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

November 18, 2022



FY2022 - 2023 Unified Planning Work Program As of September 30, 2022

Total FY2022 Budget \$2,161,707 Expended through 09/30/22* \$1,518,610

^{*}Expenses verses Budget variance was caused by delays in starting the Statewide Household Survey project due to COVID-19 as well as a delay in starting the contract with trip discovery software for the Ride NoCo project.

Title VI Compliance

The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) Planning Council approved the updated <u>Title VI Plan</u> on May 5, 2022. The NFRMPO has two program areas: Transportation and VanGo™. The NFRMPO did not receive any Title VI complaints during FY2022. The NFRMPO's <u>2019 Public Involvement Plan (PIP)</u> was approved by Planning Council on March 7, 2019.

1.0 MONITORING

Budget: \$168,780

ctober 1-September 30 Expenses: \$82,115

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. Timnath currently has the counters for deployment along the Poudre River Trail.
- 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 is redeveloping the Bike/Ped Counter Program and will be working with NoCo Bike & Ped.
- NFRMPO staff convened two Safety Data Working Group meetings with staff from local agencies to discuss crash data collection and analysis.
- NFRMPO Staff completed geocoding of traffic crashes for 2020. Analysis is in progress to support safety planning and RTP efforts.

1.2 **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

- NFRMPO staff developed the Bike & Ped Safety Reporter tool in partnership with local agency staff and the Safety Data Working Group.
- NFRMPO Staff have attended and participated the Statewide Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC) and the Roadway Data Improvement Program (RDIP) workshops hosted by CDOT.
- A construction location map was developed and is hosted on the NFRMPO website at https://nfrmpo.org/newsletter/construction/.

1.3 LOCAL PLAN REVIEWS

 Staff completed four development reviews for the Town of 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 completed a periodic CMP Report and provided it to the Planning Council at their June 2, 2022 meeting.
- NFRMPO staff worked with the TAC to update Regionally Significant Corridors (RSCs) for the 2050 RTP. Planning Council approved the updated RSCs on July 7, 2022.

1.5 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND REPORT

- The five Safety Performance Targets for 2018-2022, supporting the State's targets, were set, and adopted by Planning Council on February 3, 2022.
- The two joint PM3: CMAQ Traffic Congestion performance measures, which were developed in conjunction with CDOT staff, were adopted by Planning Council on June 2, 2022.
- NFRMPO staff participated in discussions with CDOT staff on the establishment of PM1, PM2, and PM3 targets for the second performance period and have begun work on establishing targets for the NFRMPO.

2.0 PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Budget: \$1,070,560

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$717,358

2.1 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) MANAGEMENT

- The Safety Targets for 2018-2022 were adopted by Planning Council on February 3, 2022.
 NFRMPO staff is doing research into updating the regional performance measures, which will be discussed and approved by TAC and Planning Council and will complement the federally required performance measures.
- NFRMPO staff participated in conversations with CDOT to update the NFRMPO's 10-Year Pipeline of Projects to ensure the list continues to reflect the region's priorities and remains a living document.
- NFRMPO staff presented at three Transportation Advisory Boards (TAB) meetings, the Community Advisory Committee, and to the Technical Advisory Committee, and scheduled tables at events throughout the summer to do RTP outreach.
- NFRMPO staff has prepared an outline for the 2050 RTP to direct staff time and prioritize sections.
- NFRMPO staff has created fact sheets, an online video recording of a presentation, and a website for the 2050 RTP.
- NFRMPO TAC and Planning Council discussed and adopted the Regionally Significant Corridors, Regional Transit Corridors, and Regional Active Transportation Corridors at their July 7, 2022 meeting.

2.2 LAND USE MODELMANAGEMENT

- NFRMPO staff used the Land Use Allocation Model (LUAM) to complete data requests for member agencies.
- NFRMPO staff participated in the Socioeconomic Modeling Peer MPO webinar series to learn more about land use modeling.
- NFRMPO staff collected development data from local communities to update the LUAM.
- NFRMPO staff held a Model Steering Committee meeting with local communities, explaining the purpose and process of the LUAM.
- NFRMPO staff continues to work with UrbanSim, the consultant, to develop the land use model which will inform the Regional Travel Demand Model.

2.3 TRANSPORTATION MODEL MANAGEMENT

- NFRMPO staff used the Regional Travel Demand Model (RTDM) to complete data requests for member agencies.
- NFRMPO staff, in conjunction with CDOT and APCD, ran GHG analysis to meet the GHG reductions required under the GHG rule.

