



Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—MINUTES
March 28, 2023
1:33 p.m. – 3:01 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

- Kathi Sargent, Arc of Weld County
- Leiton Powell, Greeley-Evans Transit
- Lisa Bitzer, Via Mobility Services
- Janet Bedingfield, 60+ Ride
- Celeste Ewert, Envision
- Abdul Barzak, Town of Severance
- Leticia Arguello, Arc of Weld County
- Amy Threewitt, 60+ Ride
- Hanna Johnson, City of Greeley
- Shana Cundall, Weld RE4 School District
- Olga Maria Gonzalez, WCDPHE
- Nichole Seward, Weld County AAA
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Kyle Holman, Weld Trust

NFRMPO staff: Cory Schmitt

2. Review of Agenda

3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)

None.

4. Approval of December 2022 Meeting Minutes

Johnson motioned to approve the December minutes. Teets seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEM

1) Co-Chair Elections

All

Elections were held to elect new chairs for 2023 for the WCMC. Amy Threewitt of 60+ Ride and Lisa Bitzer of Via Mobility Services were unanimously elected to chair positions.

PRESENTATION

2) Via Mobility Weld County Expansion

All

Bitzer shared updates regarding the resumption of Via Mobility Services in rural Weld County. Vehicles and drivers are ready to go pending execution of a contract between CDOT and Weld County for the service. A service boundary map can be found [here](#) and will be available to older adults (60+) and individuals with disabilities across the service area with the service also being available to the general public in rural areas outside of the NFRMPO boundaries.

Teets asked about coverage within the cities of Greeley, Evans, and LaSalle to which Schmitt and Bitzer answered that those areas are excluded but that 60+ Ride is making progress on acquiring wheelchair accessible vehicles to provide service throughout Weld County, including in the urban areas.



RIDENOCO UPDATE

Schmitt shared updates regarding the NFRMPO mobility program and RideNoCo. Slides can be found [here](#)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3) Mobility Case Studies

All

Schmitt shared a RideNoCo Call Center Case Study:

Case Study 1: An adult in Greeley-Evans dislocated her hip and needs temporary, affordable, accessible transportation around the area, including from one hotel to another. Lived outside of GET paratransit boundaries and Squad One was reserved for mental health crises and not physical health needs leaving zTrip as the only option for the person.

Bedingfield mentioned that 60+ Ride is currently working with the cities of Greeley, Evans and Garden City to be able to help with addressing needs such as this. Powell mentioned that GET can conduct eligibility assessments for temporary disabilities provided that they are assessed as if the disability is permanent. There is a possibility that someone can be served within the service boundaries of paratransit service even if their home address is outside of the boundaries.

Cundall asked Bedingfield when 60+ Ride’s new program to serve adults with disabilities in Weld County could launch and Bedingfield replied that they’re eyeing a 2024 pilot for the expanded population served.

Teets asked if Heart&SOUL Paratransit would be able to serve in this situation to which Schmitt and Johnson explained that their boundaries are pretty constrained to picking up passengers in Fort Collins, Loveland and Laporte.

4) Mobility Action Plan Updates

All

Schmitt lead a discussion of changes to the 2023 Mobility Action Plan (MAP) as outlined in the slides in the packet. Teets suggested including underrepresented geographic areas and communities under both Goal 3 and Goal 7 of the MAP.

5) Integrating United Way Goals

All

Members had a discussion on the most effective way to incorporate the transportation goals from the Age-Friendly Weld Action Plan and Weld’s Way Home into the working activities of the WCMC. Members came to an agreement that some kind of subcommittee structure would be the best way of advancing these goals and reporting back on progress at WCMC meetings with future NFRMPO Mobility Staff working with committee members to shepherd this subcommittee. With this framework in place, members agreed to wait until new Mobility staff are hired and the Age-Friendly Action Plan is officially adopted in order to form this subcommittee, likely later in 2023.

WORK GROUPS

6) Outreach and Education Working Group –

Schmitt



- a. Members discussed the successes and failures of the Outreach & Education Working Group and agreed that even if not a formal working group per se, having a standing agenda item to discuss outreach and collaboration opportunities was beneficial for partners. Johnson suggested keeping the current format and adding a progress table with annual goals for WCMC members to discuss and check-in on at WCMC meetings.

GREELEY EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES

Powell introduced Hanna Johnson as the City of Greeley's new Mobility Coordinator and expanded upon GET's evolution to become a more comprehensive mobility umbrella. GET is currently putting together RFPs for a Mobility Plan and customer-facing apps. Poudre Express held a stakeholder meeting recently reviewing schedule patterns and ridership. Since adjustments to the Poudre Express schedule in August, the average ridership per hour has increased from 3-4 riders per hour to 5-7 riders per hour. Ridership is approaching return to pre-pandemic levels.

WCMC MEMBER UPDATES

Threewitt shared information about 60+ Ride's Ride & Revel fundraising event that will occur on June 17th in Lincoln Park, Greeley. Learn more at <https://rideandrevel.com/>

Ewert shared that Envision has applied for funding from the state and private foundations to hold a summer respite program for individuals who do not qualify for typical summer school. Planning to heavily utilize GET for this program if awarded funding. Envision's 5K will take place on Saturday, June 3rd at Envision's campus in Evans. Seeking volunteers and vendors to share resources about their programs. Envision is interested in receiving RideNoCo promotional items for inclusion in participant bags for the 5K.

Seward shared a flyer for a community shred event being hosted by the Weld County AAA and AARP Elderwatch to be held on May 23rd.

Final Public Comment (2 minutes each)

None.

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions

Invite Shawn Walcott with United Way to present on Weld's Way Home at June WCMC meeting as well as a presentation on the Poudre Express from Powell

Upcoming Meetings:

1. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. **Northern Colorado Mobility Committee – May 23rd**– 1:00-3:30 pm
- b. **Weld County Mobility Committee – June 27th** – 1:30 to 3 pm