

**MEETING MINUTES of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council  
Hybrid Meeting  
April 19, 2023  
1:02 – 3:11 p.m.**

**TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Eric Tracy, Chair – Larimer County  
Mark Oberschmidt, Vice Chair – Evans  
Abdul Barzak – Severance  
Emma Belmont – FTA  
Aaron Bustow – FHWA  
Alex Donaldson – Loveland  
Brian DuBois – Berthoud  
Eric Fuhrman – Timnath  
Omar Herrera – Windsor  
Dana Hornkohl – Fort Collins  
Bhooshan Karnik – Greeley  
Matt LeCerf – Johnstown  
Tom Moore – RAQC  
Elizabeth Relford – Weld County  
Josie Thomas – CDOT

**NFRMPO STAFF:**

Medora Bornhoft  
AnnaRose Cunningham  
Alex Gordon  
Becky Karasko  
Suzette Mallette  
Cory Schmitt

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Tracy called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 15, 2023 TAC MINUTES**

Oberschmidt moved to approve the March 15, 2023 TAC minutes. Relford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rick Coffin – CDPHE-APCD  
Wesley LeVanchy – Eaton  
Pepper McClenahan – Milliken  
Town of Garden City

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Caleb Feaver – Fox Tuttle  
Candice Folkers – COLT  
Phil von Hake – CDOT  
Myron Hora – WSP  
Lindsey Jones – STV  
Tamara Keefe – FHU  
Kelly Leadbetter – FHU  
Joshua Ma – Transfort  
Deanna McIntosh – CDOT  
Annabelle Phillips – Transfort  
Evan Pinkham – Weld County

## **AIR QUALITY AGENDA**

**Regional Air Quality Updates** – Moore provided updates on the development of the Severe SIP for the 2008 ozone standard. Results from updated modeling will be available in July to demonstrate attainment. Emission reduction control strategies for lawn and garden and oil and gas are being developed for consideration by RAQC and AQCC.

Relford asked if RAQC was moving forward with advice presented by Dr. Morales to target emission reductions from sources impacting the violating monitors, including Chatfield and NREL. Moore noted attainment must be demonstrated at all monitoring sites and ozone is a regional problem. Relford stated data shows the top source groups creating ozone are light duty vehicles, lawn and garden, non-electric generating units, and construction. Moore stated the RAQC is working with the Division to identify strategies in several source groups.

Bornhoft explained the NFRMPO is not eligible to apply for a climate pollution planning grant through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program; however, NFRMPO will be eligible to apply in the second phase for implementation grants. Moore stated DRCOG, the lead agency for the climate planning effort under the CPRG for the Denver metro region, may be interested in expanding the planning area to cover the North Front Range region. Bornhoft noted the statewide plan would cover the NFR region, meaning the NFRMPO could apply for the implementation grants in 2024. Moore and Bornhoft will discuss planning options offline.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

No items this month.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**TAC Vice Chair Election** – Relford nominated Oberschmidt for Vice Chair, which Oberschmidt accepted. Barzak moved to approve Oberschmidt as Vice Chair. Hornkohl seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**FY2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Tasks** – Karasko explained the process for adopting the UPWP and noted the public comment period is open through May 11. Karasko noted the Finance Committee will recommend Planning Council approval of the FY2024 UPWP budget at their April 18, 2023 meeting. Relford moved to recommend Planning Council approval of the FY2024-2025 UPWP Tasks. Oberschmidt seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Off-Cycle April 2023 TIP Amendment** – Cunningham described the revision request from CDOT Region 4 to add a new project on North I-25. Hornkohl moved to recommend Planning Council approval of the TIP Amendment. Herrera seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

## **PRESENTATION**

No items this month.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**NFRMPO 2050 RTP 10 Year List of Priorities** – Karasko explained the list was renamed to clarify it represents the NFRMPO's priorities and is distinct from CDOT's list and process. Following the TAC workshop held on March 27, sponsors provided project updates such as cost estimates and descriptions. On the Tier 1 list, two of Greeley's projects were combined into a single corridor project for US34 from 35<sup>th</sup> Ave to 47<sup>th</sup> Ave at the City's request. Planning Council feedback at their April meeting included

staying with corridors and removing the intersection project. Karasko noted the Priority List will be referenced in the 2050 RTP instead of being directly incorporated, which allows the list to be updated as needed. The Tier 1 roadway list is prioritized based on feedback during a workshop held in 2020 but the other tiers are not prioritized.

