

**MEETING MINUTES of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council
Hybrid Meeting
July 19, 2023
1:00 – 2:52 p.m.**

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Eric Tracy, Chair – Larimer County
Mark Oberschmidt, Vice Chair – Evans
Abdul Barzak – Severance
Jason Elkins – Johnstown
Nicole Hahn - Loveland
Omar Herrera – Windsor
Bhooshan Karnik – Greeley
Tom Moore – RAQC
Annabelle Philips– Fort Collins, Alternate
Elizabeth Relford – Weld County

NFRMPO STAFF:

Brooke Bettolo
AnnaRose Cunningham
Alex Gordon
Becky Karasko
Suzette Mallette
Jerome Rouser
Michael Saunders
Cory Schmitt

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:

Emma Belmont – FTA
Aaron Bustow – FHWA
Rick Coffin – CDPHE-APCD
Brian DuBois – Berthoud
Eric Fuhrman – Timnath
Wesley LeVanchy – Eaton
Pepper McClenahan – Milliken
Josie Thomas – CDOT
Town of Garden City
Town of LaSalle

IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Duran- FHWA
Candice Folkers – COLT
Ailish Ferrick- FHWA
Myron Hora – Ulteig Engineering
Will Keenan – FHWA
Joshua Ma – Fort Collins
Evan Pinkham- Weld County
Phil Von Hake - CDOT

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tracy called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 21, 2023 TAC MINUTES

Relford asked for clarification on who was hired as the new Community Development Director for Greeley. Karasko noted the May TAC minutes were updated to include the correct name.

Oberschmidt moved to approve the June 21, 2023 TAC minutes. Karnik seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

AIR QUALITY AGENDA

Regional Air Quality Updates – Moore noted the RAQC board reviewed the SIP chapters for the 75-ppb ozone SIP at the July 7 Board Meeting and gave initial approval. The SIP will be approved by the RAQC board at the August 4 Board Meeting. The SIP will then go to AQCC for rulemaking. The Board reviewed and approved a set of lawn and garden control strategies at the July 7 meeting.

Karasko stated the NFRMPO has submitted the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Transportation Report for the 2050 RTP and the FY2024-FY2027 TIP to APCD and CDOT for their review. The NFRMPO also submitted the conformity determination documentation for both plans to APCD for AQCC’s review and concurrence ahead of their August 17 meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

No items this month.

ACTION ITEMS

2023 Call for Projects– Cunningham stated the NFRMPO is planning on opening the call following the August Planning Council meeting. The applicant training workshop is a virtual meeting on August 10. Applicants should submit a project description to the NFRMPO by August 25, and to CDOT for any project that impacts a state facility or an ITS project. Final applications are due October 6. There will be \$24,044,594 available for this call, not including the \$400,000 set-aside for the TMO Incubator fund approved by Planning Council at their August meeting. Cunningham confirmed eligible applicants include any NFRMPO member agencies and CDOT and RAQC. Other agencies must apply through a member community. Cunningham reviewed requirements for the Call for Projects, which are explained in the 2023 Call for Projects Guidebook.

Relford asked why MMOF will not be included in this call. Cunningham stated there was some uncertainty surrounding the MMOF program when work began on the Call, and the Transportation Commission will look at the MMOF distribution formula, which can change the amount of funding available. The NFRMPO will hold a call in the future for FY2026 and FY2027 MMOF. TAC discussed the STBG maximum request limits for large and small communities and agreed to recommend changing the request limits to \$3.16M for large communities and \$1.6M for small communities. Cunningham noted the scoring criteria were structured around the 2050 RTP goals. Cunningham noted there will be one application workbook instead of having separate applications for each funding source. Phillips asked if the NFRMPO will forward the project descriptions that need CDOT approval to CDOT. Cunningham clarified the agencies are responsible for sending their project descriptions to CDOT.

Oberschmidt moved to recommend Planning Council approve the 2023 Call for Projects Guidebook with the discussed amendments. Herrera seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

FY2022-2023 UPWP FY2023 Task Amendment #2– Karasko noted this was moved to an action item because it does not impact the UPWP budget. Karasko stated Transfort requested to add two FTA-funded tasks to the FY2022-2023 UPWP. The tasks are for the Transfort Onboard Ridership Survey and the Transfort Onboard Passenger Surveys.

