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**July 2023 Report from the Air Pollution Control Division to the  
North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council  
Thursday, August 3, 2023**

**Air Pollution Control Division (Division) Updates:**

- As a friendly reminder, the Division has revamped its daily ozone pollution forecast emails. The division sends these daily emails so people have the necessary information to plan their day. The updates make it even easier for Coloradans to quickly get the information they want. If you haven't already, [subscribe for emails](#) in your area. We've also updated our [website on ozone pollution and health](#) to help answer frequently asked questions.
- The Division is working on ways to reduce ozone pollution in Colorado. We are hosting a listening sessions on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 10-12 pm. See the "Public Meetings" tab on the following website for the Zoom link and proposed meeting agenda: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/severe-ozone-planning>.
- Starting July 15, 2023, all applicable permit applicants must submit an Environmental Justice Summary (EJ Summary) prior to submitting their permit application. The Air Pollution Control Division recently published [guidance](#) on how to submit required Environmental Justice Summaries. This information is available below and on the [New Environmental Justice Report Tool for Air Quality Regulation 3 website](#). Small businesses can contact the Air Pollution Control Division's Small Business Assistance Program for assistance: [cdphe\\_apcd\\_sbap@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_apcd_sbap@state.co.us).

**Air Quality Control Commission (Commission) Updates:**

- During its July meeting the Commission set a hearing for October 18-20, 2023 to consider revisions to Regulation Number 20 to establish new requirements applicable to light and medium duty vehicles. The proposed revisions will include new zero emission light-duty vehicle sales requirements for model years 2027-2032, and new criteria pollutant emission standards for new light and medium-duty vehicles for model years 2027-2030.
- The Commission adopted the greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity verification rule to more accurately measure and reduce climate-warming emissions such as methane and carbon dioxide. The rule applies to upstream oil and gas facilities, which are also known as well sites. The term "intensity" refers to the ratio of greenhouse gases emitted over the amount of oil and gas produced. The rule defines how facilities must calculate their greenhouse gas intensity, monitor operations to ensure compliance with intensity standards, and keep records to accurately account for emissions from their operations.

The state health department's Air Pollution Control Division worked with several environmental and industry organizations while developing the rule. All those involved in the



development process agreed on the final rule. The intensity program will take effect statewide in 2025.

## Upcoming Commission Activities

### August 15-17, 2023 Commission Meeting

- Representatives from the Division and the NFRMPO will provide an update and ask that the Commission consider the conformity determination for the NFRMPO's 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). NFRMPO will demonstrate conformity of its RTP and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with the State Implementation Plan (SIP).
- The Division and US National Park Service will request a public hearing to present to the Commission its significant user prescribed fire planning renewal document.
- The Division and US-DOD Fort Carson will request a public hearing to present to the Commission its significant user prescribed fire planning renewal document.
- Per Regulation Number 22, Part B, Section II.D.3., the Division will brief the Commission regarding its revised analysis and revised final determination concerning greenhouse gas Best Available Emission Control Technology, Energy Best Management Practices and associated analyses for all emission units included in the audit scope with respect to CEMEX's Regulation Number 22, Part B, Section II.C. audit reports. The Division will discuss the public meetings held and comments received.





Date: August 2, 2023

From: Mike Silverstein  
Executive Director

To: North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization

Subject: Monthly Meeting Briefing Memo

### **Communications & Programs Update**

RAQC's summertime programs are in full swing with about another month to go.

- **Mow Down Pollution - Residential:**

Early summer events went well and requests for vouchers continue to come in. We've reopened the program using existing unspent funds: when people apply for a voucher but don't use it, we return those funds to the pot after a few weeks, which is why we have been able to reopen the program. Please help us spread the word! Both \$75 and \$150 vouchers are available for residents of the full nine county nonattainment area.

- **Mow Down Pollution - Local Government and Public Entity Grants:**

RAQC has now awarded over ½ of the available funds (Approximately \$672,000) with another \$600,000 still available. With the initial application round over, we've increased the available grant amount from \$50,000 to \$100,000 to allow early applicants to apply for additional funds. We are again reaching out to local governments who have not applied, encouraging them to do so.

