North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council Year End Review Report

December 9, 2024



FY2024 - 2025 Unified Planning Work Program

Total FY2024 Budget \$2,254,149 Expended through 09/30/24 \$2,048,503

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Title VI Compliance

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) Planning Council approved the updated *Title VI Plan* on May 5, 2022. The NFRMPO has two program areas: Transportation and VanGo™. The NFRMPO did not receive any Title VI complaints during FY2023. The NFRMPO's *2022 Public Involvement Plan (PIP)* was approved by Planning Council on December 1, 2022. The NFRMPO did not receive any Title VI complaints during FY2024.

1.0 MONITORING

Budget: \$186,680

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$80,364

1.1 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- The NFRMPO mobile bicycle and pedestrian counters are available for check out by member communities to complete short duration counts to enhance the travel collection capabilities of the region. Windsor and Greeley currently each have a mobile counter for data collection.
- NFRMPO staff analyzed continuous bicycle and pedestrian count data to assist with local agency grant applications and to report to the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative and TAC.
- NFRMPO staff collected updated bicycle and pedestrian facility information from local agencies for the ATP.
- NFRMPO Staff reviewed data collection and distribution policies for sharing GIS data through an online Open Data portal.
- NFRMPO Staff began reviewing publicly available data for accessibility issues.

1.2 SAFETY

- NFRMPO staff continued to monitor and distribute reports generated through the Bike and Ped Safety Reporter tool.
- NFRMPO staff participated in CDOT's Emphasis Area Working Group meetings.
- NFRMPO staff participated in the National Center for Rural Road Safety Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP). NFRMPO staff participated in the SH14 Safety Study Guidance Committee meeting.
- NFRMPO staff participated in CDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Stakeholder Workshop.
- NFRMPO staff participated in the City of Greeley Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
 Action Plan Advisory Committee meetings.
- NFRMPO staff geocoded and updated crash data. Crash data is up to date through the

end of 2023.

1.3 LOCAL PLAN REVIEWS

Staff completed 16 development reviews for the Towns of Timnath and Severance.
 Comments were provided on how proposed development could impact Regionally Significant Corridors (RSCs), Regional Active Transportation Corridors (RATCs), Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and overall mobility for all modes.

1.4 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS (CMP)

- NFRMPO staff continued collecting congestion data.
- NFRMPO staff analyzed projects submitted in the 2023 Call for Projects using a Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) Worksheet to identify whether projects incorporated recommended strategies from the CMP.

1.5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND REPORT

- The five Safety Performance Targets for 2020-2024, which were the first to be regionally specific safety targets for the NFRMPO, were adopted by Planning Council on February 1, 2024.
- NFRMPO staff began discussion on the new GHG Target, which was put on indefinite hold following federal court action.
- NFRMPO staff and CDOT staff met to discuss adjustments to the Joint Traffic Congestion Performance Measures. The adjustments to the Non-SOV and PHED will be approved by the Planning Council in November 2024.

2.0 PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Budget: \$753,476

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$735,175

2.1 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) MANAGEMENT

 NFRMPO staff updated the project website to include all finalized and approved RTP documents.

- NFRMPO staff developed the 2050 RTP Executive Summary.
- NFRMPO staff finalized story maps for the 2050 RTP that will be used as a digital Executive Summary.

2.2 LAND USE MODEL MANAGEMENT

- NFRMPO staff used the Land Use Allocation Model (LUAM) to complete data requests for member agencies and for inclusion in the US34 TMO planning and LinkNoCo
- NFRMPO staff participated in the Socioeconomic Modeling Peer MPO webinar series to learn more about land use modeling.
- NFRMPO staff met with UrbanSim to evaluate needs for the agency's LUAM, identifying current and future needs.

2.3 TRANSPORTATION MODEL MANAGEMENT

- NFRMPO staff used the Regional Travel Demand Model (RTDM) to complete data requests for member agencies.
- Contract executed with consultant, Cambridge Systematics, in October 2021 and extended in December 2023.
- NFRMPO staff met regularly with model consultant.
- NFRMPO staff participated in four trainings held by Cambridge Systematics to better understand the model, learn basic Python, and to learn the Bike Model components.

