

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

September 4, 2025
Hybrid Meeting in Greeley, CO

Voting Members Present:

Johnny Olson - Chair	-Greeley
Kristen Stephens – Vice Chair	-Larimer County
Jon Mallo – Past Chair	-Loveland
Tricia Canonico	-Fort Collins
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Dan Dean	-Milliken
Britney Vandermark-	-Severance
Alternate	
Cecil Gutierrez	-Transportation Commission
Liz Heid	-Eaton
Scott James	-Weld County

Voting Members Absent:

Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Mark Clark	-Evans
Julie Cline	-Windsor
Jessica Ferko	-APCD
Bill Jenkins	-Timnath
Will Karspeck	-Berthoud
Andrew Paranto	-Johnstown

MPO Staff: Elizabeth Relford, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director; Tanya Trujillo-Martinez, Mobility Director; Tonja Burshek, Controller; Jerome Rouser, Transportation Planner II, Jonathan Stockburger, Transportation Planner I; Mykayla Marek, Transportation Planner I; Tahjiba Tarannum, Transportation Modeler; Aaron Hull, Mobility Planner.

In Attendance: Dan Betts; Brad Buckman; Richard Christy; Bill Cruise; Michelle Edgerley; Jim Eussen; Hanna Feldmann; Nicole Hahn; Dana Hornkohl; Omar Herrera; Will Jones; Evan Pinkham; Dee McIntosh; Bonnie Saust; Dena Wojtach; J Thomas; Eric Tracy

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 provided an update on Planning Council's concerns about Regulation 11. Wojtach clarified Regulation 11 does not include any revision reducing the seven-year exemption for newer vehicles from inspection and maintenance testing to three years. She noted the RAQC held a Control Strategy Blueprint Workshop in Fort Collins on August 18th and provided an updated version of the Blueprint. The updated document included additional details on some of the recommended control strategies. RAQC has postponed the July modeling update to later this fall. Wojtach noted ozone monitors have experienced high maximum daily 8-hour averages, including at the Fort Collins West, Fort Collins, Fossil Creek, Greeley Weld County, LaSalle Tower, Mehaffey Park and Timnath monitors. Wojtach noted two grant opportunities: The Colorado Clean Fleet Enterprise, and the Air Quality Enterprise.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) – a written report was provided.

Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME) – Stephens noted there was no August or September meeting.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Olson opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

REPORTS:

Report of the Chair

Chair Olson had no report.

Executive Director Report

Relford noted the NFRMPO has opened a Chase Business Account and will be transitioning to the new account gradually. The NFRMPO is also transferring financial systems to Acumatica. The NFRMPO signed onto a letter with other Colorado MPOs to USDOT concerning the Transportation Reauthorization Bill. This letter encourages USDOT to allocate additional funds to Colorado due to the state's rapid population growth. The NFRMPO also signed a letter for RAQC expressing concerns with some of the recommended Control Strategies and requested additional details. Relford noted the NFRMPO is facing a significant server problem and will come to the October Planning Council meeting with some potential next steps.

Finance Committee

A written report was provided.

TAC

A written report was provided.

Mobility

A written report was provided.

ACTION ITEM:

August 2025 Off-Cycle TIP Amendment– Stockburger noted the Off-Cycle August 2025 TIP Amendment includes one additional project and one project revision. The project addition is Harmony Road Mobility Hub with \$500,000 State SB-267 funding. The project revision is an update to the Region 4 Surface Treatment pool with the project Centerra Parkway East with \$6,550,105 Federal STBG funds and \$1,361,605 SHF in FY27 and \$6,006,446 Federal STBG funds and \$1,248,592 SHF in FY28.

James **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-16 APPROVING THE OFF-CYCLE AUGUST 2025 AMENDMENT TO THE FY2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)*. The motion was **seconded** by Stephens and **passed** unanimously.

Amended FY2026-2027 UPWP FY2026 Budget– Relford noted the revised funding amounts are due to modified federal funding amounts from CDOT. The amended budget will better reflect the amount of funds that will be contracted. The amended budget includes a \$93,746 dollar reduction in Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) funds, a \$396,963 increase in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, a \$9,438 increase in Multi-modal Transportation & Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF), and a \$908 increase in \$5310 Exchange Funds.

James **moved to** approve *RESOLUTION 2025-17 AMENDING THE FY2026-2027 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) FY2026 BUDGET*. The motion was **seconded** by Canonico and **passed** unanimously.