- Contract executed with consultant, Cambridge Systematics, in October 2021.
- NFRMPO staff collected updated traffic counts for 2018-2021.
- NFRMPO staff met regularly with model consultant.
- The kickoff meeting of the Model Steering Team was held on February 18, 2022, and an additional meeting was held in June 2022.

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.
- NFRMPO staff worked with NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative to conduct walk audits throughout the region.

2.5 STATEWIDE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

 While originally anticipated to be started in FY2020, this Task will be a FY2023 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. A pilot will kick-off is late 2022 into early 2023.

2.6 NORTH FRONT RANGE PREMIUM TRANSIT ANALYSIS

- The consultants distributed a survey to the general public open from mid-October to early November 2021, asking people to identify their priority transit corridors.
- The consultants analyzed the 17 corridors from the 2045 Regional Transit Element and what was gathered through the outreach process. Three corridors were carried forward for deeper analysis.
- The Guidance Committee, made up of technical staff from around the region, met four times to discuss outreach, potential corridors, and priorities in analysis.
- The Governance and Finance Policy Advisory Committee met three times to discuss possible funding sources and governance options. NFRMPO staff and the consultants will follow up with meetings to discuss potential concerns.
- The draft recommendations for the North Front Range Premium Transit Analysis were developed and released to partners at the end of September, 2022. Planning Council and TAC will discuss the recommendations in October 2022 and adopt in November 2022.

2.7 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.
- The NFRMPO Articles of Association were updated and readopted on September 1, 2022.
- 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.

2.8 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

- The NFRMPO developed the FY2023 Tasks and Budget for the FY2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which was approved at the May 5, 2022 Planning Council meeting.
- Staff developed and Planning Council approved one Amendment to the *FY2022-2023 UPWP*.
- NFRMPO staff completed work on the recommendations from the quadrennial MPO Federal Certification Review, conducted in Spring 2018.
- NFRMPO staff worked to prepare for and participated in the 2022 quadrennial review site visit on April 6, 2022.
- NFRMPO staff began work on the recommendations from the 2022 quadrennial MPO Federal Certification Review and created a spreadsheet to track progress.

3.0 PLANNING SERVICES

Budget: \$378,697

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$207,743

3.1 SPECIAL PARTICIPATION

- Staff attended CDOT's Colorado Model User Group (COMUG) meetings.
- Staff attended Colorado MPO GIS meetings (led by DRCOG).
- Staff attended the Data Consortium Group meetings (led by DRCOG).
- Staff attended Statewide MPO (SWMPO) meetings.
- Staff attended Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) meetings.
- Staff participated in the monthly CDOT Region 4 meetings.
- Staff attended North Area Transit Alliance (NATA) 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 Engage Fort Collins (EnFoCo) meetings.
- Staff participated in CDOT's Freight Advisory Council meetings.
- Staff attended Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) meetings.
- Staff attended CDOT's GHG Advisory Group meetings.
- Staff participated on CDOT's GHG Mitigation Group.
- Staff participated on the State Interagency Consultation Team (IACT).
- Staff participated on the AMPO Policy Committee as a voting member.
- Staff attended the AMPO Active Transportation Working Group meetings.
- Staff attended the AMPO Public Involvement Working Group meetings.
- Staff attended the Larimer County Data Working group.
- Staff attended the Rocky Mountain Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) meetings.
- Staff attended the APA Colorado Healthy Communities Committee.
- Staff participated in the Larimer County Built Environment Leadership Team meetings.
- Staff attended the Peer MPO Socioeconomic Modeling Webinar series.
- Staff attended North I-25 Coalition meetings.
- Staff attended US34 Coalition meetings.
- Staff participated on the Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission.
- Staff attended Front Range Passenger Rail District Board meetings.
- Staff supported Northern Colorado (NoCo) Bicycle & Pedestrian Collaborative meetings.

3.2 OUTREACH/COMMUNICATIONS

- The agency continued to develop the NFRMPO's Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn presence.
- 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 NFRMPO updated the agency website as needed. The NFRMPO website (https://nfrmpo.org) provides additional information not available on the NFRMPO Blog or Twitter sites, such as current and archived projects, information about MPO staff, TAC and Planning Council members, and meeting materials and a calendar for upcoming meetings.
- 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.
- NFRMPO staff boosted 5 Facebook posts between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 to help improve the number of people reached by NFRMPO social media posts. The NFRMPO also published 7 blog posts and four newsletters, which were distributed across several NFRMPO social media platforms, and promoted various relevant posts from local agencies and other planning partners.
- The @nfrmpo Instagram was used to show NFRMPO activities and to spread awareness of different events happening in the region.
- NFRMPO Planning Staff attended 14 outreach events over the summer in 11 communities throughout the region.
- NFRMPO staff drafted and released for public comment the 2022 Public Involvement Plan (PIP).
- The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) convened 11 meetings discussing and providing feedback on planning activities such as RTP progress, Call for Projects, outreach materials and events.

