

**MEETING MINUTES of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

**North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council
Windsor Recreation Center - Pine Room
250 North 11th Street
Windsor, CO**

**May 20, 2015
1:07– 4:18 p.m.**

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dawn Anderson – Evans
Amanda Brimmer – RAQC
Stephanie Brothers – Berthoud
Eric Bracke, Chair – Greeley
Marissa Gaughan – CDOT Alternate
Seth Hyberger – Milliken
Will Jones – GET
David Klockeman – Loveland
Janet Lundquist – Weld County
Suzette Mallette, Vice-Chair – Larimer County
Kurt Ravenschlag – Transfort
Martina Wilkinson – Fort Collins

NFRMPO STAFF:

Terri Blackmore
Aaron Buckley
Alex Gordon
Angela Horn
Josh Johnson
Becky Karasko

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gary Carsten – Eaton
Aaron Bustow – FHWA
Jim DiLeo – CDPHE
John Franklin – Johnstown
Eric Fuhrman – Timnath
John Holdren – Severance
Jessica McKeown – LaSalle
Gary Thomas – SAINT
Dennis Wagner – Windsor

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andre Compton, FHWA
Jeffrey Boring, NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative
Crystal Hedberg, NFRMPO
Merideth Kimsey, NFRMPO
Katrina Klobberdanz, CDOT
Steve Markovetz, CDOT
Jeff Purdy, FHWA
Jake Schuch, CDOT
Kathy Seelhoff, CDOT

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Bracke called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 15, 2015 TAC MINUTES:

Mallette made a motion to approve the April 15, 2015 TAC minutes. Hyberger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

There were no consent items this month.

ACTION ITEMS:

2040 Regional Transit Element Chapters 3-7 and Appendices B-C

Karasko

Karasko discussed updates to Chapters 3-7 of the 2040 Regional Transit Element (RTE). Jones stated he would like to see the completed document before taking action, Ravenschlag supported this. Blackmore stated MPO staff is requesting preliminary approval of individual chapters and TAC will have the chance to approve the complete document. Wilkinson motioned to move forward with continued work on Chapters 3-7 and Appendices B & C with the general approach taken at the meeting. Mallette seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

OUTSIDE PARTNERS REPORTS (verbal):

NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative – Boring reported the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative is continuing to plan for their conference in November. He also presented *Ride* magazine which featured local staff members discussing the collaboration on bicycle and pedestrian issues in the region and their work with TAC on the FY2016-2019 Call for Projects.

Regional Transit Items – Jones stated GET ridership has increased 313 percent among those eligible for the Ride Free with ID program. The program provided 47,000 rides during the 2014-2015 school year. The program will continue through the summer and will begin a marketing program.

Ravenschlag reported Fort Collins is studying West Elizabeth Street as the city's next enhanced travel corridor. Bracke requested an update about the Harmony Corridor study. Ravenschlag reported Transfort completed the study, but is awaiting funding for implementation. Bracke requested Transfort make a presentation to TAC about the West Elizabeth Street Enhanced Travel Corridor study at a future meeting.

Senior Transportation – There was no update.

PRESENTATIONS:

Super Circular Presentation

Compton/Markovetz

Compton and Markovetz presented information about the new federal Super Circular, effective December 26, 2014. The Super Circular impacts all projects funded with federal grants by requiring end dates for each phase of a project. Mallette asked about project extensions. Compton responded extensions may be granted under certain circumstances. Markovetz stated CDOT will work with local agencies 90 days to six months ahead of the end date to ensure projects can be completed before the target end date. After the end date, local agencies have 90 days to submit all financial, performance, and other reports as required by the terms and conditions of the federal award.

Poudre River Trail Update

Boring

Boring presented an update on trail construction and issues related to the Poudre River Trail. With the exception of a missing a connection between SH 392 and Harmony Road, the trail is complete through Larimer and Weld counties. Boring discussed possible ways to cross I-25 to connect the two trail segments. Klockeman asked if the trail planners are involved in the I-25 project coordination meetings, which are currently designing the segment of highway.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2040 Regional Transit Element Recommendation

Karasko

Karasko presented the 2040 RTE Recommendation. Karasko stated NFRMPO staff and the three regional transit agencies met on April 30, 2015 to discuss the 2040 RTE Recommendation. She reported the recommendation will focus on connections between cities rather than on specific corridors. Doing so allows for further study of connections without locking in a specific route.

Ravenschlag stated he is uncomfortable with the specificity of the MAX recommendations. Jones suggested changing the recommendation to “transit investment in the US 287 Corridor” rather than listing MAX and FLEX separately. Blackmore stated Planning Council did not have any issues with the presented recommendations.

Lundquist suggested changing “actions” to “recommendations” or “possible actions”. Wilkinson suggested “potential improvements”. TAC requested the proposed recommendation be presented to Planning Council at their June meeting, prior to TAC making a final recommendation on the 2040 RTE. Blackmore stated MPO staff will present at the next Planning Council meeting and the transit agencies agreed to be in attendance to answer questions.

2040 Regional Transportation Plan Chapter 4 and 7

Karasko/Horn

Karasko presented the updates to Chapters 4 and 7 of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan. Mallette asked for clarification whether Figure 7-1 includes the area outside of the MPO boundary. Horn stated she will provide clarification in the chapter. Mallette asked if there were any congested segments for the travel time index (TTI) chart. Blackmore stated TTI is calculated using free flow speed, but will be based on speed limits in the future. Horn noted Greenhouse Gas Emissions used a base year of 2015 because it was the first input year the Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) had in the emissions model.

