MEETING MINUTES of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council
Hybrid Meeting
September 16, 2026
1:01 p.m. – 2:59 p.m.

TAC Members Present
Evan Pinkham, Chair – Weld County
Dana Hornkohl, Vice Chair – Fort Collins
Emma Belmont – FTA
Brendan Cicione – CDPHE-APCD
AnnaRose Cunninham – Loveland
Sage Thornbrugh, Alternate – Greeley
Tim Hoos – Johnstown
Kevin Koelbel – Milliken
Scott Pearson – Windsor
Shantanu Tiwari – Evans
Josie Thomas – CDOT Region 4
Eric Tracy – Larimer County

NFRMPO Staff:
Mykayla Graalum
Becky Karasko
Elizabeth Relford
Jerome Rouser
Jonathan Stockburger
Tahjiba Tarannum

TAC Members Absent:
Aaron Bustow – FHWA
Tawn Hillenbrand – Berthoud
Kim Koivuniemi – Timnath
Wesley LaVanchy – Eaton
Tom Moore – RAQC
Shani Porter – Severance
Town of Garden City
Town of LaSalle

In Attendance:
Amanda Cabot – CDOT Region 4
Cody Davis – Muller Engineering
Candice Folkers – COLT
Tamara Keefe – Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
Eric Patton – Fort Collins
Drew Pearson – Wilson & Company, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative Representative
Antigone Peebles – CDOT
Luke Seeber – Berthoud
Denise Staley – Weld County
Spencer York – CDOT

Call to Order
Chair Pinkham called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Air Quality Agenda
Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) Updates
Relford noted the Blueprint revised draft has been released and comments are due September 21.

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) Updates
Cicione provided an update on upcoming Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) rulemaking hearings on September 16 to September 18. The Commission will consider revisions to Regulation 19 regarding lead dust hazards and clearance requirements, incorporating revisions finalized by EPA in October 2024.

The proposed revisions would strengthen protections for children under age seven and allow the Air Pollution Control Division to maintain delegation of the lead-based paint activities rule. The Division would also request additional revisions related to lead-based paint abatement definitions, training program accreditation, and training course notifications. The Commission will also consider revisions to Regulation 7 addressing oil and gas operations affected by EPA's emission guidelines and the associated state plan.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Agenda

Consent Agenda

Hornkohl moved to approve the August 19, 2026 TAC Minutes. S. Pearson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Presentations

2026 Ozone Exchange Conference

Relford provided an overview of the 2026 Ozone Exchange Conference, including its organizers, partners, goals, and relevance to ongoing ozone challenges in Intermountain West nonattainment areas. She discussed abstract submissions, the event format, planned sessions, and confirmed presenters. Relford explained the three-day conference will focus on air quality planning, current ozone research, and public health communication, with participation from academic researchers, local and state governments, EPA, private industry, and nonprofit organizations. The conference will also include a transportation-focused MPO panel discussing transportation's role in air quality planning and conformity. Relford also reviewed conference funding, presenter and stipend scholarships, registration costs, and sponsorship opportunities.

Cunningham asked whether members of the public would receive a special registration rate or if they should apply for a scholarship. Relford explained members of the public must register and may apply for a scholarship during registration. She added scholarships are provided as reimbursement after attending the conference. Relford encouraged TAC members and their communities to help promote the conference and noted outreach has included advertisements, press releases, and presentations to local communities.

First Mile/Last Mile Took Kit, TDM Calculator, and Statewide Transit Pass

Thomas Joyce, CDOT, provided an overview of statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) efforts. He reviewed the findings of a study on a potential statewide transit pass, including benefits and concerns identified by transit providers. The study recommended exploring a statewide transit planning app rather than a statewide transit pass, while also considering open-loop payment options. Joyce also provided an overview of the First Mile/Last Mile Toolkit, which includes a station area walkshed index and site visit tool to identify needs and inform investment decisions. Relford asked how CDOT is using the tools internally, including whether the Safe Routes to School program is using them for evaluation and planning. Joyce explained the tools are intended for broad use and have primarily been used to date with CDOT's BRT, Bustang, Mountain Rail, and other projects. TAC members asked whether the station-area prioritization tool was available online. Joyce clarified the ArcGIS desktop version is currently available by request, while the simplified web version is still under development. He offered to provide the ArcGIS file and user guide and to share instructions for creating the mobile walkshed tool.

Joyce concluded with a live demonstration of the statewide TDM Calculator, which has developed to provide a standardized approach for evaluating and communicating TDM strategies. Relford asked about the model data used in the calculator and how CDOT coordinated with MPOs. Joyce explained CDOT's modeling team has been involved throughout development and MPOs have participated through monthly working groups and larger testing sessions. He noted the calculator primarily uses CDOT data but allows users to override assumptions with local data. Tarannum asked whether differences between CDOT's and the NFRMPO's TAZ boundaries would affect results. Joyce stated the primary consideration is selecting the same geographic area and offered to follow up with CDOT's modeling team if needed. Rouser asked whether the calculator could account for off-street trails in addition to protected and buffered bike lanes. Joyce said protected bike lanes were currently the closest available category but agreed off-street trails could be considered for a future iteration.