2.4 REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTAION PLAN (ATP) MANAGEMENT

- NFRMPO staff held conversations with local communities and NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative to identify progress made on regional trails since adoption of the ATP.
- The NFRMPO staff continued collecting project information for the Bicycle and Pedestrian 10-Year Pipeline of Projects from local agency staff.
- Staff began developing the update to the 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP).
- Staff continued outreach for the 2025 ATP with internal and external stakeholders.
- Staff began developing the Regional Active Transportation Corridor (RATC) Corridor profiles.

2.5 STATEWIDE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

 While originally anticipated to be started in FY2020, this Task will continue as a FY2024 and FY2025 Task in coordination with CDOT Modeling Staff who is managing the consultant team and the Statewide Household Survey Oversight Team, of which NFRMPO staff are a member.

2.6 LINKNOCO

- A Request for Proposals was due in September 2023, with interviews and selection running through October 2023. A contract was awarded to HDR in October for LinkNoCo Phase II.
- NFRMPO staff worked with HDR to finalize the scope and budget, with a contract signed in December.
- Project kicked off in January 2024, with discussions about data and community engagement.
- Staff met bi-weekly with the consultant team to discuss project status and progress. Meetings with the Project Management Team and the Project TAC were also held throughout Quarters 2 through 4 of FY2024.
- An online survey for public input was online between May 15 and May 31 and an online public meeting was held on September 17.
- Staff reviewed progress memos and deliverables as available.

2.7 COMPLETE STREETS

• NFRMO staff compiled a list of Complete Streets compliant work tasks already within the UPWP to ensure to required CPG amount of 2.5 percent is met.

2.8 PLANNING COUNCIL AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) SUPPORT

Council:

- Packets, minutes, supporting documentation, calendars, and rosters were produced, revised, sent to the Planning Council and/or the Council Packet Distribution List, and posted to the NFRMPO website for each meeting.
- Meeting announcements were produced, sent to the *Coloradoan, Greeley Tribune*, and the *Loveland Reporter-Herald*, and posted to the NFRMPO website for each meeting.
- NFRMPO staff posted Planning Council meeting minutes on the website following approval by Planning Council members.

- NFRMPO staff prepared an Executive Summary of each meeting for inclusion in that month's TAC Agenda Packet.
- Resolutions were approved, signed, scanned, distributed as needed, and stored both as hard copy and electronically.
- Correspondence was disseminated, as needed.

TAC:

- Packets were produced and sent electronically to TAC members and the TAC Packet Distribution list a week prior to each scheduled TAC meeting.
- Rosters and calendars were produced, revised, and distributed to TAC members, as needed.
- NFRMPO staff prepared an Executive Summary of each meeting, which was added to the next month's Planning Council Agenda Packet.
- NFRMPO staff posted TAC meeting minutes on the website following approval by TAC members.
- Correspondence was disseminated, as needed.

2.9 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

- The NFRMPO developed the FY2025 Tasks and Budget for the *FY2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)*, which was approved by Planning Council at their May 2, 2024 meeting.
- Staff developed two Administrative Amendments to the FY2024-2025 UPWP.
- NFRMPO staff continued to work on the recommendations from the quadrennial MPO Federal Certification Review, conducted in Spring 2022, and created a spreadsheet to track progress.

2.10 FREIGHT PLAN

- Staff began developing the update to the 2026 Freight Northern Colorado Plan.
- Kickoff presentations for the Freight Plan update were presented to TAC in November 2023 and the Planning Council in March 2024.
- The Freight Plan update was put on hold until July 2024 due to staff turnover.
- Staff began internal discussions for outreach, discussed data collaboration opportunities with CDOT, and completed a rough outline of the Plan.
- Drafting of the Plan update will begin in January of 2025.

