

On the Move: Your Quarterly Transportation News & Updates

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Read on for the latest transportation updates along the North Front Range.

Visit our Website

NFRMPO Planning Council and TAC Elections



Weld County Commissioner Scott James 2023 Planning Council Chair



City of Loveland Councilmember Jon Mallo 2023 Planning Council Vice-Chair

At their December meeting, the North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council (NFRT&AQPC) elected new officers to serve during 2023. The Planning Council voted to elect Scott James, Weld County Commissioner, as Planning Council Chair and Jon Mallo, City of Loveland Councilmember, as Vice-Chair. Will Karspeck, Town of Berthoud Mayor, will serve as Immediate Past-Chair. The Planning Council officers make up the Executive Committee and work cooperatively to set the Planning Council's meeting agendas.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) also elected officers for 2023 at

their December meeting. TAC re-elected Eric Tracy of Larimer County as Chair and re-elected Troy White of the Town of Johnstown as Vice Chair.

Winter Driving Tips

Winter driving can be hazardous and frightening, especially with Colorado's sudden weather changes and heavy snowstorms. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has several resources to help anyone who is driving in Colorado be safe on the roads. Click on the photo to see the Winter Wise quick tips or visit CDOT's Winter Travel Center. Keep up to date on driving conditions and road closures at COtrip.org or sign up for travel alerts and news.



Vehicle/Tire Safety

A safe vehicle, winter tires and tread depth are essential for a secure winter driving experience. If conditions require, these laws could be implemented:*

Traction Law: All motorists are required to either have an all-wheel or four-wheel drive vehicle, or mud/snow tires (M+S icon), winter tires (mountain-snowflake icon), or tires with an all-weather rating by the manufacturer.

All tires must have a minimum of 3/16" tread depth.

Chain Law: Every vehicle must have chains or an approved alternative traction device.

*From Sept. 1 to May 31, the Traction Law is active on Interstate 70 from Dotsero to Morrison.



Travel Resources

Stay informed about the latest winter driving happenings to guide your travels.

Visit: COtrip.org, winter.codot.gov or call 511 for traffic updates, weather forecasts and additional travel resources





I-70 Mountain

Be prepared so you can drive the I-70 Mountain Corridor like a pro. Visit winter.codot.gov or Gol70.com for traffic updates, weather forecasts, peak time deals and more.



Winter Operations

CDOT works tirelessly throughout the winter to ensure the safest road conditions possible.

Tandem Snowplow Law: It is illegal for drivers to pass a snowplow operating in tandem formation with one or more snowplows. The snowplows have the right-of-way.

Visit winter.codot.gov for information on how you can do your part to help CDOT with snow removal, avalanche mitigation and other winter operations.







CDOT launched a video series called "Winter Driving in the Wild". The series is a humorous way to educate and remind drivers how to stay safe on Colorado roads. Videos cover subjects like the Passenger Vehicle Traction Law, tire and snowplow safety, winter preparedness tips and a guide for winter driving resources. View the video series on CDOT's YouTube channel.

Winter Bike to Work Day

Join cyclists across the region- and around the world- for the 2023 Winter Bike to Work (or Wherever) Day on February 10, 2023! Similar to Bike to Work Day, Winter Bike to Work Day is an annual tradition to encourage bike riding in the winter. Riding your bike to work can help save money on things like gas and vehicle maintenance, improve your health and lower stress levels! If you choose to participate, be sure to dress according to the weather and have the appropriate gear. Check out the City of Fort



Collins' Tips for Icy Cycling on their <u>Bike Winter page</u> for tips on how to safely bike during the winter months.



The NFRMPO Planning Council adopted the 2022 Public Involvement Plan on December 1, 2022 following a 45-day public comment period on the draft document. Four sets of comments were received during and incorporated into the final document.

The 2022 PIP can be found on the <u>NFRMPO's</u> <u>Public Involvement page</u> and by clicking the image.

Community Advisory Committee Applications Open

The NFRMPO's Community
Advisory Committee (CAC) is an ongoing forum for members of the community to provide input into the transportation planning process at all stages of project development. NFRMPO staff facilitate meetings, educating the public on NFRMPO process and how they can get involved in transportation planning at the regional and local levels. The CAC meets virtually every second Thursday of the month. Total time



commitment for membership on the CAC is approximately three hours a month. Any community member who does not currently serve on an NFRMPO Committee is eligible to apply.

Applications for the CAC are open on a rolling basis. Membership applications are available at https://forms.gle/zZYRGcZubqa1RQKWA.

For more information you can view the info sheet by clicking the image. For any questions about the CAC, please email AnnaRose Cunningham arcunningham@nfrmpo.org.

More Travel Options? TDM Action Plan Adopted by Planning Council

On December 1, 2022, the NFRMPO's Planning Council adopted the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Action Plan, a regional effort to establish a regional TDM program. TDM focuses on travel choices, whether through time-of-day, route, or travel options, and can mean a variety of things depending on who is implementing. Based on feedback from the TDM Work Group, the TDM Action Plan identifies the following goals:

- Enhance partnerships and collaboration between local communities, businesses, regional and State agencies, and other interested parties
- Create and enhance regional TDM programming to optimize people throughput
- Improve data collection to support new and expanded investments and



- programming
- **Invest** in infrastructure and resources to provide additional options and help people make informed transportation choices
- Communicate the purpose, benefits, and successes of providing mobility options

Within each of these goals are a mix of strategies and recommendations. Some strategies are already underway, including discussions of a regional Safe Routes to School program and the development of a Transportation Management Organization (TMO). Keep an eye on nfrmpo.org/tdm for more information about the implementation of the Plan.

