

# Connecting You & Northern Colorado: Mobility Newsletter

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Read on for the latest mobility updates in Northern Colorado.

### **Coordinated Plan Update Adopted**

The update to the NFRMPO *Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan)* was formally adopted by the NFRMPO Planning Council at its December 2021 meeting with support from the Weld County and Larimer County Mobility Committees.

The *Coordinated Plan* will guide regional mobility efforts for the next four years to meet the needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and lower-income people.

Review the final plan on the NFRMPO Website.



## 2021: Year in Review

The NFRMPO and regional partners have been busy in 2021. A few highlights include:

#### **Vaccine Transportation**

Through partnerships with the Larimer County Office on Aging, Larimer County Office of Emergency Management and Weld County Area Agency on Aging, the NFRMPO







implemented the core components of the One Call/One Click Center to support county, regional, and federal efforts to remove barriers to accessing COVID vaccines by connecting individuals in need of transportation with providers able to serve them across Larimer and Weld counties. As of December 2021, at least 28 residents have been transported to their vaccine appointments through the project.

#### Via Southwest Weld Pilot

A partnership between the NFRMPO and Via Mobility Services piloted a new transportation service in rural southwestern Weld County centered along the US85 corridor. Between launching on August 2nd through November 30th, Via has registered 64 new riders for the service and provided 268 trips. Due to the success of the pilot, partners have extended the pilot until March 1, 2022 and hope to secure funding to maintain service.

#### First Joint Mobility Committee

In August 2021, the NFRMPO convened the first Joint Mobility Committee meeting joining the Larimer County and Weld County Mobility Committees. This hybrid meeting served as an opportunity to provide input on the update to the Coordinated Plan, learn more about the roll out of RideNoCo, and facilitate stronger relationships and coordination among regional partners related to mobility. Due to the success of the meeting and positive feedback received from members, two Joint Mobility Meetings are on the calendar for 2022 to continue the momentum and conversations from August's meeting.

#### RideNoCo: Phase I Launch

In fall of 2021, the RideNoCo website and call center launched, completing Phase I of the One Call/One Click Center for Northern Colorado. To discover transportation options in your community, visit the RideNoCo website at <u>www.rideno.co</u> or call a Mobility Specialist at (970) 514-3636.

#### **Supporting Local Partners**

In 2021 the NFRMPO worked with CDOT and local partners to obtain two new vehicles to provide enhanced service to older adults and individuals with disabilities in Weld County:

- Envision received a new ADA Van in January 2021
- The Town of Milliken was awarded funding to purchase a new bus for the town's Senior Center and is scheduled to be delivered in 2022.

# Coming in 2022

#### Phase II of RideNoCo: Trip Discovery Tool

The NFRMPO has selected a vendor to develop the RideNoCo Trip Discovery Tool, which will create a custom trip planning tool allowing individuals to find transportation options and plan trips utilizing public transit, human services/volunteer providers, and walking and biking modes. The project will get underway in early 2022 with an anticipated launch date of Summer 2022.

#### RideNoCo Trip Scheduling Steering Committee

In Fall 2021, members representing transportation providers and human service agencies were recruited to guide the implementation of Phase III of RideNoCo which will make a trip dispatching and scheduling platform available to providers and riders. The Committee will meet throughout 2022 to collectively decide on the features and design of the scheduling software and ultimately select a vendor to proceed with.

#### Implementation of Coordinated Plan

With the 2021 update to the Coordinated Plan complete, NFRMPO staff will work with the WCMC and LCMC to begin implementation of the plan centered around the five strategy areas identified during the planning process:

- Coordination
- Education
- Collaboration
- Infrastructure/Funding
- Non-Mobility Improvements.

## **DriveNoCo**



Are you a driver looking for a new employment opportunity? Or maybe a community member eager to help a neighbor in need? DriveNoCo is your resource to find paid and volunteer driving opportunities in Northern Colorado. Serve your community by helping people get where they want and need to go! Volunteer Driving Opportunities:

<u>60+Ride</u>

<u>RAFT</u>

<u>SAINT</u>

Via Mobility Volunteers

Paid Driving Opportunities:

GET: Part Time & 3/4 Time

Heart&Soul

Transfort

<u>zTrip</u>

Via Mobility Services

# DriveNoCo Driver of the Quarter: Ann Magennis, SAINT Volunteer Driver



Congratulations to Ann, the DriveNoCo Driver of the Quarter!

Ann started at SAINT Volunteer Transportation as a "fillin" driver while she was still working in spring of 2015. Ann began driving regular shifts in 2018 after she retired at the end of 2017. Ann has been a quiet, "un-sung" hero, dependably driving her Friday shifts and filling in when needed throughout these past 4 years. She has provided almost 250 rides for SAINT this year alone and we truly appreciate all she does!

Thank you for all you do, Ann! Northern Colorado is a better place because of you.

**Transportation Providers:** DriveNoCo wants to recognize the hard work of your drivers! Please submit a nomination for the "Driver of the Quarter" to be featured in our next newsletter! Submit your nominations to hjohnson@nfrmpo.org by March 1, 2022.

## Via Pilot in Southwestern Weld County



Via Mobility Services and the NFRMPO have partnered to bring a new transportation option to rural communities in southwestern Weld County on a pilot basis at no charge to riders. This pilot service is supported by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 funds that support rural public transportation. The pilot launched in August 2021 and as of November 30th, has registered 64 new riders in the service area and provided 268 trips.

Due to the success of the pilot, service in this area has been extended until March 1, 2022. The NFRMPO and Via are currently working to secure funds to continue the service beyond March. For more details about the Via Pilot Service, please click here. To access this service, please contact a Via Mobility Specialist at (303) 444-3043.

## **Engagement Opportunities**

FTA Seeks Input to Update Key Transit Civil Rights Policies - Request for Information (RFI) closes January 3, 2022

Please reach out to mobility@nfrmpo.org if your organization would like to include mobility engagement opportunities for next quarter's newsletter. This could include public outreach efforts, surveys, announcements, etc.

# Bring RideNoCo to your Organization



With the RideNoCo website and call center launched, the NFRMPO Mobility Team would love to meet with your agency and clients to share how RideNoCo can be a resource and partner in helping people meet their mobility needs in the region.

Please reach out to RideNoCo at mobility@nfrmpo.org or (970) 514-3636 if you would like NFRMPO staff to met with your organization or provide outreach materials.

### **Get Involved with NFRMPO**



North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization

See what's happening at the NFRMPO and join us virtually at one of our upcoming events or meetings. For a comprehensive and up to date calendar of events, visit <u>https://nfrmpo.org/calendar</u>, and to download meeting materials, visit <u>https://nfrmpo.org/meeting-materials</u>. Due to the current circumstances regarding COVID-19 many meetings are being conducted virtually or a hybrid of virtual and in-person. Please check our **Events Calendar** for the most up to date information.

# **Upcoming Mobility Meetings**

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**Mobility and Access Priority Group (MAPG)** (formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition) meets the first Thursday every other month (February) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held virtually.

Joint Mobility Committee (LCMC & WCMC) will meet on March 17th and October 25th, 2022.

**Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC)** meets the third Thursday every other month (January) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held in a hybrid format.

**Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC)** meets the fourth Tuesday every other month (February) at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are currently being held in a hybrid format.