3.0 PLANNING SERVICES

Budget: \$340,347

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$284,051

3.1 Special Participation

- Staff participated in the monthly Statewide MPO (SWMPO) meetings.
- Staff participated in the monthly Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) meetings.
- Staff participated in the monthly CDOT Region 4 meetings.
- Staff attended Transportation Environmental Resource Council (TERC) meetings.
- Staff attended Air Quality Interagency Coordination Group (ICG) meetings.
- Staff attended Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) meetings.
- Staff attended the RAQC's Control Strategy Committee meetings.
- Staff attended the RAQC's Quarterly Modeling Forums.
- Staff participated in CDOT's Freight Advisory Council meetings.
- Staff attended Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) meetings.
- Staff attended AQCC's GHG Resolution Subcommittee meetings.
- Staff participated on CDOT's GHG Mitigation Group.
- Staff participated on CDOT's Advancing Transportation Safety Emphasis Area Working Groups meetings.
- Staff participated in Colorado Transportation Asset Management User Group (COTAMUG) quarterly meetings
- Staff participated on Colorado MPO GIS Meetings.
- Staff participated on DRCOG's Data Consortium Group meetings.
- Staff participated on DRCOG's Crash Data Consortium.
- Staff participated on the State Interagency Consultation Team (IACT).
- Staff participated in Intermountain West (IMW) MPO meetings.
- Staff attended the AMPO Active Transportation Working Group meetings.
- Staff attended the AMPO Core Products Working Group webinars.
- Staff attended the AMPO Data Visualization & GIS Working Group webinars.
- Staff participated on the AMPO Policy Committee.
- Staff attended the Equity in Roadway Safety Webinar Series.
- Staff attended the Rocky Mountain Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) meetings.
- Staff participated in CDOT's bi-monthly Statewide Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC) meetings.
- Staff attended North I-25 Coalition meetings.
- Staff attended US34 Coalition meetings.

- Staff attended CDOT's US34 TAC meetings.
- Staff attended US34 TMO (GoNoCo34) meetings.
- Staff attended US85 Coalition meetings.
- Staff attended I-25 TIM Team Meetings.
- Staff attended US85 TIM Team Meetings.
- Staff attended the Front Range Passenger Rail District meetings.
- Staff attended the Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC) meetings.
- Staff attended the CDOT Transit Monthly meetings.
- Staff attended the Non-attainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME) meetings.
- Staff participated in the EDC-7 Colorado Summit: Integrating GHG Assessment and Reduction Targets in Transportation Planning.
- Staff supported Northern Colorado (NoCo) Bicycle & Pedestrian Collaborative meetings.

3.2 OUTREACH/COMMUNICATIONS

- NFRMPO staff distributed information regarding training sessions, webinars, reports, and other important non-motorized information to TAC members and Northern Colorado Bicycle & Pedestrian Collaborative.
- The agency continued posting Planning Council meeting recordings to YouTube and began posting Technical Advisory Committee meeting recordings in January 2024.
- NFRMPO Staff attended 18 outreach events in 2024.
- The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) convened four meetings discussing and providing feedback on planning activities such as the NFRMPO outreach activities, the NFRMPO Call for Projects, RideNoCo, the 2025 Active Transportation Plan, and Safe Routes to School. The NFRMPO updated the agency website as needed. The NFRMPO website (https://nfrmpo.org) provides additional information on current and archived projects, MPO staff, TAC and Planning Council members, meeting materials, and a calendar for upcoming meetings and events.
- Four On the Move newsletters were drafted and published. The newsletters cover transportation news, construction updates, planning news, study updates, NFRMPO departments, spotlight on NFRMPO communities, and upcoming events and community calendar.
- The @nfrmpo Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn were used to show NFRMPO activities and to spread awareness of different events happening in the region.
- NFRMPO staff applied for and were awarded a Colorado Statewide Internet Portal Authority (SIPA) grant for document accessibility software.
- NFRMPO staff updated current planning documents to comply with Colorado HB21-1110 accessibility requirements.

3.3 AIR QUALITY PLANNING, CONFORMITY, AND GHG EMISSIONS ANALYSIS

- NFRMPO staff participated in monthly ICG meetings.
- NFRMPO staff prepared a draft conformity determination for the FY2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), to be released for a 30-day public comment period on April 1, 2022.
- NFRMPO staff participated in CDOT-convened working groups on GHG, including the modeling group and mitigation group, and participated in the State Interagency Consultation Team (IACT)
- NFRMPO staff submitted model runs for 2022 and 2026 to APCD for review to be included in the upcoming SIP.
- NFRMPO staff reviewed the need for a conformity run based on a request by the City
 of Greeley for an upgraded intersection and roadway improvements. With input from
 ICG, Staff determined a conformity run is not necessary.
- Staff presented on the NFRMPO's GHG work at an AMPO Environment & Resiliency Working Group webinar on February 29.
- Staff participated in the CDPHE Procedural Rules Update Technical Sessions and provided comments on the rule changes.
- Staff attended and participated in the FHWA EDC 7 GHG Webinars.
- Staff reviewed CDOT's GHG Planning Rule Procedural Rules Document and provided feedback.

