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- For Immediate Release -

**Press Release** 

NFRMPO and Via Mobility Services launching transportation pilot program that will provide service in southwestern Weld County and southeastern Larimer County.

**Larimer County and Weld County, Colorado**— Beginning August 2, 2021, <u>Via Mobility Services</u>, a non-profit transportation provider based in Boulder, has launched a pilot program serving people and communities in rural portions of southwestern Weld County and southeastern Larimer County as detailed in the project area <u>map</u>.

This pilot service will be available to those residing in or near the municipalities of Mead, Johnstown, Milliken, Gilcrest, Platteville, Fort Lupton, Lochbuie, and portions of the Berthoud area. Via will transport individuals to destinations within the defined service area as well as surrounding locations such as Brighton, Boulder County, Greeley, Evans, and Loveland. The pilot will be free and open to the general public, including individuals utilizing a mobility device, through the end of 2021. Operating hours will be Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. Riders who would like to get started can register to use this new service by calling a Mobility Specialist with Via at 303-444-3043. During the registration process, the Mobility Specialist will walk the rider through how to book a trip.

Once the pilot period has concluded, Via and partner organizations will assess the level of demand and funding necessary to continue the service. At that time, NFRMPO and Via staff will provide a follow up press release if the service will be continued, along with any changed service details.

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO)'s One Call/One Click Center and expanded mobility program, RideNoCo, was developed to enhance coordination among transportation providers and address gaps in service across the Northern Colorado region, especially in underserved rural portions of Larimer and Weld counties. The NFRMPO's Weld County and Larimer County Mobility Committees provided a forum for Via to present its vision for expanded service in rural southwestern Weld and southeastern Larimer County and receive the support of existing transportation providers and stakeholders, including the two non-profit transportation providers that provide service to individuals within the pilot project area:

- 60+ Ride provides transportation to adults aged 60 and older in Weld County. Learn more at (970) 352-9348 or <a href="https://www.60plusride.org">www.60plusride.org</a>
- Rural Alternative for Transportation (RAFT) provides transportation to adults over the age of 60 and adults
  over the age of 18 with a disability within the Berthoud Fire Protection District surrounding the Berthoud
  town limits. Learn more at (970) 532-0808 or <a href="https://www.berthoudraft.org">www.berthoudraft.org</a>.

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To inquire about transportation options in Larimer or Weld counties beyond the boundaries of the Via Mobility Services Pilot, please contact a Mobility staff person with RideNoCo at (970) 514-3636 or <a href="mobility@nfrmpo.org">mobility@nfrmpo.org</a> between 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

## About NFRMPO:

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) is an association of 15 local governments working together to improve regional transportation and air quality. The NFRMPO provides short and long-range planning while prioritizing projects in those plans for state and federal funding. The NFRMPO develops cooperative relationships and financial partnerships among our member governments, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the private sector.

## About Via:

Enhancing mobility is Via's cause. Founded in 1979, Via is a full-spectrum mobility manager offering transportation services and resources. Via also provides a wide range of community and group educational resources related to transportation for older adults, people with disabilities and others living with mobility limitations. Learn more at <a href="https://viacolorado.org">https://viacolorado.org</a>.