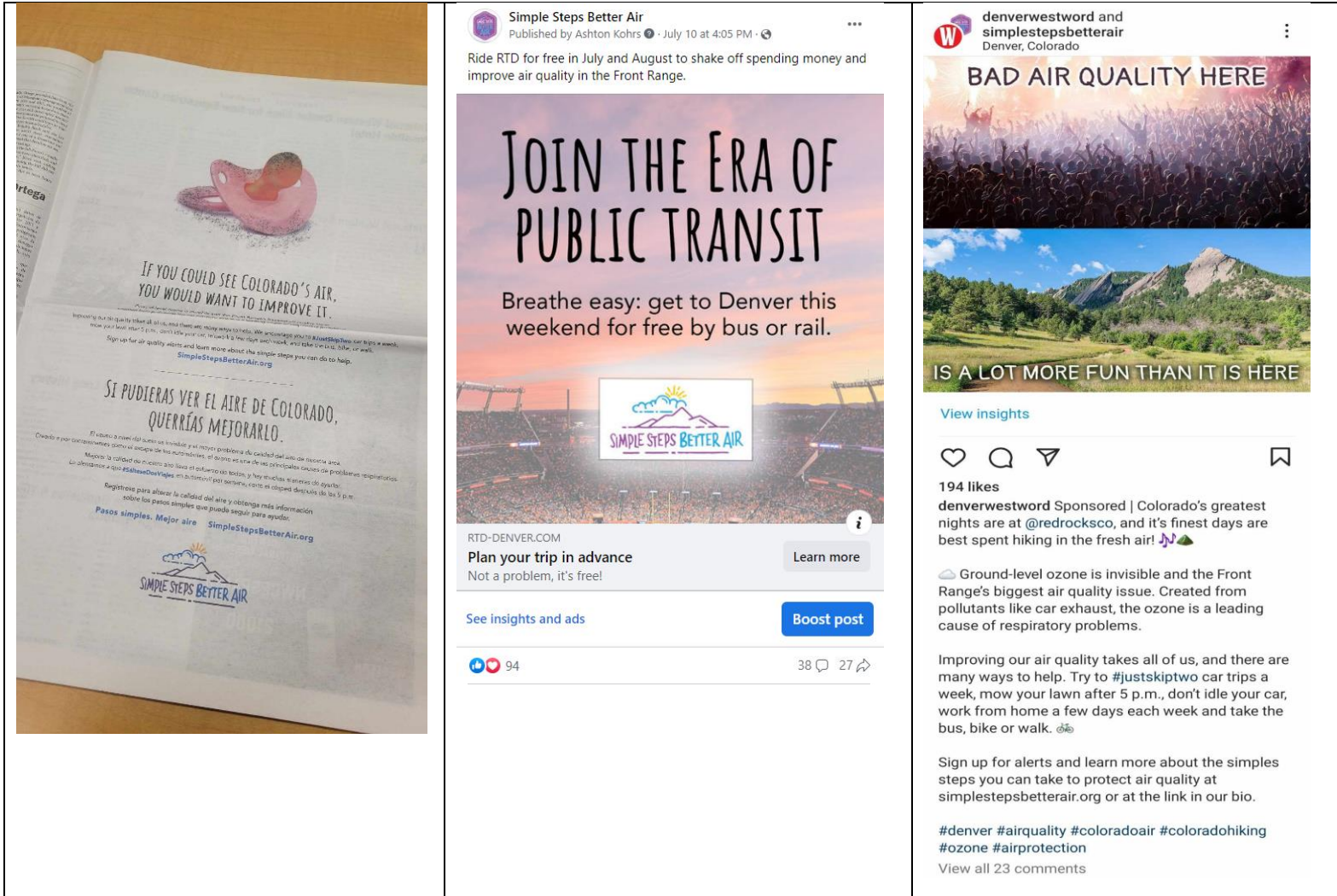
- **Mow Down Pollution – Commercial:**

The pilot program is live, with a handful of small businesses already in process (approximately \$10,000 of the \$60,000 total funding awarded). We are working on an electric equipment demo day for businesses and local governments to try out new products and reduce hesitancy of making the jump. Information collected in the pilot will be invaluable for a full future program.

- ***Simple Steps. Better Air.:***

The media campaign is about 2/3 completed. We are working with over two dozen media partners (most of whom were not part of last year's program) and the RAQC team is tabling and

speaking at events ranging from ¡Viva! Streets to the Boulder Environmental Film Festival. The new marketing campaign is going well – we’ve seen dramatic increases in social media engagement over last year, ozone alert sign-ups have increased, and we have new literature and give-away items for the community – like fanny packs preloaded with RAQC info. The Spanish language page is also complete and we will build off it for next year. These images present some examples of the 2023 media buy!



