

**Meeting Minutes of the
NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION &
AIR QUALITY PLANNING COUNCIL**

**May 2, 2024
Hybrid Meeting in City of Evans, CO**

Voting Members Present:

Jon Mallo – Chair	-Loveland
Tricia Canonico	-Fort Collins
Mark Clark	-Evans
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Liz Heid	-Eaton
Will Karspeck	-Berthoud
Jim Kelly	-Transportation Commission
Andrew Paranto	-Johnstown
Kristin Stephens	-Larimer County
Barry Wilson	-Windsor

Voting Members Absent:

Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Dan Dean	-Milliken
Jessica Ferko	-CDPHE
Matt Fries	-Severance
Scott James	-Weld County
Johnny Olson	-Greeley

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; **Becky Karasko**, Transportation Planning Director; **Cory Schmitt**, Mobility Director; **Brooke Bettolo**, Mobility Planner; **AnnaRose Cunningham**, Transportation Planner III; and **Mark Northrop**, Transportation Planner II.

In Attendance: Daen Anderson; Rich Christy; Bill Cruise; Alex Donaldson; Omar Herrera; Myron Hora; Dana Hornkohl; Phil Jenkins; Will Jones; Katrina Klobberdanz; Wesley LaVanchy; Deanna McIntosh; Mark Oberschmidt; Mark Peterson; Evan Pinkham; Elizabeth Relford; Cody Sims; Laura Speer; Justin Stone; Steve Teets; Eric Tracy; Phil von Hake; Kurtis Winningham; Dena Wojtach

Chair Mallo called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Public Comment:

Steve Teets asked a question regarding the status of the Colorado to Wyoming route and mentioned a route in Nebraska that is branching out to Chyenne and Northern Colorado and asked for the Council's thoughts on the routes and on a regional transit authority.

Move to Approve Agenda and Minutes

Clark **moved** to *APPROVE THE MAY 2, 2024 MEETING AGENDA*. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** unanimously.

Heid **moved** to *APPROVE THE APRIL 4, 2024 MEETING MINUTES*. The motion was **seconded** by Clark and **passed** unanimously.

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Mallo opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

A written report was provided.

NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Wojtach reviewed the written report provided in the packet. She detailed the AQCC's activities including near term actions including the current Procedural Rules update process currently underway, with draft rules anticipated in May. Wojtach discussed the RAQC's development of the Severe SIP, with a modeling forum held on April 23, with the next forum scheduled for July. Wojtach then discussed two new air quality bills introduced to the Colorado Senate this week, SB24-229 and SB24-230 and walked through the remaining air quality related bills in the Colorado legislature contained in her report. She then mentioned an upcoming EPA virtual workshop in May as well as the recent proposed inventory for the nonattainment area, with action initiated later this year.

Stephens asked about the EPA's lowering of the standard and what that might be. Wojtach responded that a range had been proposed, but anything under 70 ppb would be difficult for the nonattainment area. Stephens then asked if the lowered standard would result in additional nonattainment areas in the state. Mallette responded that a reduction in 5 ppb would result in many areas across the country being in nonattainment. She also discussed a conversation between Wojtach and RAQC staff on different air quality models to help better calculate background ozone within the nonattainment area.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Mallo opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Report of the Chair

Chair Mallo outlined the need for a new Finance Committee member and requested a new member from Larimer County, Wilson from Windsor volunteered to serve. He then provided an update on the Executive Director search and the interviews later this month.

Executive Director Report

Mallette discussed the NFRMPO's Prioritization Process Pilot Program Grant Application. She also reviewed the Legislative Report provided in the Handouts Packet and walked through the bills and their impacts to the NFRMPO region.

TAC

A written report was provided.

Mobility

A written report was provided.

Finance

A written report was provided.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

A written report was provided.

Q1 2024 TIP Modifications

A written report was provided.

CDOT Inactives Report

A written report was provided.

