

Meeting Minutes of the North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council

July 11, 2024

Hybrid Meeting in Severance, CO

Voting Members Present:

Jon Mallo – Chair	-Loveland
Johnny Olson – Vice Chair	-Greeley
Dan Dean	-Milliken
Tricia Canonico	-Fort Collins
Julie Cline	-Windsor
Matthew Fries	-Severance
Liz Heid	-Eaton
Bill Jenkins	-Timnath
Will Karspeck	-Berthoud
Jim Kelly	-Transportation Commission

Voting Members Absent:

Scott James – Past Chair	-Weld County
Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Mark Clark	-Evans
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Jessica Ferko	-APCD
Andrew Paranto	-Johnstown
Kristin Stephens	-Larimer County

MPO Staff: **Paul Sizemore**, Executive Director; **Suzette Mallette**, Executive Director; **Becky Karasko**, Transportation Planning Director; **Cory Schmitt**, Mobility Director; **Lisa Deaton**, Mobility Specialist; **AnnaRose Cunningham**, Transportation Planner III; **Jerome Rouser**, Transportation Planner II; **Jonathan Stockburger**, Transportation Planner I

In Attendance: Dawn Anderson; Robert Dahill; Michelle Edgerley; Jim Eussen; Nicole Hahn; Omar Herrera; Jackson Hessler; Dana Hornkohl; Dee McIntosh; Mark Oberschmidt; Mark Peterson; Evan Pinkham; Elizabeth Relford; Justin Stone; Josie Thomas; Eric Tracy; and Dena Wojtach.

Chair Mallo called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Chair Mallo introduced the NFRMPO's new Executive Director, Paul Sizemore. Sizemore discussed his initial transition goals which includes reaching out to Planning Council members and creating learning plans on unfamiliar subjects.

Move to Approve Agenda and Minutes

Karspeck **moved** to *APPROVE THE JULY 11, 2024 MEETING AGENDA*. The motion was **seconded** by Jenkins and **passed** unanimously.

Olson **moved** to *APPROVE THE JUNE 6, 2024 MEETING MINUTES*. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico 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 (ACPD)

A written report was provided.

NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Wojtach gave an overview of the ozone concentrations at North Front Range monitors for the summer to date. The Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) is continuing to move forward with several rulemakings, including removing the Carbon Monoxide (CO) element of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) due to the standard being met. EPA briefed the RAQC board on the status of Colorado's request for a waiver from Reformulated Gasoline requirements. Members of the intermountain west transportation planning agencies met to discuss challenges in meeting the 2015 Ozone NAAQS, highlighting a difference between modeled ozone levels and actual monitored ozone values. Mallette noted Governor Polis and three other governors wrote a letter to President Biden to request assistance from the Administration and EPA on the intermountain west's background ozone concerns. Jenkins noted Larimer County installed a new air quality monitor in Timnath which is in the initial testing phases.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Mallo opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Report of the Chair

Chair Mallo requested there to be another member of the finance committee. Jenkins was selected to join the finance committee

Executive Director Report

Sizemore noted NFRMPO staff interacted with 246 people in 5 communities for Bike to Work Day. Sizemore introduced Jonathan Stockburger and welcomed him to his first Planning Council meeting. Sizemore noted AnnaRose Cunningham is leaving the NFRMPO in early August. Sizemore stated the state enacted new accessibility laws in 2021 which requires local governments to make their websites and other digital media accessible to people with disabilities. NFRMPO staff are working on making existing documents more accessible.

Mobility

A written report was provided.

Finance

A written report was provided.

PRESENTATION:

Mobility Program Update and Website Demonstration –

Schmitt gave an overview of the NFRMPO's mobility program. RideNoCo had a three phased roll out. Phase 1 is the RideNoCo website and call center and was completed in 2021. Phase 2 is the trip discovery tool and was completed in 2022. Phase 3 is the trip scheduling tool which will be completed in 2024. Schmitt noted the call center has received 146 calls and emails thus far in 2024. The focus of Phase 3 is to improve coordination amongst agencies to help share and coordinate trips and will allow RideNoCo staff to complete the initial intake

steps. This tool will also make it easier for agencies and providers to communicate with each other and connect riders to routes that may require multiple different transportation providers. Schmitt stated the RideNoCo program will be focusing on mobility management and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) as well as expanding the Transactional Data Specifications (TDS) technology to additional agencies and identifying and addressing regional transportation gaps.

Jenkins noted the data collection is good for future planning efforts, and the data can be used to help identify where the gaps are in the transportation system. Mallette reminded the council that all this was allowed to happen due to Planning Council authorizing the creation of the mobility program and thanked the mobility team for their work.

CONSENT AGENDA:

NFRMPO Front Range Passenger Rail District Board Members – The consent agenda was approved by **acclamation**.

ACTION ITEMS:

2023 NFRMPO Audit –

Michelle Edgerley, GoFigure Accounting, discussed the process of accepting the audit and the audit results. Robert Dahill, MHP, LLC, discussed the Schedule of Findings from the 2023 Audit and stated they issued an Unmodified opinion, also known as a clean opinion, on the audit. Dahill discussed the deficiency discovered during the audit and the corrective action that has been implemented by MPO staff. The audit was presented to the Finance Committee, but due to there only being one voting member present, there was no formal motion to recommend approval.

Jenkins **moved** to accept the NFRMPO AUDIT as presented. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

None this month.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission – Kelly noted the June Transportation Commission meeting was focused on the 10-year plan, including who to include in the process. The Transportation Commission will be reviewing the goals of the 10-year plan. Kelly noted this will be a complicated process. The Transportation Commission elected Terry Hart as the Chair of the Commission and Eula Adams as Vice-Chair.

CDOT R4 Update – Thomas stated there are safety concerns with hot vehicles due to extreme heat. Thomas noted the City of Greeley was awarded \$20.5 million in federal RAISE grants for the MERGE project. The Berthoud and Centerra mobility hubs will open in late summer. Tolling on I-25 will begin in Early 2025.

STAC Report – A written report was provided.

Colorado Transportation Investment Office (CTIO) – A written report was provided.

US34 Coalition – Mallo noted he was elected vice chair. The steer group gave a status update on the US34 TMO. The Coalition discussed the project priority list on US34. CDOT gave an update on the US34/US85 interchange. The Coalition discussed a new project on WCR 51 and US34.

Front Range Passenger Rail District – Karspeck noted the board delayed the ballot initiative to 2026. The District Board committees did not meet in June. The Board met in June to approve task orders with HDR, Professional

Services with Communication Infrastructure Group, and Professional Services with AECOM Technical Services. Karspeck noted he met with Canonico and Andy Karsian for introductions and general overview. The Mayor of Longmont reached out to other Northern Colorado communities to schedule local meetings.

Host Council Member Report – Fries noted the town is moving forward on the WCR23 and HWY392 traffic light project using FASTER funds. The WCR19 and WCR74 traffic light project is at 100% design of traffic light and will be funded with STBG and local funds. Fries stated the Great Western Trail is fully connected from Eaton to Windsor. The town is looking to add additional safety features on the trail, including the addition of rapid flashing beacons on WCR23 and WCR 74. The town is moving forward on the WCR80 bridge rehabilitation project which is partially funded using federal funds. The Severance Town Council approved a Transportation Utility Fund Fee to help fund the repair and replacement of local roads. The Town Council approved a ballot initiative for a sales tax increase to replace that fee which will be on the ballot in November.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions – None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO Staff