- Announcing our new **Clean Air Fund** donation program! The RAQC’s 501c3 funding effort is reactivated, and the new fundraising page is live! The **Clean Air Fund** will be used to help fund non-contract programs (such as Mow Down). A full page with information is coming soon, but in the meantime, the donation page is active and ready for donations. [RAQC CLEAN AIR FUND | RAQC \(Powered by Donorbox\)](#)

**Ozone Season Update**

The region continues to experience pretty good summer air quality! At the time of drafting this memo, most monitors have recorded 4<sup>th</sup> maximum ozone concentrations below the 70 parts per billion health standard, and no monitors have recorded 4<sup>th</sup> maximum concentrations above the 75 parts per billion standard – *a good accomplishment for our region*.

Of course the [“Dog Days of Summer”](#) are upon us and high ozone levels frequently occur in August, so check here for [the latest ozone monitoring information](#).

Denver Metro/North Front Range Area - 2023 8-Hour Ozone Summary*								
Through 07/30/2023								
Monitor	Monitor	1st Max 2023	2nd Max 2023	3rd Max 2023	4th Max			2021-2023 Estimated Design Value <sup>†</sup>
					2023	2022	2021	
AURE	Aurora East	81	73	73	68	70	77	71
		05/23/23	07/29/23	05/22/23	05/17/23			
BHVK	Blackhawk	74	73	67	67	71	82	73
		07/12/23	05/22/23	07/21/23	06/08/23			
BOUR	Boulder Reservoir	69	68	67	66	72	82	73
		05/23/23	07/12/23	06/26/23	07/28/23			
CAMP	CAMP	72	69	66	66	71	77	71
		07/29/23	07/30/23	07/15/23	05/23/23			
CASA	La Casa	73	70	70	68	72	83	74
		05/22/23	06/08/23	05/23/23	07/12/23			
CHAT	Chatfield	76	76	74	72	78	89	79
		05/23/23	05/22/23	07/29/23	07/13/23			
EVG	Evergreen	73	71	71	71	74	79	74
		05/22/23	07/21/23	06/08/23	04/11/23			
FTC	Fort Collins - CSU	67	67	66	65	70	76	70
		05/22/23	07/12/23	06/28/23	05/23/23			
FTCW	Fort Collins West	72	71	71	71	73	85	76
		05/22/23	07/12/23	06/28/23	05/23/23			
GRET	Greeley Weld County	74	70	69	68	70	76	71
		07/30/23	06/08/23	07/11/23	05/22/23			
HLD	Highlands	75	75	71	70	73	84	75
		07/29/23	05/20/23	05/22/23	06/24/23			
NREL	NREL	75	74	73	73	77	89	79
		05/22/23	07/24/23	07/21/23	07/12/23			
PAO	Platteville Observatory	70	68	67	66	73	83	74
		07/30/23	05/23/23	05/22/23	05/05/23			
RFN	Rocky Flats North	74	73	71	69	78	87	78
		07/12/23	06/26/23	07/16/23	07/21/23			
WBY	Welby	70	69	67	66	75	79	73
		05/23/23	05/22/23	07/30/23	06/08/23			



### **Severe Ozone State Implementation Plan Development Update**

RAQC has completed its modeling work and projects that the region will attain the 2008 Ozone Standard of 75 ppb by the year 2027. The base year average ozone monitoring design values are adjusted using the ratio of the base and future year modeling results (that ratio is called the “Relative Response Factor”) to then predict the projected 2026 monitored ozone design values. The 2026 results show the DM/NFR region attaining the 75 ppb Ozone NAAQS in 2026.