3.3 AIR QUALITY PLANNING AND CONFORMITY

- NFRMPO staff participated in monthly ICG meetings.
- NFRMPO staff reviewed proposed motor vehicle emissions budgets for the Severe Ozone SIP.
- NFRMPO staff prepared a draft conformity determination for the FY2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which was 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 collected data on GHG strategies from member agencies to prepare for the Update to the 2045 RTP, which was adopted in September 2022 to meet the requirements of SB260 and the State's GHG Planning Standard.
- NFRMPO staff completed the GHG Transportation Report for the 2045 RTP 2022 Update and provided it to CDOT and CDPHE staff for their review on August 16, 2022. The GHG Transportation Report was released for public comment August 19 through September 17, 2022. Three public comments were received and incorporated as applicable.
- The Conformity Determination for the 2045 RTP 2022 Update was released for public comment on August 27, 2022 through September 25, 2022. No public comments were received.
- On September 15, 2022 the Transportation Commission found the NFRMPO's GHG Transportation Report to be incompliance with the GHG Planning Standard.

4.0 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Budget: \$512,902

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$427,404

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 six Amendments and 12 Modifications to the FY2022-2025 TIP and processed two amendments and two modifications to the FY2023-2026 TIP.
- The <u>Annual List of Federally Obligated Projects</u> was completed and posted on the NFRMPO website in December 2021.
- The FY2023-2026 TIP was adopted by Planning Council on May 5, 2022 and became effective upon incorporation into the CDOT STIP on August 19, 2022.

4.3 FEDERAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT

- The FY2021 TIP Project Delay Review found one project or project components with first time delays, and three projects with second delays. TAC provided one-year extensions to the project with a first delay. Planning Council provided second one-year extensions to two projects with second delays and removed the federal funding from one project with a second delay.
- The NFRMPO held the 2021 Call for Projects to award FY2024-2025 CMAQ, STBG, and TA funding. The Call was open from October 8 to December 10, 2021 and staff received a total of 20 applications. Planning Council awarded funding to projects at their meeting on March 3, 2022 fully funding ten projects, partially funding two projects, and waitlisting six projects (two projects were withdrawn by project sponsors)
- The NFRMPO held the 2022 Multimodal Transportation and Mitigations Options Fund (MMOF) Call for Projects to award FY2022 and FY2023 federal and state funding. The Call was open from May 6 to June 3, 2022 and staff received 12 applications. Planning Council approved four set-aside projects and awarded funding to projects at their meeting on August 4, 2022: five projects received full funding, four projects received partially funding, and three projects were unfunded.

4.4 MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

• The *Online Resource Guide* was replaced by the dedicated *RideNoCo* website in September 2021, which received 1,963 visits between October 2021 and September 2022 from at least 1,335 unique users.

- The design of the *Rider's Guide* was updated in 2021 to reflect the *RideNoCo* brand and were 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. 3,780 *Rider's Guides* were distributed between October 2021 and September 2022.
- The Mobility and Access Priority Group (MAPG), formerly the Senior Transportation Coalition, has met five times between October 2021 and September 2022. The group recently updated its Five-Year Plan to expand its focus beyond "traditional" human services transportation to look at broader mobility options and themes for older adults and individuals with disabilities such as e-bikes/e-scooters, land use, and the intersection between healthcare and transportation. In the spirit of this expanded focus, MAPG members conducted a Walk Audit in Midtown Fort Collins in June 2022.
- The Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) met five times between October 2021 and September 2022, with an average of 17 attendees. At the January 2022 LCMC meeting, two co-chairs were elected to lead meetings and represent Larimer County on the Regional Mobility Executive Committee.
- The Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC) met six times between October 2021 and September 2022, with an average of 15 attendees. At the February 2022 WCMC, two cochairs were elected to lead meetings and represent Weld County on the Regional Mobility Executive Committee.
- Following the success of the August 2021 Joint Mobility Meeting, the Larimer County and Weld County Mobility Committees met jointly in a hybrid meeting in March 2022 in the first of two Joint meetings planned for 2022. 25 people attended the meeting either virtually or in-person.
- RideNoCo Quarterly newsletters were published in December 2021, March 2022, June 2022, and September 2022.
- The NFRMPO continues to partner with the 60+ Ride Volunteer Driver Program in Weld County. Between October 2021 and September 2022, the program provided approximately 8,992 trips to older adults.
- The NFRMPO continues to partner with Adeo in Weld County. Between October 2021 and September 2022, the program provided approximately 338 trips to clients in their NFRMPO-assisted van.
- NFRMPO staff assisted Envision with the purchase of an ADA-accessible van through CDOT's Consolidated Capital Call for Projects after 60+ Ride decided not to proceed with procurement of the vehicle. This included phone calls and discussions with the distributor and CDOT consultant. The van was delivered in January 2021. Between October 2021 and September 2022, the vehicle provided approximately 930 trips to clients. Beginning in 2022, the NFRMPO expanded its support for Envision's transportation operations through the NFRMPO's Urban 5310 grant, supporting 8,146 trips between January and September 2022.
- 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. Partners successfully worked to acquire state MMOF funding to expand the service area and fund it over a 2-year period, which is scheduled to begin in January 2023. The project received the CASTA Outstanding Coordination Initiative of the Year award at the association's Fall 2021 Conference.