ACTION ITEM:

Draft 2025 Annual NFRMPO Budget & FY2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) FY2025 Tasks –

Mallette reviewed the 2025 Annual Budget including the methodology behind the budget development and discussed the timing of the budget approval as well as the components of the budget: VanGo™ and MPO. She walked through each component's program, budget, and responsibilities. Mallette discussed outstanding items related to potential UPWP Budget Amendments in the future related to grant applications that could be awarded after the UPWP Budget is adopted.

Karasko reviewed the new tasks for FY2025 as well as the major deliverables and Tasks from the FY2025 UPWP being conducted by NFRMPO staff.

Clark **moved** to approve *RESOLUTION NO. 2024-08 APPROVING THE FY2024-2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) TASKS AND FY2025 BUDGET*. The motion was **seconded** by Stephens and **passed** unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

2024 NFRMPO Summer Outreach

Cunningham provided an overview of the 2022 Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and discussed how the plan guides the outreach process for the NFRMPO. She then reviewed the outreach events NFRMPO staff has attended so far in 2024 and those planned for the summer Outreach Season. Cunningham detailed the types of events NFRMPO staff attend annually, and the types of feedback received. She reviewed the outreach topics for the 2024 Outreach Season, including the Active Transportation Plan, Freight Plan, US34 TMO, US34 Transit Plan, as well as air quality related items. She walked through the types of informational materials, transportation trivia, and the promotional items NFRMPO staff provides as giveaways. Cunningham discussed the calendar of events and how staff gets the word out to the region where staff will be as well as suggestions for events to reach out to groups not typically represented at outreach events.

Mallo asked how the events are staffed and the workload divided. Cunningham answered events are staffed by two NFRMPO staff and is split between the Planning and Mobility Teams.

Canonico asked about outreach metrics. Cunningham responded NFRMPO tracks the interactions with the public in the NFRMPO Annual Report, but stated it is difficult to measure effectiveness of the outreach immediately and that the focus of the outreach is to educate the public.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission – Kelly noted the April Transportation Commission meeting included a road trip to see the new I-70 alignment and deck park, to the new Air and Spaceport, and finally to Burnham Yard.

CDOT R4 Update – Thomas stated there have been increases in DUI/DWI stops by Colorado State Patrol and Larimer and Weld are in the top five counties with increased arrests. She discussed the newly passed bill on motorcycle lane filtering, which will take effect in August, and allows motorcyclists to drive between vehicles.

US34 Coalition – Wilson provided a recap of the Coalition meeting, including the US34 Transit Study presentation from HDR staff. He highlighted the route selection process and the upcoming online open

house. He then mentioned the US34 TMO Board has been formed and will begin meeting at 4:15 p.m. ahead of the US34 Coalition meetings at 4:30 p.m. The name of the TMO will be GoNoCo34 and TMO Executive Director search will begin soon.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) – Stephens stated the RAQC met on April 5 and discussed the legislative update provided on air quality items as well as an update on the *Simple Steps. Better Air.* program staff on upcoming outreach that will be conducted during the summer.

Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME) – Stephens provided a brief update on the meeting, including a discussion on the allocation of the enterprise’s funds, potentially to be held this fall.

Front Range Passenger Rail District – Karspeck stated the District Board meeting provided an overview of the recent polling data the District Board conducted. During the meeting there was a request from the Governor’s office to get additional and more detailed polling data, as they felt the previous polling results may have been too broad. The District has been cleared to look at 0.003 to 0.005 sales tax; however, the Governor’s office will only be looking at 0.003.

Host Council Member Report – Clark welcomed everyone to Evans and discussed several new developments including the US85 corridor, a new development on 23rd Avenue and widening 37th Street. Began the City’s budget retreat to get the process started early. Looking at going out with a Mill levy increase, which is currently the lowest in the region. Also looking at new police station designs to make a campus, need 35,000 sq ft. to house 61 officers.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month’s Agenda Topic Suggestions

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Becky Karasko, NFRMPO Staff