<b>Site</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Base Year Monitored Design Values</b>	<b>Modeled RRFs</b>	<b>2026 Projected Monitored Design Values</b>
NREL	Jefferson	79.3	0.9415	74.6
CHAT	Douglas	77.3	0.9256	71.5
FTCW	Larimer	75.7	0.9451	71.5
RFNO	Jefferson	77.3	0.9206	71.1
HIGH	Arapahoe	73.0	0.9268	67.6
WELC	Jefferson	73.0	0.9249	67.5
WELD	Weld	70.0	0.9534	66.7
FTCO	Larimer	69.0	0.9506	65.5
CASA	Denver	68.7	0.9516	65.3
RMNP	Larimer	69.3	0.9404	65.1
CAMP	Denver	67.7	0.9528	64.5
ASNP	Jefferson	70.0	0.9207	64.4
AURE	Arapahoe	67.7	0.9476	64.1
WELB	Adams	67.0	0.9457	63.3

**The RAQC Board will consider adopting this attainment demonstration and all Severe SIP updates at its August 4 meeting.** If approved, the plan will be advanced to the Air Quality Control Commission for consideration later in 2023. These Severe Ozone SIP chapters and Executive Summary are available on the RAQC’s website at: <https://raqc.org/sip/ozone-2008-8-hour-standard/>

### **August 16<sup>th</sup> Control Strategy Committee Meeting - Wildfire Smoke**

RAQC will hold a special virtual meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., focused on the effects of wildfire smoke on DM/NFR air quality. We have 3 excellent panelists identified and invited for the meeting and will release an agenda soon. The panelists will discuss:

- Fire emissions data and smoke in terms of air quality planning.
- Exceptional events under the Clean Air Act.

- How smoke behaves in transport and affects air pollution for the nonattainment area.
- How the US Forest Service and other land managers are emerging from a historical set of forest management practices.
- How the past land management approaches are now affected by our changing and more variable climate and the increased human population and intensity of use of our forested landscapes/.
- The dynamics of the urban atmosphere when smoke is added.
- How smoke ages in the atmosphere, and its impacts on ozone formation, particulate matter, and air toxics.
- Project work on a current EPA-funded effort around regional coordination for smoke monitoring, communication, and health impacts in communities.

This meeting will be held remotely via video conference only. Please register in advance using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrd-hrT8rHtzkqFCGjCgjA7HlyNwEoaUU>

Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC)—MINUTES  
July 25th, 2023  
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

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**1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

- Connie Nelson-Cleverley, SAINT
- Ari Edgely, Foothills Gateway
- Jacque Penfold, Community Member
- Steve Conaway, RAFT
- Bridie Smith, COLT
- Melanie Royalty, Transfort
- Aaron Oberndorf, CO Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
- Dana Klein, Town of Estes Park
- Katlyn Kelly, Transfort
- Lisa Bitzer, Via Mobility Services

NFRMPO staff: Cory Schmitt, AnnaRose Cunningham

**2. Review of Agenda**

**3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)**

**Approval of April Meeting Minutes**

Kelly motioned to approve the January minutes. Oberndorf seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

**INTRODUCTIONS + ICEBREAKER**

The group introduced themselves and shared a transportation or operational-related challenge their organization had recently and how they overcame it. Some common themes were the hiring and retention of drivers, communicating real-time route and schedule changes to riders, and meeting demand during peak hours (8-10am, 1-3pm).

**PRESENTATION**

**1) NFRMPO Call for Projects – Cunningham**

Cunningham shared a presentation about the NFRMPO Call for Projects for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 with the group. Slides can be found in the packet.

**RIDENOCO UPDATES**

Schmitt introduced Brooke Bettolo as the new Mobility Planner who started with the NFRMPO at the end of May. Schmitt also announced that the new Mobility Specialist will be starting August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Schmitt provided an update about RideNoCo, including progress on the Trip Scheduling phases, including the implementation of Transactional Data Specifications (TDS). Now that providers have come to a





consensus for consistent data entry of rider intake information across providers, work is beginning in earnest between the scheduling software platforms. Schmitt also mentioned that the RideNoCo Provider's guide is now available in audio form [here](#). Slides can be found [here](#).

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **2) Mobility Case Study** – All

Schmitt went over a mobility case study for a 59-year-old woman with a temporary visual impairment that needs transportation to Broomfield three times a week for training at a new job, on short notice. zTrip would be cost-prohibitive, she is a veteran in contact with Qualified Listeners, but is having trouble printing her military service records (DD214). Oberndorf mentioned that DVR might be able to fund zTrip rides on a short-term basis since the trips are for work and the caller has a disability, the only problem being if the caller is not already registered with DVR, the process of intake might take too long. Penfold stated that if she is in contact with Larimer County Veteran Service Officer and see if they can help her get her military service records.