Discussion Items

2027 Congestion Management Process (CMP) Kick-Off

Graalum provided an overview of the 2027 CMP update, including the purpose of the CMP, why the NFRMPO is required to develop a CMP, and its role in monitoring transportation system performance and identifying congestion-reduction strategies. She explained the distinction between a required congestion management process and an optional congestion management plan and noted the NFRMPO's CMP is updated every four years with periodic assessments of performance. Graalum reviewed the proposed objectives for the 2027 CMP. Staff proposed consolidating the existing six objectives into five: optimize the transportation system using smart technologies, reduce congestion, improve travel time reliability, expand access to transportation choice, and improve safety. TAC members supported the proposed objectives, but recommended the objective improve safety should be listed first while recognizing they are not ranked.

Graalum reviewed the proposed performance measures, including measures carried forward from the previous CMP and proposed changes and additions. The proposed change is to change the existing fiber performance measure to percent of Regionally Significant Corridors (RSCs) connected by fiber. Proposed additions included the percentage of the regional active transportation corridor network built out and at-grade crossing train volumes. Cunningham and Tracy questioned the purpose of using at-grade crossing train volumes as a performance measure. Graalum explained the intent was to understand potential roadway delay and congestion associated with trains in locations with at-grade crossings. TAC members discussed whether the measure would be more useful as background information or as a strategy, particularly because train volumes are unlikely to change significantly over time. Cody Davis, Muller Engineering, pointed out identifying high volume at-grade train crossings can provide additional opportunity to prioritize locations for railroad crossing elimination grant funding. Graalum agreed to revisit the measure and determine whether it should remain a performance measure or instead be incorporated as supporting information or a strategy.

Graalum reviewed the CMP development timeline, with the updated CMP anticipated to be finalized and adopted in the third quarter of 2027.

FY2026 TIP Delay Review

Stockburger provided an overview of TIP projects with milestone deadlines in FY2026 or earlier which are subject to the annual delay review. Of the 17 projects reviewed, 10 requested extensions. Stockburger reviewed the status of each project and explained the approval process for first through fourth delay requests. Project sponsors from Greeley, Evans, Fort Collins, and Loveland provided additional information on their projects requesting second, third, or fourth delays. The discussion included project schedules, right-of-way issues, design and construction schedules, and steps needed to advance projects.

Regarding Loveland's fourth delay, Relford noted fourth delays are new territory for the NFRMPO and the organization does not currently have a formal process for addressing delays beyond the third request. TAC members discussed the need to revisit the delay process during a future Call for Projects discussion to ensure project sponsors are not committing to schedules that cannot reasonably be met and to ensure federal funds are delivered within the anticipated timeframe. Project sponsors presenting at TAC were asked to attend the October 1 Planning Council meeting to provide an update on their projects.

Outside Parter Reports

NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative

D. Pearson provided an update on the September NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative walking and biking tour in Fort Collins. Approximately 15 to 20 participants attended, and the tour began at the Harmony Underpass project on the Power Trail. He explained the project will provide a grade-separated connection for bicyclists and pedestrians and is ahead of schedule. Fort Collins staff discussed the project's planning, design, environmental, and construction history, as well as innovative features such as electrified concrete intended to provide winter heating. D. Pearson shared the group also toured other facilities and discussed last-mile bicycle connections and design considerations. The tour provided an opportunity for participants to discuss potential solutions and share ideas related to bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.

Regional Transit Agencies

No update provided.

Reports

September Planning Council Meeting Summary Draft

Written report provided.

NFRMPO Air Quality Program Updates

Written report provided.

Mobility Committees

Written report provided.

Roundtable

Tarannum provided an update on the Land Use Allocation Model project submittal update through the UrbanSim portal and encouraged communities to submit outstanding developable projects information in the portal.

Stockburger announced the FY2026–2029 TIP should be finalized later this month. He shared the NFRMPO is anticipating beginning the Call for Projects later this fall.

Graalum shared CDOT has announced their PM1 Safety Performance Measure targets for 2023-2027, and to anticipate a discussion item on the NFRMPO's PM1 targets later this year. Graalum stated the Safe Routes to School Subcommittee met on September 11, and the group discussed current and upcoming funding opportunities and how the NFRMPO can better assist communities with their Safe Routes to School efforts moving forward. She provided information on the upcoming public outreach events the organization will be attending.

Thornbrugh introduced himself as the new transit planner at the City of Greeley. He shared Greeley is pursuing SB 230 funding to increase frequency on certain routes and to establish a new route.

Rouser provided an update on upcoming bicycle and pedestrian activities, including a presentation he is giving as part of Larimer County's Climate Smart Future Ready Plan and a walk audit in Milliken supported by AARP funding. He also reminded communities to provide project information needed for the 2055 Connecting Communities 2055 RTP update.

Relford noted a discussion on the regional planning boundary and models would happen at the October Planning Council meeting. She mentioned the NFRMPO could potentially be moving office locations since the organization's lease in its current location ends in February 2027.

Peebles introduced herself as a new Transportation Planner/Liaison with CDOT.

Cabot reminded TAC members about upcoming Safe Routes to School funding opportunities.

Hornkohl reported the College Avenue and Trilby Road intersection project is anticipated to open soon. The project has approximately $22M in total funding, including funding from the NFRMPO.

Meeting Wrap-Up

Final Public Comment

There was no final public comment.

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Mykayla Graalum, NFRMPO Staff

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, as a hybrid meeting.