

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

**August 7, 2025**  
**Hybrid Meeting in Eaton, CO**

### Voting Members Present:

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Johnny Olson - Chair          | -Greeley                      |
| Kristen Stephens – Vice Chair | -Larimer County               |
| Jon Mallo – Past Chair        | -Loveland                     |
| Tricia Canonico               | -Fort Collins                 |
| Julie Cline                   | -Windsor                      |
| Paula Cochran                 | -LaSalle                      |
| Dan Dean                      | -Milliken                     |
| Matthew Fries                 | -Severance                    |
| Cecil Gutierrez               | -Transportation<br>Commission |
| Liz Heid                      | -Eaton                        |
| Scott James                   | -Weld County                  |
| Bill Jenkins                  | -Timnath                      |
| Andrew Paranto                | -Johnstown                    |

### Voting Members Absent:

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Fil Archuleta | -Garden City |
| Mark Clark    | -Evans       |
| Jessica Ferko | -APCD        |
| Will Karspeck | -Berthoud    |

**MPO Staff:** Elizabeth Relford, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director; Tanya Trujillo-Martinez, Mobility Director; Jonathan Stockburger, Transportation Planner I; Tahjiba Tarannum, Transportation Modeler; Aaron Hull, Mobility Planner.

**In Attendance:** Dan Betts; Brad Buckman; Hanna Feldmann; Nicole Hahn; Omar Herrera; Meaghan Johnson; Evan Pinkham; Bonnie Saust; Dena Wojtach; Jaclynn Streeter; Brittany Vandermark.

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

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### CONSENT AGENDA

James **moved** to *APPROVE THE MINUTES*. The motion was **seconded** by Heid and **passed** unanimously.

### Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair Olson 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, Two Roads Environmental, noted during July, she tracked activities at the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) and Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC), with the AQCC setting a November 2025 rulemaking hearing for Colorado's Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP), and associated control strategies being considered for adoption. The RAQC has created a blueprint of additional control strategies that may be developed to secure additional reductions over the next five to seven years. The Ozone Forum is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> to share information about what is contributing to ozone levels at individual monitors in the nonattainment area and how ozone is predicted to change with proposed control strategies was postponed due to errors found in EPA's data and will be rescheduled at a later date.

The RAQC held a Control Strategy Blueprint Workshop on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at DRCOG, seeking feedback from a variety of different stakeholders on potential control strategies to be developed to reduce ozone. This Blueprint Workshop identified familiar control strategies and several new control strategies. A second Workshop will be held in Fort Collins on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Wojtach also discussed the SIP hearing set for November and that the NFRMPO should consider how to engage and state she will provide information to the Council.

Jenkins asked why the inspection fees were being increased and for clarification on the reasoning behind the 2028 proposal to reduce the inspection waivers for new cars from seven years to three years and what data supported this change. James stated the fees for vehicle inspections had not been increased since their inception in the 1990s and the increase is needed. Wojtach stated the APCD is seeing increases in vehicles being altered during the exemption period and emitting at a higher rate than intended.

Olson asked if an economic impact analysis had been completed. Wojtach noted there is not always good data reported on this topic; however, she suggested drafting a letter to assist in the cause could be beneficial. James requested clarification on page two of the report, specifically the charts showing regional trends in emissions and ozone concentrations across the intermountain west as well as the source apportionment of ozone contributions. Wojtach provided insight into the data behind the charts.

Olson circled back to the question of economic impact and drafting a letter to discuss communities with economic disadvantages and how individuals would be affected. A cost-benefit analysis should be done to assess the effects on communities.

Stevens noted this is a federal requirement due to the region being in the nonattainment area; however, she is not opposed to the question of economic impact. She also noted the importance of having a full discussion at the RAQC Blueprint Workshop on August 18, which will be beneficial to this discussion and to help weigh in on the topic. Following additional discussion, Mallo moved that Relford draft a letter to be signed by Olson on behalf of the Council. The motion was seconded by Fries and passed unanimously. **Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)** – Stephens noted she had nothing additional to add.

*Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME)* – Stephens discussed the NAAPME Board's meeting last month to approve funding decisions regarding funding for their Community Clean Transportation Assistance Program call for projects. Communities within the NFRMPO that received funding were Greeley, \$1.63M for the Mobility Hub; Weld County, \$1.79M; Fort Collins; Larimer County; and Loveland received partial funding. The RAQC also received \$1.5M to expand their Air Quality programs into the NFRMPO region.

## Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Olson opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

### REPORTS:

#### *Report of the Chair*

Chair Olson noted there is a \$2B deficit for 2026, which may impact transportation funding, and advised the Council should be prepared for a decrease in funding. Gutierrez noted an Executive Order has been issued for a hiring freeze for open State positions for the next 4 months. Stephens discussed the possibilities of the elimination of tax credits, the cancellation of projects, and the possible use of State reserves to fill the deficit.

#### *Executive Director Report*

Karasko reported that due to the reduction of Federal funds, there will need to be a revised budget presented in September for FY2026 UPWP Budget for Council adoption. She also discussed the results of TAC's MPOF second work session to discuss projects and reductions. Those affected had an additional meeting to discuss the impact and future options. Karasko also noted she had attended an Intermountain West MPO meeting in Salt Lake City and discussed the potential opt-in option proposal for MPOs to become direct recipients of Federal Formula funds in the next reauthorization bill.

Relford thanked the Council for the opportunity to lead the NFRMPO and noted she has hit the ground running. She expressed appreciation to Karasko for the valuable assistance and support as she settles into her position.

#### *Finance Committee*

A written report was provided.

#### *TAC*

A written report was provided.

#### *3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY2025 TIP Modifications*

A written report was provided.

#### *Mobility*

A written report was provided.

## PRESENTATION:

*GoNoCo34 TMO Presentation and Discussion* – Jaclyn Streeter, GoNoCo34 TMO, provided an update on the TMO, the history of its creation, what it is and what it does, and how MPO communities can benefit. She asked the Council what transportation pain points communities are encountering. Fries inquired about options for Severance. Mallo discussed the possibility of micro transit within NFRMPO communities. Olson discussed vanpooling and other options the TMO can offer.

## ACTION ITEM:

*NFRMPO 10-Year Priority List of Projects*– Karasko discussed the results of the ranking, the scores, and how they evolved to TAC recommendations.

James **moved** to *APPROVE THE NFRMPO 10-YEAR PRIORITY LIST OF PROJECTS*. The motion was **seconded** by Fries and **passed** unanimously.

## COUNCIL REPORTS:

*Transportation Commission* – Gutierrez noted the challenges with reduced funding, and Olsen discussed possible further reductions and statewide moratoriums.

The Colorado Contractors Association is bringing a ballot issue forward to require that a percentage of C-DOT funding goes directly to roads. Keep an eye out for this in the future.

*STAC Report* – Heid reported that the TPR discussed how to fill the gaps in funding and the 2050 statewide plan. She also noted that there were great presentations, including one about Regional Airports.

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

*Front Range Passenger Rail District* – Mallo updated that the service development plan is moving along, and the final is expected by the year-end. A consultant has been hired.

*Host Council Member Report* – Heid reported that the project has been delayed due to rain; however, it is successful and contributing to the businesses in the area. She is hopeful to have the ribbon cutting in October. They received \$500k to assist with project completion.

## MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions – None provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Tanya Trujillo-Martinez, NFRMPO Mobility Director