A follow up question was posed to providers of whether or not they are able to receive calls in Spanish and if they have Spanish-speaking drivers to accommodate for an increase in calls from Spanish-speakers to the call center. Bitzer mentioned that Via Mobility Services has Spanish-speaking call center staff, and about five drivers that are fluent in Spanish. Klein mentioned that Estes Transit uses Voiance (now known as Cyra Com) for their interpretation needs. Schmitt confirmed that the NFRMPO uses LanguageLink for a similar service. Nelson-Cleverly shared that there is need for an on-demand interpretation service since they typically have to communicate through family members in these cases. Schmitt confirmed that 60+ Ride in Weld County has a similar situation, so the NFRMPO will investigate subsidizing or adding licenses to LanguageLink for providers so they can have on-demand interpretation of over 120 languages. Schmitt agreed to follow up with the group as updates are available.

Kelly mentioned that City of Fort Collins uses ACSI for interpretation, and Spanish-speaking City staff that will be communicating in Spanish must take a test to ensure that are able to effectively communicate verbally and in writing. If they are proficient enough, staff can receive a certification to serve as a certified translator for the agency, and all translation requests must be routed through them before contracting with an outside agency. Royalty mentioned that Transfort has a high need for in-person interpretation and is currently looking into options. There are blue phones that are available in-person at the City offices, where the client can use one receiver and the staff has the other, while an outside agency interprets the call, but Royalty is investigating how they are utilized for interpretation, and whether the office needs a subscription for the service.

Similarly, Schmitt shared an update about the recent bilingual travel training in Greeley with the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment (WCDPHE) and Greeley Evans Transit (GET) and how the Spanish-speaking participants had expressed their concerns about language



barriers during a bus ride, and how they can communicate with non-bilingual drivers to ask about tickets, transfers, and routes. Greeley Evans Transit is currently looking into similar in-person interpretation options or driver education for increased language access.

Schmitt also mentioned that WCDPHE has a licensed social worker that helps community members fill out GET paratransit applications and inquired as to whether other providers in Larimer County provide similar services. Edgely mentioned that Foothills Gateway will provide this service, but the client must already have a case manager through Foothills to qualify. Kelly mentioned that those needing assistance in applying for paratransit can call Transfort for assistance, though that does not happen often. Smith mentioned that COLT will assist clients as well, and pre-COVID would go to applicants' houses to help them fill out the documents, but they are not receiving a lot of requests, but that there is probably a gap that an agency can fill for community members already overwhelmed by the process and reticent to ask for assistance. The group unanimously supported the NFRMPO looking more into finding an agency that can support individuals in completing and submitting applications for paratransit and volunteer transportation services.

### **WORKING GROUPS**

#### **3) Recruitment Working Group – Schmitt/All**

- a. A questionnaire will be sent to the group about outreach best practices in Larimer County.
- b. **Next Steps:**
  - i. Please fill out the questionnaire when you can.

#### **4) Outreach and Education Working Group –All**

- c. Schmitt revisited restarting PAFC Mobility and Access Subcommittee. Kelly and McLeod mentioned being interested last meeting, and Penfold volunteered as well. The group will meet in August and invite people in as needed. Smith mentioned wanting to be kept in the loop and joining at a later date as capacity allows.
- d. **Next Steps:**
  - i. Volunteers will receive communication from the NFRMPO to set up a time to meet.

### **TRANSFORT & COLT NEWS AND UPDATES**

Smith updated that the new Route 7 COLT bus would begin January of 2024, pending Council approval, with the new mobility hub hopefully open by then. COLT will also be permanently relocating the North Transfer location to 37<sup>th</sup> and Garfield.

Kelly invited members of the group, transportation advocates, fixed route users and paratransit users to join the Dial-a-Ride Accessibility Committee (DARTAC), where transit users can give direct feedback to the providers. The meetings are once every other month, with the next meeting in August. Schmitt will share the meeting details with the group.

### **LCMC MEMBER UPDATES**

Bitzer announced that Via will be offering services to rural Weld beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>. The service area map is located [here](#). One of the drivers in this program is bilingual.



**Final Public Comment (*2 minutes each*)**

None

**Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions**

None

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. **Northern Colorado Mobility Committee:** August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1 - 3:30 pm at the Berthoud Town Hall with a call-in option, but in-person participation is strongly encouraged.
- b. **LCMC Meeting:** October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3:00 pm Virtual