3.4 DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

- NFRMPO staff held five Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Subcommittee meetings to begin developing a regional SRTS program.
- NFRMPO staff conducted a survey to gauge the region's SRTS needs
- NFRMPO staff participated in 2024 Safe Routes to School Partnership 2024 Conference planning (conference to be held in Fort Collins in October 2024).

4.0 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Budget: \$137,438

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$110,980

4.1 PROJECT ASSISTANCE

• Staff provides support for the Northern Colorado (NoCo) Bicycle & Pedestrian Collaborative, which is implementing the 2021 *Active Transportation Plan*.

• Staff also participated in the Interagency Consultation Group (ICG) meetings.

4.2 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

- The NFRMPO staff processed three Amendments and nine Modifications to the FY2024-2027 TIP.
- The <u>Annual List of Federally Obligated Projects</u> was completed and posted on the NFRMPO website in December 2023.
- The NFRMPO applied for the Project Prioritization Pilot Program grant opportunity through the US Department of Transportation in May 2024.

4.3 FEDERAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT

- The FY2023 TIP Project Delay Review found 14 projects or project components with first time delays, and three projects with second delays. TAC provided one-year extensions to the projects with a first delays. Planning Council provided second oneyear extensions to three projects with second delays
- The NFRMPO held the 2023 Call for Projects to award FY2026-2027 CMAQ, STBG, CRP, and TA funding. The Call was open from August 4 to October 6, 2023. Staff received applications for 26 projects from nine local agencies. A scoring committee meeting was held on November 10 to recommend project awards. Planning Council awarded funding to projects at their meeting on January 11, 2024, fully funding 12 requests, partially funding one request, and waitlisting 13 requests.

5.0 MOBILITY

Budget: \$836,208

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$837,932

5.1 MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

• The *RideNoCo* website was launched in September 2021 and received 4,661 visits between October 2023 and September 2024.

- The design of the *Rider's Guide* was updated in 2021 to reflect the *RideNoCo* brand and was distributed at community events and upon request. NFRMPO staff created a Spanish version of the *Rider's Guide* to accompany the Spanish version of the *RideNoCo* website. 623 English & 108 Spanish Rider's Guides were distributed between October 2023 and September 2024.
- The Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) met four times between October 2023 and September 2024, with an average of 18 attendees. At the January 2024 LCMC meeting, two co-chairs were elected to lead meetings and represent Larimer County on the Northern Colorado Mobility Executive Committee. Additionally, the Mobility & Access Priority Group (formerly Senior Transportation Coalition) officially merged with the LCMC and will conduct business as a subcommittee of the larger committee.
- The Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) met four times between October 2023 and September 2024, with an average of 16 attendees. At the March 2024 WCMC, two co-chairs were elected to lead meetings and represent Weld County on the Northern Colorado Mobility Executive Committee.
- Following successes of Joint Mobility Meetings in 2021 and 2022, the Larimer County and Weld County Mobility Committees have begun meeting jointly as a Northern Colorado Mobility Committee on a quarterly basis beginning in 2023. There were five Northern Colorado Mobility Committee meetings between October 2023 and September 2024 with an average of 26 attendees.
- RideNoCo Quarterly newsletters were published in October 2023, January 2024, April 2024, and July 2024.
- The NFRMPO continues to partner with the 60+ Ride Volunteer Driver Program in Weld County. Between October 2023 and September 2024, the program provided approximately 7,868 trips to older adults, 576 of those trips were provided by the NFRMPO supported vehicle.
- The NFRMPO continues to partner with Adeo in Weld County. Between October 2023 and September 2024, the program provided approximately 511 trips to clients in their NFRMPO supported van.
- The NFRMPO continues to partner with Envision in Weld County. Between October 2023 and September 2024, the vehicle provided approximately 1,047 trips to clients. Beginning in 2022, the NFRMPO expanded its support for Envision's transportation

- operations through the NFRMPO's Urban 5310 grant. Between October 2023 and September 2024, Envision provided 9,414 purchased transit trips.
- The NFRMPO partnered with Via Mobility Services in August 2021 to launch a pilot public demand response transportation service in rural southwestern Weld County and southeastern Larimer County. The pilot concluded at the end of February 2022 and during the seven-month service period Via registered 74 riders and provided 461 trips. Due to the success of the pilot, the service returned and expanded for a 2-year period in August 2023, resulting in 2,527 trips thus far.