2024 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 2024 Audit and stated they issued an Unmodified opinion, also known as a clean opinion, on the audit. Dahill noted there were some minor issues with reconciliation due to turnover in the accounting department.

Stephens noted the new software should help with future reconciliation efforts. Stephens **moved to** accept the NFRMPO AUDIT as presented. The motion was **seconded** by James and **passed** unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

2050 RTP Amendment – Karasko noted Weld County submitted a locally funded capacity project during the NFRMPO FY2026-2029 TIP Project Submission Call. This project met the NFRMPO's definition of a regionally significant air quality project and required a 2050 RTP Amendment as well as a Conformity Determination Analysis and an updated GHG Transportation Report. This amendment also includes an update to the West Elizabeth BRT Project. Karasko noted the 2050 RTP Amendment passed conformity. NFRMPO staff will present on the Conformity and GHG Transportation Reports in October.

FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Stockburger noted that the only additional item added from the FY2024-2027 TIP Narrative is instructions on how to fill out TIP Amendment and Modification forms. Stockburger walked through the updated Project Tables and Financial Plan. The public comment period opens on September 4th and closes on October 5th.

FY2025 TIP Delay Review – Stockburger noted the results of the FY2025 TIP Delay Review. There were 26 projects which were eligible for delay review for FY2025. Four projects are up for a 3rd Delay, one project is up for a 2nd Delay, six projects are up for a 1st Delay, and 11 projects are not delayed further. TAC will approve 1st Delays, while any subsequent delays are approved by the NFRMPO Planning Council. Stockburger noted the projects that are impacted by the MMOF reconciliation process were not subject to review. Olson noted the 83rd Ave Roadway Improvement project has gone to ad. Relford asked what happens if Council does not approve a delay. Karasko noted the funds would be removed from the TIP and would return to the pot to be reallocated to eligible waitlisted projects.

MMOF Funding Reconciliation – Karasko noted the Colorado General Assembly pulled back \$71.4 M in existing MMOF funding which resulted in FY2023 to FY2025 being overprogrammed. The NFRMPO options to get back in compliance is to delay projects, reduce funding for projects, or cancelling projects. Karasko stated the City of Fort Collins volunteered to remove the On-Route Battery Electric Bus Chargers project, and the NFRMPO will forgo \$170,000 from the RideNoCo Sustainable Funding project. Karasko outlined three scenarios. The first scenario includes removing the On-Route Battery Electric Bus Chargers project as well as reducing the RideNoCo Sustainable Funding project and reducing the remaining impacted projects by 19.32%. Scenario Two includes all the changes included in Scenario one but would allocate full funding to the Foothills Transit Station and Roundabout Project and all other impacted projects would have a 17.25% reduction. Scenario Three would include all the changes in Scenarios one and two as well as removing and waitlisting the 10th Street Transit Vision project and fully funding the MERGE US34 Regional Mobility Hub project. All other impacted projects would be reduced by 12.44%. Planning Council prefers Scenario Three. Karasko noted Planning Council will take action at the October meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Transportation Commission – Gutierrez noted the Transportation Commission discussed the budget cuts from the special legislative session. Gutierrez noted essential positions and some project management positions were exempt from the hiring freeze as well as the Enterprise positions. There were three new commissioners sworn in at the last meeting. Barbara McLachlan filled the District 8 seat. Juan Marcano filled the District 3 seat, and Elise Jones filled the District 4 seat. Governor Polis appointed Diane Barrett to the District 1 seat. Gutierrez stated tolling will begin on I-25 in Early December.

STAC Report – Heid noted STAC recommended the Transportation Commission adopt 2050 Statewide Transportation Plan.

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

Front Range Passenger Rail District – Canonico noted there was no meeting in August. Mallo noted there is a meeting scheduled on September 8th to discuss preparations for the November 2026 ballot initiative.

Host Council Member Report – Olson noted the 59th and O Street project is out to bid. The Design Team for the MERGE project is currently doing reviews and the City is working on an Environmental Assessment for the project. The 16th Street Project is halfway done. The City of Greeley is working with Weld County to finish establishing funding and design for the US34 and WCR17 intersection project. Olson stated there are around \$2.8 B in projects in Greeley over the next few years.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions – VanGo.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Jerome Rouser, NFRMPO Staff