Relford moved to recommend Planning Council approve the FY2022-2023 UPWP FY2023 Task Amendment #2. Herrera seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

No presentations this month.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

WCR13 Alignment Improvements Project Funding Options – Cunningham noted the Town of Windsor requested TAC discuss options for STBG funding originally awarded to the *WCR13 Alignments Improvements* project. Herrera stated the Town of Windsor is currently unable to complete the *WCR13 Alignment Improvements Project* due to increased project costs. He outlined three options for the allocated STBG funds the town received for this project: transfer the funds to the *Intersection Improvements at SH257 & Eastman Park Dr.* project, lessen the scope of the *WCR13 Alignment Improvements Project* by only completing the south portion, or return the funding to the STBG pool to be allocated in the next Call for Projects. TAC recommended lessening the scope of the project.

2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Gordon noted the 2050 RTP is updated every four years, has at least a 20-year planning horizon and must look at the multimodal transportation system to meet the region’s economic, transportation, development, and sustainability goals. Projects identified in the Plan must be fiscally constrained. The Plan is divided into four sections: planning context, trends, visioning and scenario planning, and funding and financing. Gordon outlined the regionally significant corridors (RSCs) and plan projects. Gordon noted the funding estimates for the fiscally constrained projects with 68 percent of funding being flexible. Gordon described the scenarios evaluated in the plan: Baseline, No Build, Unconstrained, and High Density-Fiscally Constrained. Gordon outlined the RSC corridor visions format. The public comment period will close on August 9, and the Plan is scheduled to be adopted by Planning Council at their September meeting.

FY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Cunningham outlined the changes in the *FY2024-2027 TIP*, which include adding a section for the process of additional allocations and the process for project overages. Cunningham added information on the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Transportation Report and added clarification on air quality significant projects by saying “two through lane miles” rather than just two-lane miles. Cunningham updated the equity section and included the new system reliability performance measures. The *FY2024-2027 TIP* will be released for public comment after the August Planning Council meeting. The *FY2024-2027 TIP* is scheduled to be adopted by Planning Council at their September meeting.

OUTSIDE PARTNERS REPORTS

NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative – Written report was provided.

Regional Transit Agencies – Phillips noted Transfort received a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to construct the Foothill Transit Station, which will be the terminus station for the West Elizabeth BRT.

Mobility Updates – Schmitt stated the Via Mobility service in Weld County will launch August 1. Progress continues to be made on the trip scheduling piece of RideNoCo. Schmitt noted the NFRMPO has hired a Mobility Specialist, who will focus on outreach. Bettolo discussed the travel training held in Weld County in partnership with the Weld County Department of Health and Environment.

REPORTS

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

Community Advisory Committee – A written report was provided.

Mobility Committee Updates – A written report was provided.

Q2 2023 TIP modifications – A written report was provided.

CDOT Inactives Report- A written report was provided.

ROUNDTABLE

Gordon stated the NFRMPO have received a contract for the next phase of LinkNoCo, and the RFP will be released in early August. The NFRMPO will be applying for additional funding through DTR for additional LinkNoCo tasks.

Rouser noted the NFRMPO will begin working on the Active Transportation Plan and to contact him about serving on the Steering Committee.

Duran noted the Cheyenne MPO's Executive Director retired, and a new one should be hired soon.

Karasko stated the next TAC meeting will be at the Larimer County Building in Loveland.

Oberschmidt noted the 37th Street roundabout is nearing completion and will be open in August.

Relford stated the Weld County Road (WCR) 74 and WCR 33 Roundabout Project is delayed and is now expected to be completed in October. Weld County submitted an SS4A application for unincorporated Weld County.

Karnik stated GET ridership was up in June.

Moore noted there will be a report on the phase one work on the Indirect Source Rule effort at the August 4 RAQC Board Meeting.

MEETING WRAP-UP

Final Public Comment – There was no final public comment.

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions – Oberschmidt suggested discussing roundabout safety.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO Staff

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, as a hybrid meeting.