- The NFRMPO partnered with the North 40 Mountain Alliance on an application to CDOT's Revitalizing Main Streets program to support the startup of a transportation service between the rural mountainous Red Feather Lakes community and Fort Collins. While the project did not receive funding, the two groups will continue to work together to acquire funding to launch the needed service.
- NFRMPO staff applied for and received funding through the Consolidated Capital Call for Projects for the trip discovery software. The RFP for the trip discovery software was published in September 2021 with a vendor selected in November 2021. The project is currently underway with an expected completion date of Fall 2022.

4.5 ONE CALL/ONE CLICK CENTER (RIDENOCO)

- The NFRMPO hired a Mobility Coordinator who began in May 2021. In accordance with the Larimer County Senior Transportation Implementation Plan, the Mobility Program has been branded *RideNoCo* and a phase one website has been completed. Subsequent phases will build trip discovery and trip dispatching tools into the program.
- Following the framework laid out in the Larimer County Senior Transportation Implementation Plan, the NFRMPO activated key components of the One Call/One Click Center to assist the public in accessing COVID vaccinations in Larimer and Weld County. A centralized request system has resulted in 35 requests for transportation and at least 26 people connected to their vaccine appointments. The average age of the patient has been 56.
- The RideNoCo Call Center and website officially launched in August and September 2021, respectively and has received 196 calls or emails for transportation assistance since soft launching in February 2021.
- 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 that met 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. Steering Committee members arrived at the decision that adopting Transactional Data Specifications (TDS) within existing scheduling software platforms currently in use by human service providers was the best way to meet *RideNoCo's* and the region's coordination goals. The NFRMPO is currently in the process of procuring the necessary engineering services and software to complete the Trip Scheduling portion of the roll out of *RideNoCo*.

5.0 PLAN ADMINISTRATION

Budget: \$30,767

October 1-September 30 Expenses: \$83,990

5.1 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Q1 2022 Unaudited Financial Statements were approved by Council in August and Q2 2022 Unaudited Financial Statements were approved by Council in September.
- 2021 Audit was approved by Council in July 2022.
- 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 FY2023 CPG contract was approved September 2021.
- All contracts with CDOT are in place.
- An indirect cost allocation plan will be approved for FFY2022 by CDOT in October 2022. The NFRMPO will submit its plan for FFY2023 by June 30, 2023.

5.2 GRANTREPORTING AND MANAGEMENT

- All monthly NTD reports have been filed. The Annual NTD report was submitted in April 2022.
- Grants are reviewed monthly with management

5.3 HUMAN RESOURCES/IT

Advertisements:

- The MPO hired a new Transportation Planner I at the beginning of January 2022.
- The MPO hired an accounting firm in February 2022.
- The MPO hired an Accountant in August 2022.

Benefits Education and Management:

- Open enrollment for all eligible employees starts October 14, 2022, at 5:00 pm.
- 2022 Conflict of Interest forms were signed and filed for all employees.
- 2022 Conflict of Interest forms were disseminated to new Council members and/or their alternates as they came into the Council. Following the April 2022 elections, Conflict of Interest forms were collected for all members and alternates and filed.

CIRSA Audit Paperwork:

Trainings on Enhancing Work Relationships, Diversity in the Workplace, Cybersecurity
Threats to Public Entities and Preventing Accidents in the Workplace, Back Injuries,
Preventing Slips, Trips, and Falls, Workplace Ergonomics, and Sexual Harassment in the
Workplace were provided to all staff members in compliance with the CIRSA audit

process.

- Two new employees were provided all New Employee trainings in compliance with CIRSA.
- All trainings are documented on the CIRSA Group Report for All NFRMPO Staff.

<u>IT:</u>

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