

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

### February 6, 2025 Hybrid Meeting in Weld County, CO

#### Voting Members Present:

Kristen Stephens – Vice Chair -Larimer County  
Jon Mallo – Past Chair -Loveland  
Tricia Canonico -Fort Collins  
Dan Dean -Milliken  
Julie Cline -Windsor  
Paula Cochran -LaSalle  
Liz Heid -Eaton  
Bill Jenkins -Timnath  
Will Karspeck -Berthoud

#### Voting Members Absent:

Fil Archuleta -Garden City  
Mark Clark -Evans  
Jessica Ferko -APCD  
Matthew Fries -Severance  
Cecil Gutierrez -Transportation Commission  
Johnny Olson- Chair -Greeley  
Andrew Paranto -Johnstown

**MPO Staff:** **Paul Sizemore**, Executive Director; **Becky Karasko**, Transportation Planning Director; **Jerome Rouser**, Transportation Planner II; **Jonathan Stockburger**, Transportation Planner I; **Mykayla Marek**, Transportation Planner I; **Aaron Hull**, Mobility Planner.

**In Attendance:** Bill Becker; Brad Buckman; Ray Cundiff; Jim Eussen; Omar Herrera; William Johnson; Will Jones; Jacob Kershner; Katrina Klobberdanz; Victoria Leonhardt; Evan Pinkham; Lynette Pepler; Justin Stone; Josie Thomas; Eric Tracy; Keith Wakefield; Solveig Williams;

Vice Chair Stephens called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Teets, Greeley, encouraged the NFRMPO to become more involved in local city council meetings to discuss the importance of transportation for veterans and people with disabilities. Teets requested the Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) to become a hybrid meeting and encouraged the WCMC to give verbal updates to Planning Council.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

James requested pulling MMOF Call for Projects from consent agenda.

Karspeck **moved to APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RESOLUTION 2025-03**. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** unanimously.

#### Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Vice Chair Stephens opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

## REPORTS:

### Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

Ferko outlined the AQCD's public participation opportunities, including online tutorials on the new environmental justice summary dashboard. Ferko noted the APCD intends to propose a rule to the AQCC to reduce methane pollution from municipal solid waste landfills. The AQCC adopted AQCD's recommended "in-attainment" designation for the revised 2024 PM2.5 NAAQS.

### NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Sizemore noted there was an error in the NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates report about the two different SIP standards. The report should say the SIP that is due in January 2026 is for the 2015 standard. Colorado is currently working to develop the SIP for the 2015 standard. Sizemore stated that SIP will likely be submitted late due to the legislative review process. This SIP is anticipated to be completed in March 2026.

*Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)* – Stephens stated that RAQC is working with AQCC to develop the SIP. RAQC will be discussing landscape maintenance.

*Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME)* – Stephens noted the deadline for the Community Clean Transportation Assistance Program (CCTAP) is February 25th. There is a live informational webinar on February 14th. Heid asked if there have been many applicants. Stephens stated she is not aware of the number but it is still early in the call.

### Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Vice Chair Stephens opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

## REPORTS:

### *Report of the Chair*

Vice Chair Stephens noted STAC discussed the Governor's Colorado Transportation Vision 2035 and discussed the 2050 Statewide Plan.

### *Executive Director Report*

Sizemore outlined his annual goals that were determined by Planning Council during the January Planning Council Meeting Executive Session. Sizemore noted there was a UPWP budget modification to adjust how funding for one project was represented in the budget. Since these adjustments are budget neutral, they can be done through Finance Committee approval. Sizemore gave an overview of some of the changes in federal transportation funding requirements due to the change in administration. Sizemore noted NFRMPO staff will continue to monitor changes and will inform Planning Council of any major changes.

### *Finance Committee: FY2024-2025 UPWP Budget Modification Memo*

A written report was provided.

### *Legislative Report*

A written report was provided.

*TAC*

A written report was provided.

*Q4 2024 TIP Modifications*

A written report was provided.

*Mobility*

A written report was provided.

**ACTION ITEM:**

*2024 MMOF Call for Projects –*

James expressed concerns about funding the *FRPR Fort Collins and Loveland Station* Project during this call since voters have not approved the tax to fund the project. James is concerned funding this project without knowing if the Front Range Passenger Rail project will be moving forward would be a misuse of taxpayer dollars. Planning Council discussed the merits of the *FRPR Fort Collins and Loveland Station* project. Stephens noted a lot of the work the NFRMPO does is around planning and visioning, so there is precedent for funding studies for projects that are not guaranteed to move forward. Canonico noted there is polling that suggests there will be strong support for funding Front Range Passenger Rail. Jenkins stated this project would benefit the whole region, including reducing traffic on north/south routes and aiding in the North Front Range's air quality efforts.