Karasko asked for TAC input on whether any priority projects were missing from the List and no concerns were identified. Mallette and Karasko clarified the Priority List does not impact eligibility for federal funding; rather, it is inclusion of a project in the NFRMPO's RTP that allows a project to receive federal funding.

**2023 Congestion Management Process (CMP)** – Gordon and Bornhoft presented the draft 2023 CMP, including the goals, performance analysis, six tiers of strategies, and a proposed SOV analysis for projects submitted in future Calls for Projects. Oberschmidt noted most of the congestion is at intersections and fiber will be an important strategy. TAC members discussed ways to restructure the strategy tiers and to make safety more prominent. Herrera recommended splitting the strategies into TDM and operations.

**2023 Call for Projects Discussion** – Cunningham provided detail on the Call for Projects to award \$22.7M in federal funding from CMAQ, STBG, TA, and CRP, including the draft schedule, request limits, SOV analysis, and scoring criteria within each of the four goals set for the 2050 RTP. Cunningham explained the equity resource tool developed by staff, which pulls data directly from USDOT and CDPHE, which means any updates to the equity areas will be reflected in the NFRMPO Equity Resource map.

Cunningham noted MMOF will be awarded at a future date because of expected changes to the distribution formula, impacts from SB23-213 if it passes, and other initiatives happening. In May, Planning Council will be asked to prioritize the four goals and related subcategories. TAC members will be invited to a workshop in May to refine the scoring criteria. Cunningham invited TAC members to submit their community's process for ranking projects.<sup>1</sup>

Input from TAC members included support for discretionary points in the scoring process, the need to prioritize safety, options for scoring safety, and changes to measures of quality of life to be more intuitive and meaningful. Relford asked how SB23-213 will impact the RTP. Gordon stated the NFRMPO is monitoring the bill.

### **OUTSIDE PARTNERS REPORTS**

**NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative** – Written report was provided.

**Regional Transit Agencies** – No comments.

**Mobility Updates** – Written report was provided.

### **REPORTS**

**April Planning Council Meeting Summary Draft** – A written report was provided.

**Mobility Committee Updates** – A written report was provided.

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<sup>1</sup> At this point, the online portion of the meeting failed for several minutes. The online meeting resumed at the end of the Discussion items.

**Q1 2023 TIP Modifications** – A written report was provided.

**CDOT Inactives Report** – Thomas provided an overview of the inactives report which identifies how recently an invoice was submitted. She noted there are valid reasons for a project to be on the list with an activity status of 1, 2, or 3. Invoices are supposed to be submitted every 60 days; however, there are exceptions. Bryce Reeves oversees the list. The FHWA end date is a key date and extensions can be requested, if needed.

### **ROUNDTABLE**

Cunningham noted IJA expanded eligibilities for many of the NFRMPO funding programs. More information will be provided at future Call for Projects discussions.

Oberschmidt noted construction on 37<sup>th</sup> is underway.

Relford stated Weld County is testifying at the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) rulemaking on Advanced Clean Trucks and Low NOx. Weld County will ask AQCC to acknowledge renewable natural gas vehicles meet the California standard. Relford asked Thomas for help getting projects into the STIP.<sup>2</sup>

Karasko identified the communities that have provided development data for the update to the land use allocation model and those that have provided feedback on the draft 2050 forecast. NFRMPO staff will be reaching out to six communities that have not yet provided development data or feedback.

### **MEETING WRAP-UP**

**Final Public Comment** – There was no final public comment.

**Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions** – No suggestions.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:11 PM.**

**Meeting minutes submitted by:** Medora Bornhoft, NFRMPO Staff

**The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, as a hybrid meeting.**

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<sup>2</sup> At this point, the online portion of the meeting failed and did not resume. The in-person portion continued.