Klockeman stated Tables 4-4, 4-6, and 4-8 do not have explanations for the column headers and totals do not add correctly. Horn stated she will update the tables. Klockeman asked if Volume/Capacity (V/C) would also be changed to TTI. Karasko informed TAC all references to V/C will be changed to TTI. Klockeman asked why the section refers to a no-build option. Blackmore responded that a no-build option is required. Horn stated she will include the build option for comparison.

Bracke asked how current travel trends compare to projected trip rates in 2040. Using current trip rates to project future travel trends will not match future rates because travel patterns are changing. He stated there are studies being completed to understand travel and commuting trends, including non-motorized transportation. Horn asked if TAC would like a paragraph added about possible future studies and shifts, which can be discussed in the next plan. Blackmore stated rates in the model cannot be updated until a new travel survey is completed. Mallette suggested discussion should be part of scenario planning for the next plan. Blackmore stated there should be a chapter incorporating municipal efforts and plans in the next RTP.

Purdy stated performance measures should change according to MAP-21 requirements, which are scheduled to be released by FHWA in FY 2016. There will be a shift from fatal crashes and crashes involving injury to fatalities and injuries. Pavement and bridge conditions on NHS routes will also need to be tracked. The 2040 RTP will not fall under these rules, but these will be required for the next plan.

2040 Regional Transportation Plan Chapter 10

Karasko/Johnson

Karasko and Johnson presented the updates to Chapter 10 of the 2040 RTP. Klockeman stated Figures 10-1 and 10-2 do not match Table 10-1 regarding local funds. Blackmore stated CDOT counts local funds as part of their total budget, while the MPO separates local and State funding. Wilkinson suggested combining the Local and State/Federal columns in Table 10-1. Johnson stated the columns were separated to show the different funding sources. Blackmore added the columns were separated to ensure there is enough local funding to match federal and State funding. Mallette recommended changing the table to separate State/Federal funds and Local funds. Purdy suggested using annual funding and to clarify the funding is over 25 years. Purdy stated the MPO region can assume a one percent increase in funding each year. Johnson specified staff used deflated funding, but can show inflated funds if needed. Blackmore stated the MPO wanted to ensure there is enough to cover operations, maintenance, and local match.

Blackmore explained the assumptions used to calculate local funding. MPO staff assumed existing sales taxes would be renewed. Bracke stated he expected the existing Greeley sales tax to be extended and expanded, while Fort Collins' Building on Basics was recently renewed and a greater percentage assigned to Transfort. Mallette asked if MPO staff assumed all or a percentage of the sales taxes would be used in calculating general funding. Johnson stated he used existing community comprehensive and transportation plans to determine the funding sources in Chapter 10. Blackmore stated a few private fees such as impact fees were also included in the calculations.

Purdy asked how the MPO accounts for CDOT On-System funding as CDOT controls some federal funding programs. Johnson stated CDOT On-System funding was not included, but that he will look at project distribution and talk to Karen Schneiders.

Blackmore and Johnson asked TAC if the categories used in Figure 10-3 and Table 10-2 make sense. Bracke asked if ITS falls under operations or congestion management. Purdy replied ITS falls under congestion management. Wilkinson asked how funding was determined for each category. Johnson stated the MPO used the previous two TIP cycles to determine future trends.

Mallette asked for clarification about the implications of Tables 10-1 and 10-2. She asked if projects can use funding outside the tables. Purdy responded they funding amounts listed in the tables are estimates and do not restrict future funding since programs may be updated between now and the out-year of this plan.

Mallette stated CDOT previously referred to their program distribution as resource allocation, which could make Figure 10-3 confusing moving forward. Klockeman requested charts be clarified when the amounts are in thousands.

Johnson stated he received feedback to remove the Project Prioritization section. Mallette stated the previous plan included a separate Call for Projects, making that section required.

TAC requested Chapter 10 be presented to the Planning Council at their June meeting prior to the full 2040 RTP being presented as a Discussion item in August.

REPORTS:

Public Outreach Updates

Gordon provided a calendar of summer outreach events for the 2040 RTP which MPO staff will attend. He requested event suggestions for Larimer County, Timnath, and Windsor. Bracke suggested the summer concert series in Windsor. The MPO will also be participating in the Ozone Aware program this summer and will be placing a banner throughout the region.

TIP Administrative Modification Updates

Johnson reported no TIP modifications were received for May. He reported modifications are due by June 1, 2015 for CDOT's end of fiscal year budget purposes.

Roundtable

Johnson reported he sent emails to TAC members requesting images for use in the 2040 RTP.

Bracke asked about the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment for the 65th Avenue project in Greeley. Schuch stated he will look into the project. Seelhoff stated CDOT projects are not locked until June.

Lundquist provided an update about the Transportation Summit in Weld County on June 15, 2015. Booths are available for \$100 each. Governor Hickenlooper will be sending Shailen Bhatt as his representative to attend the event.

Mallette requested an update regarding MAP-21 reauthorization. Purdy reported the House passed a two-month extension through the end of July based on estimates the Highway Trust Fund will stay solvent. He stated it is anticipated Congress will create a plan before then.

Seelhoff reported the STIP will be going to the Colorado Transportation Commission for approval on May 21, 2015. She added June 24, 2015 is the last day for 2015 STIP amendments.

Brimmer reported RAQC will begin strategy evaluations for the SIP through the formation of three subcommittees, which will meet at the RAQC offices beginning next week.

MEETING WRAP-UP:

Final Public Comment - There was no final public comment.

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions –

Karasko reported there will be a presentation about the CDOT Navigate Tool and the CMP at the June TAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by:

Alex Gordon, NFRMPO Staff

A Work Session will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2015. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at the Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room.