James **moved to** amend *RESOLUTION 2025-04* to remove \$567,661 from *FRPR Fort Collins and Loveland Station* and add \$450,000 to the *10<sup>th</sup> Street Transit Vision* and \$117,661 to the *Greeley Active Modes Plan*. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** by a 5 to 4 vote.

James **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2024-04 ADOPTING THE 2024 MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND MITIGATION OPTIONS FUND (MMOF) CALL FOR PROJECTS as amended*. The motion was **seconded** by Karspeck and **passed** by a 5 to 4 vote.

*2024 MMOF Call for Projects: Weld County Local Match Reduction Request* – Karasko noted Weld County has requested a reduction of the match request for MMOF from 50% to 25%. Planning Council approved this during a previous MMOF call. Karasko stated the Transportation Commission must also approve. Pinkham noted this match reduction makes this project more feasible.

Karspeck **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-05 APPROVING THE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND MITIGATION OPTIONS FUND (MMOF) MATCH RELIEF REQUEST FOR THE WELD COUNTY ON-DEMAND TRANSIT PROGRAM PROJECT*. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

*January 2025 TIP Amendment* – Stockburger noted the amendment includes CDOT Region 4 new project US85 UPRR Gaps Projects with \$43,785 Federal TCC funding and \$458,000 Federal RPP funding. Stockburger noted NFRMPO staff recommend approval. TAC recommended Planning Council approval.

James **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-06 APPROVING THE OFF-CYCLE DECEMBER 2024 AMENDMENT TO THE FY2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)*. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** unanimously.

*FY2023 & FY2024 Transfort POP Update* – Karasko noted the funding amounts for the listed projects have increased due to IIJA funding which requires an update to the FY2023 & FY2024 POP.

Canonico **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-07 REVISING THE FY2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) REGARDING FTA \$5307, \$5310, \$5339 FORT COLLINS/LOVELAND/BERTHOUD TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (TMA) PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FFY23 AND FFY24*. The motion was **seconded** by Jenkins and **passed** unanimously.

*FY2025 Transfort POP* – Karasko noted the FY2025 is a new POP. Transfort completed the public involvement process and held a public meeting in December.

James **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-08 REVISING THE FY2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) REGARDING FTA \$5307, \$5310, \$5339 FORT COLLINS/LOVELAND/BERTHOUD TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (TMA) PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FFY25*. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico and **passed** unanimously.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

*NFRMPO 10-Year Priority List* – Karasko noted the first next step is to have a discussion with TAC in February to discuss data needs and revisit the priority corridors. There was a request to add Harmony Road/WCR74. Karasko noted Planning Council can add as many corridors to the priority corridor list as needed. Karasko stated there will be a TAC workshop in March and a second joint Planning Council and TAC workshop in April or May.

*National Performance Measures 4-Year Target (2025) Adjustments* – Karasko noted the NFRMPO must set targets for each of the federal performance measures, and the NFRMPO must either support CDOT's targets or adopt regionally specific targets. Karasko stated State DOTs have the option to update 4-year targets halfway through the 4-year performance period. CDOT adjusted the Percentage of National Highway System Bridges, by Deck Area, Classified in Good Condition target from 36% to 38.5%. Historically, the NFRMPO has supported CDOT's target due to a lack of direct influence on bridge construction and maintenance funds. James asked if CDOT can confirm if this target is achievable. Kershner noted the NFRMPO's good bridge condition is at 56.5% and statewide is 37% currently. Kershner believes CDOT can achieve this target.

#### COUNCIL REPORTS:

*Transportation Commission* – No update.

*STAC Report* – A written report was provided.

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

*I-25 Coalition* – James noted the I-25 Coalition met, and the meeting went well. James requested Councilmembers to check their email to schedule an in-person meeting to discuss future visioning for the I-25 coalition.

*Front Range Passenger Rail District* –Karspeck noted the last meeting they discussed train speeds. FRPR is aiming for 90mph with an average of 79 MPH. Stephens asked if there is an executive director. Chrissy Breit is the interim executive director.

*Host Council Member Report* – James stated Weld County has committed \$5 million for section 5 of I-25. High Plains Blvd is nearing 90% completion on design, and Weld County is looking to go to construction in April. Construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.

**MEETING WRAP-UP:**

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions – Legislative Rundown.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO Staff