

Northern Colorado Mobility Committee –MINUTES

February 27, 2024

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

In Person:

- Celeste Ewert, Envision
- Nichole Seward, Weld County AAA
- Steve Teets, WAND
- Ernest Cienfuegos Baca, United Way of Weld County
- Kristi Swasko, RAFT
- Katlyn Kelly, Transfort
- Leticia Arguello, The Arc of Weld County
- Stephanie Watson, The Arc of Weld County
- Peggy Garcia, Connections
- Cory Schmitt, NFRMPO
- Lisa Deaton, NFRMPO
- Brooke Bettolo, NFRMPO
- Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO
- Jacque Penfold, Community Member
- Deanna McIntosh, CDOT Region 4
- James Eussen, CDOT Region 4
- Steve Conaway, RAFT
- Olga Gonzalez, Weld County Department of Public Health & Environment
- Ari Edgley, Foothills Gateway
- Megan Kaliczak, zTrip

Virtual:

- Aaron Oberndorf, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Adriana Torres, Via Mobility Services
- Bridie Smith, COLT
- Kimberly Aguilar-Pauli, The Arc of Larimer County
- Margie Martinez, United Way-Weld
- Suzette Mallette, NFRMPO
- Taylor Rahalewich, Summitstone Health
- Dana Klein, Town of Estes Park
- Melanie Royalty, Transfort

2. November 2023 minutes approved by Cienfuegos Baca and seconded by Teets.

3. Group Introductions, ice breaker, and speed networking.

Both virtual and in-person attendees introduced themselves and their organizations. The group then did a speed networking exercise to get to know one another and learn more about each other's respective organizations and services.

Members shared their organizational needs; top priorities were funding, staffing, resuming services to pre-pandemic levels, and safety.



Presentations & Activity

1) Active Transportation Plan– Rouser

Rouser gave a presentation on the Active Mobility Transportation Plan. Slides can be found in the [packet](#). Rouser also presented an activity with questions for the group to discuss. Online attendees were given [a survey](#) to fill out.

What do you see as the largest barrier to safer and more reliable biking & walking in your community?

- I would bike more if...
- I would walk more if...
- Where is your favorite place to bike and/or walk?

Members discussed barriers. Common topics included safety, having more time, education & efficiency.

2) Safety Roundtable Follow Up -Bettolo

Bettolo discussed themes from the Safety Round Table Follow Up. Members discussed topics, made safety suggestions, and narrowed down their top five priorities for the group to work on. Ideas shared were: lighting and emergency call boxes at all bus stops, having the ability to communicate with the administrative offices for concerns, utilizing dispatch to help with communication barriers, providing first aid training for drivers, keeping organizational materials up to date and having more aids/assistance for those who are visually impaired. Attendees online were given access to [a survey](#) to choose their priorities.

3) RideNoCo Update– Schmitt

Schmitt shared RideNoCo updates that included the upcoming CDOT Capital Call for Projects, Phase 3 Trip Scheduling Update, the Regional Mobility Action Plan Progress, RideNoCo 2023 Summary, and work planned for 2024. Slides can be found in the [packet](#).

Members discussed the Mobility Action Plan goals and shared ideas of what a resource library might contain, privacy concerns of sharing information, who can access it, and how to manage it. Conaway suggested that HIPAA information, training documents, forms, and ADA information be included. Conaway also suggested forming a sub-committee to compile materials for the library. Conaway and Aguilar-Pauli opted to join the committee, which will work with NFRMPO staff to create a Google Drive that is sharable to members of the committee. Logistics of adding content and ensuring the materials are used with care. Teets discussed the need to get informational materials distributed across the community and asked that we share our information with the organizations that offer transportation vouchers, businesses, doctor's offices, and bus stations. Kalizack suggested that we send out a form asking who may provide free transportation vouchers, and Cienfuegos Baca suggested connecting with Martinez, as she regularly coordinates vouchers for Greeley-Evans Transit. When asked how to accomplish recruitment goals, Conaway suggested to reach out to other transportation agencies, coalitions, school district representatives, and council members and ask them to join or be a liaison.



4) Mobility Case Studies -Deaton

Deaton discussed a case study about a person who needed transportation from Windsor (Weld County) to Fort Collins (Larimer County) for dialysis during weekdays and on Saturdays. The main issues the caller was experiencing are a lack of Weld to Larimer County transportation options and lack of affordable available weekend transportation services. Kalizack asked if dialysis centers have funding for transportation. Others asked if she could be transferred to a dialysis center in Weld County, where more transportation options might be available. Conaway suggested that perhaps volunteer transportation organizations could contract with the centers to get their patients to their treatment if they had the funding. RAFT may be interested in this possibility. Cienfuegos-Baca suggested contacting local faith communities for assistance. Schmitt discussed what A Little Help does and how they have expanded to the Windsor and Johnstown area. Kalizack questioned if when people call their insurance are they asking the correct questions about their coverage? Someone mentioned that dialysis centers have social workers or case managers that might be able to assist.

Wrap Up + Next Steps

Announcements:

- Tech Workshop “Accessibility Apps” hosted by the Arc of Weld County, open to all. Free at the Farr Library in Greeley, Sunday (3/3) from 2pm to 4pm. Will email details.
- Chili Cook-Off at RAFT March 14th \$15 tickets
- Office on Aging Larimer County Community Fair, May 1st at the Ranch in Loveland.

Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) March 26, 2024
- b. Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC): April 23, 2024
- c. Northern Colorado Mobility Committee (NCMC): May 28, 2024