New Bustang Service Now Connects Sterling to Greeley and Denver



Bustang Outrider's new route, connecting Sterling to Greeley and Denver launched November 1, 2022. The Sterling-Greeley/Sterling-Denver route operates five days a week. Buses run three days per week to Greeley (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) and two days a week to Denver (Tuesday and Thursday). This new service will follow the same

payment model as other Outrider routes, with a price point of 17 cents per mile. Seniors, children aged 2-11, and disabled individuals will only pay half price. The service will cost \$17 one-way between Sterling and Greeley.

For more information about this route and other Bustang services, check out the <u>Bustang Website</u>.

Mobility News in Northern Colorado

2022 Northern Colorado Mobility Accomplishments

2022 was a busy year for mobility in Northern Colorado! A few key accomplishments include:

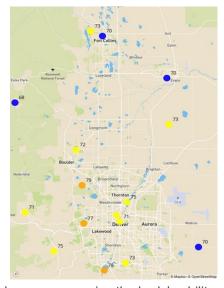
- Creating a Regional Mobility Action Plan to implement the strategies established by the 2021 Coordinated Plan
- Substantial completion of the Trip Discovery Tool
- Completion of the Trip Scheduling Steering Committee
- Envision transit support
- 60+ Ride van and funding support
- Via Mobility Services obtaining funding to return to rural Weld County in 2023
- Travel training event with the Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado in partnership with GET, 60+ Ride, and RideNoCo
- Completing 2 walk audits and incorporating the NFRMPO's Bike & Ped Safety Reporter Tool and the Larimer County Public Health and Environment's Walk Audit Toolkit
- 4500+ Riders Guides distributed regionally

Partner Agency Updates

2022 Air Quality for the North Front Range



While ozone has protective qualities high up in the stratosphere, ozone in our lower atmosphere is a lung irritant that causes lung and heart diseases. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) monitors ozone year-round, and we consistently observe high concentrations during the ozone season that runs from June to September. The EPA has designated nine counties in the Denver Metropolitan area and North Front Range as consistently exceeding ozone limits. The EPA currently has two standards: one standard at 75 parts per billion (ppb) and another standard at 70 ppb. Though these concentrations may seem small, they are enough to worsen chronic



respiratory conditions such as asthma and may compromise the body's ability to combat infections.

While 2021 had 67 days exceeding the standards, the 2022 summer ozone season was more typical of the years prior to 2021 with 35 days, though 2022 concentrations continue to violate EPA standards. The map shows this year's monitor values for the standards. Three monitors colored in orange along the foothills, where ozone tends to collect and build up, exceeded the 75 ppb threshold. Another nine monitors in yellow exceeded the 70 ppb threshold. Continued work on emission reductions is critical to reducing future ozone levels.

As the RAQC develops new strategies to reduce emissions, residents along the North Front Range can also help by reducing their personal emissions. Vehicle pollution is a significant contributor to sources that create ozone. Residents can lower their own emissions by reducing driving, especially during the ozone season. This can include taking mass transit, combining vehicles trips or carpooling, walking, or biking. Residents who have lawns can switch to electric mowers and electric handheld lawn and garden equipment. The RAQC is continuing its Mow Down Pollution program to defray the costs of new electric lawn and garden equipment and welcome applicants in May.

The DM/NFR was downgraded for both ozone standards this year. This necessitated new State Implementation Plans, which was developed throughout 2021 and 2022 and went to the Air Quality Control Commission in December. The RAQC is continuing its efforts to evaluate effective controls and engage with stakeholders. The APCD is also evaluating emission control strategy options and increasing stakeholder and public engagement. The public is invited to participate in 2023 by visiting the Control Strategy Committee page and signing up for both RAQC and APCD meetings. For other information on or to participate in the RAQC's air quality planning efforts, visit www.raqc.org.

Get Involved

See what's happening at the NFRMPO and join us virtually at one of our upcoming events or meetings. For a comprehensive and up to date calendar of events, visit https://nfrmpo.org/calendar, and to download meeting materials, visit

https://nfrmpo.org/meeting-materials.



Due to current circumstance regarding COVID-19 many meetings are being conduced virtually or a hybrid of virtual and in person. Please check our Events Calendar for the most up to date information.

Upcoming Events January 5, 2023

NFRMPO Planning Council

January 11, 2023 NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative

January 12, 2023 Community Advisory Committee

January 18, 2023 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

January 24, 2023 Larimer County Mobility Committee

February 20, 2023
President's Day
-NFRMPO Office Closed

Recurring Meetings

North I-25 Coalition meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

NFRMPO Council meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Mobility and Access Priority Group (formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition) meets the first Thursday every other month at 1:30 p.m.

Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) meets the third Thursday every other month (January) at 1:30 p.m.

Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) meets the fourth Tuesday every other month (March) at 1:30 p.m.

Northern Colorado Mobility Committee meets quarterly at 1:00 p.m.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meets the second Thursday every other month at 6:00 p.m.