also realigning the entire segment of highway which used to take an unsafe curve that limited sight distance around CO 56. This project has also had great successes in pursuing all types of state, federal, local, and private funding. Most recently, a private developer contributed \$3.2M and CDOT applied \$6.5M of pandemic stimulus funds to get the mobility hub built out to its full configuration.



The aerial photo above shows the mobility hub's progress right before CO 56 was reopened in November 2021. The pedestrian access tunnel of the mobility hub and future park-n-ride are visible to the north of the interchange (closer to the camera). Construction continues towards the final design shown in the rendering below.



These infrastructure upgrades along the interstate will provide safe and accessible transit options for the traveling public, as well as encourage users to utilize other modes of transportation.

For questions regarding the mobility hubs or any other CDOT transit projects, please contact Jan Rowe, Region 4 Transit & Innovative Mobility Liaison: jan.rowe@state.co.us

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>.



Summer Events



Bike Month Events

In the coming months, partners across Northern Colorado will be discussing their summer plans for Bike to Work Day, Bike & Walk Month, Bike and Walk to School Day, and other celebrations of active modes. Stay tuned to our social media pages and [website](#) for more information.

Summer Outreach Events

During the summer, NFRMPO staff attends community events and festivals to have conversations with the public about the various projects and plans the agency is undertaking. Check the NFRMPO Calendar at nfrmpo.org/calendar and social media pages for updates.

Due to current circumstance regarding COVID-19 many meetings are being conducted virtually or a hybrid of virtual and in person. Please check our [Events Calendar](#) for the most up to date information.

Upcoming Events

April 7, 2022

Planning Council

April 7, 2022

Mobility and Access
Priority Group

April 13, 2022

NoCo Bike & Ped
Collaborative

April 14, 2022

Community Advisory
Committee (CAC)

April 20, 2022

Technical Advisory
Committee (TAC)

April 23, 2022

Earth Day Fort Collins

April 26, 2022

Weld County Mobility
Committee (WCMC)

May 30, 2022

Memorial Day
-NFRMPO Office Closed

June 4, 2022

Berthoud Days
Johnstown BBQ Days

June 22, 2022

Bike to Work Day

Recurring Meetings

North I-25 Coalition meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

NFRMPO Council meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

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.

Mobility and Access Priority Group (formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition) meets the first Thursday every other month (April and June) at 1:30 p.m.

Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) meets the third Thursday every other month (May) at 1:30 p.m.

Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) meets the fourth Tuesday every other month (April and June) at 1:30 p.m.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meets the second Thursday every other month at 6:00 p.m.