5.2 ONE CALL/ONE CLICK CENTER (RIDENOCO)

- In accordance with the Larimer County Senior Transportation Implementation Plan, the Mobility Program has been branded *RideNoCo* and a phase one website and phase two trip discovery tool have been completed. The third and final phase will build out a trip scheduling and coordination tool for the program utilizing Transactional Data Specifications (TDS) and went live in Q2 2024.
- The RideNoCo Call Center and website officially launched in August and September 2021, respectively and has received 335 calls or emails between October 2023 and September 2024.
- A Trip Scheduling Steering Committee was recruited and convened in March 2022 to guide the implementation of Phase 3 of the roll out of RideNoCo. This group comprised of small and large transportation providers, human services agencies, and other stakeholders will meet over the coming months to identify the trip scheduling software options and coordination approaches that make the most sense for each provider, riders, RideNoCo, and the broader Northern Colorado region. The Trip Scheduling Committee came to agreement of proceeding with the adoption of Transactional Data Specifications (TDS) to lay the foundation for coordination among human service transportation providers and RideNoCo in the region. The project is now nearing completion and went live in Q3 2024.

5.3 TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM)

- NFRMPO staff selected Steer to lead the implementation of the first TMO in the North Front Range region along the US34 Corridor between Estes Park and Kersey. GoNoCo34 will launch in late 2024.
- To build upon the TDM Action Plan, Steer has also been contracted to further assist the NFRMPO in the development and implementation of its broader TDM Program. This includes developing the criteria and framework for the selection, start-up, funding, and oversight of TMOs as well as identifying program activities to undertake in coordination with local and regional partners.

• The NFRMPO is partnering with DRCOG's Way to Go Program to expand the Denver region's commuter CRM platform through RideAmigos into Larimer and Weld counties. The RideAmigos platform will allow commuters in the North Front Range to find and access carpools, vanpools, trip tracking, and other resources.

6.0 ADMINISTRATION

This Work Task and its Products are funded through Indirect Costs.

6.1 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Q4 2023 Unaudited Financial Statements were accepted by Council in March 2024. Q1 and Q2 2024 Financial Statements were accepted by Council in September 2024. Financial Statements run on a calendar year basis.
- The annual audit was approved by Council in July 2024.
- All quarterly and annual payroll tax reports were filed on time.
- Required oversight of employee payroll and pension benefits and accounts payable and expenses is ongoing.
- The FY2024 CPG contract was drafted and pending completion at the end of September 2024, with execution occurring in October 2024.
- All contracts with CDOT are in place or are proceeding through contracting. As of the date of this report NFRMPO staff anticipate contracts for MMOF and 5304 funds in the coming months.
- An indirect cost allocation plan was approved for FY2025 by CDOT in September 2024.

6.2 GRANT REPORTING AND MANAGEMENT

 All monthly NTD reports have been filed. Annual NTD reporting was completed in April 2024.

6.3 HUMAN RESOURCES/IT

Advertisements:

- The NFRMPO hired a new Transportation Planner II who started in April 2024.
- The NFRMPO hired a Transportation Planner I in June 2024.
- The NFRMPO hired a Transportation Planner I in September 2024.
- The NFRMPO hired a new Executive Director, whose start date was July 2, 2024.
- The NFRMPO is in the process of hiring an Accountant and a Mobility Planner.

Benefits Education and Management:

- Open enrollment started October 11th and will end October 23rd.
- 2024 Conflict of Interest forms were disseminated to new Council members and/or their alternates as they came into the Council. Following the April 2024 elections, Conflict of Interest forms will be collected for all members and alternates and filed.

CIRSA Audit Paperwork:

- Trainings on Anti-harassment, Diversity in the Workplace, Preventing Back Injuries and Defensive Driving Basics, were provided to all staff members in compliance with the CIRSA audit process.
- Three new employees were provided with all New Employee trainings in compliance with CIRSA.
- All trainings are documented in the CIRSA Group Report for All NFRMPO Staff.

IT:

• New computers were purchased to meet the rotation schedule established within the organization.