



Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)—MINUTES
September 26, 2023
1:30pm – 3:00pm

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

- Leiton Powell, Greeley-Evans Transit
- Celeste Ewert, Envision
- Leticia Arguello, ARC of Weld County
- Margie Martinez, United Way of Weld County
- Ernest Cienfuegos-Baca, United Way of Weld County
- Lisa Bitzer, Via Mobility Services
- Olga Maria Gonzalez, WCDPHE
- Nichole Seward, Weld County AAA
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Sarah Thorne, Colorado Energy Office
- Amy Threwitt, 60+ Ride

NFRMPO staff: Cory Schmitt, Brooke Bettolo, Lisa Deaton

2. Review of Agenda

3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)

None.

4. Approval of June 2023 Meeting Minutes

Powell motioned to approve the June minutes. Ewert seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION

1) Colorado e-Bike Rebate Program

Thorne

Sara Thorne from the Colorado Energy Office provided an overview of the ebike rebate program that launched in August. Slides can be found [here](#). This is an income qualified program for low to moderate incomes that offers a rebate at the time of purchase. The next round of rebates opens Oct 9th at 10am and ends October 16th at 4:00pm. Applicants will be randomly selected from a pool and if chosen, they need to provide proof of residency and income. Once the rebate is received, it can be used at one of the 157 statewide participating retailers within 60 days of issue. The Colorado Energy Office will continue to offer this program until funding runs out. If the rebate doesn't get used within 60 days, the recipient can request an extension. If it is unused, the money goes back into the pool.

ACTION ITEM(S)

Proposal to Cancel the December 2023 Meeting



The majority moves to cancel the December 2023 meeting.

RIDENOCO UPDATE

Schmitt introduced the expanded mobility team and shared respective roles with WCMC members. Slides can be found [here](#) and other updates include:

1) Update on TDS Project

Schmitt discussed the roll out of RideNoCo. Not much has changed since the last meeting in August except progress is being made connecting RideNoCo with SAINT, RAFT, 60+ ride and N40MA using Transactional Data Specifications (TDS). This will allow the software systems to communicate with each other without the need to use the same software platforms. Currently, the RideNoCo call center provides callers the contact information to get in touch with the appropriate providers. This connectivity will allow RideNoCo to conduct the initial intake and share the client information with the providers directly.

2) 2024 Mobility Committee Format

Feedback from the NCMC members, the consensus was to keep the same format of the Mobility Committee meetings in 2024. WCMC and LCMC will continue to meet once a quarter and collectively as a NCMC. Discussed the end of this year's calendar with the holidays in mind. Agreed to make adjustments that will be reflected in the calendar.

PRESENTATIONS

1) United Way Collective Impact

Cienfuegos-Baca

Cienfuegos-Baca presented on United Way Collective Impact work. Collective Impact is a group of individuals from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem, using a structured form of collaboration. The example of the 2013 floods was used, he explained how the program helped help folks get navigate where to get the assistance they needed. Also discussed the status of education, cost of living, lack of emotional and social support for seniors. Not one agency can address all these issues and that is how Collective Impact began, through collaboration. Focus areas are Early Childhood Development, Youth Success, Household Stability, and older adults & Healthy Aging. Created community wide measurable goals to improve the focus areas.

Discussion: Schmitt pointed out that quite a few people in this meeting are members of the Transportation Work Group that was working on the Age Friendly Weld Plan. The original plan was to have an Aging Well Transportation sub-committee as part of the WCMC that would meet separately and be a liaison and share those larger updates and progress with the group. Do we think this approach makes sense?

Teets asked how often they meet, Cienfuegos-Baca said that it depends on the needs or what the overall objectives are.

Schmitt discussed who was in the transportation group and in reviewing there are a lot of things that the WCMC are already doing. On these calls we hear about service updates and technical services; this sounds like something that these meetings are already a forum to talk about these things. The second



goal is to work with partners to increase awareness and access to transportation services that serve older adults and adults with disabilities in Weld County. This sounds like an activity we are doing in our WCMC quarterly meetings and in our partnership with the LCMC that meets 6 times a year. Third, to identify and address barriers that impact the mobility of older adults and adults with disabilities in Weld County. This topic may be tricky to carry out in this group. 4th goal to increase and broaden the participation in the WCMC for the purpose of further advancing age and ability friendly mobility work.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2) Mobility Case Study

Bettolo

Wife calling on behalf of newly wheelchair-bound husband needing rides in Firestone. He is 6'9" and 350 lbs. He has Guillain Barre, so will hopefully not be paralyzed permanently, but the family is struggling to find options accessible to him since he is 3 inches too tall in his wheelchair to fit in the Wheelchair accessible vans.

The family does not qualify for at-home care, and he cannot be left alone, so they will need to take him to some football games in Broomfield and Arvada on Saturdays. The caller is looking for a transit van to transport him (Like a small bus or a very tall van).

Since he is the primary income earner, they are looking for affordable options wherever possible, and cannot currently afford to buy a van of their own.

Discussion: What options are available for these kinds of mobility needs? How can RideNoCo become more knowledgeable? Powell: Possible RTD route? If he can get to Longmont, he may be about to connect. Powell suggested checking RTD paratransit service area. Members agreed the solutions for this situation were few and far between.

3) Language Access Update

Bettolo discussed what Language Justice is and the importance with the work agencies do. The NFRMPO is working with Language Link, the over-the-phone interpretation service and in the process of getting Interpretation services for in person and virtual meetings, and translation of documents to support language equity.

GREELEY-EVANS TRANSIT NEWS AND UPDATES

Powell is working with Loveland to finalize a rendezvous point between the Poudre Express and COLT. City of Loveland has route 7 that they are developing, possible start date mid-January 2024. Johnstown has reached out to GET and Hanna Johnson is working with them to identify solutions for the 25/34 Development.



Senate bill 23-094 created a School Transportation Modernization Task Force which Powell has been appointed to be a representative. The task force will be working on presenting a recommendation to the general assembly by December 2024. Greeley-Evans Transit was awarded the Coordination Initiative of the Year from CASTA for collaborating with UHealth Greeley and the Greeley-Evans School District 6. This was a result of students that participated in the Project Seach Program.

Final Public Comment *(2 minutes each)*

None

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions

None

Upcoming Meetings:

- 1. Upcoming Meetings:**
 - a. Northern Colorado Mobility Committee – November 28th**
 - b. Weld County Mobility Committee - March 26th, 2024**