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**MPO Planning Council**

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- Kevin Ross- Vice Chair  
Town of Eaton
- Mayor Pro-Tem Jan Dowker  
Town of Berthoud
- Mayor John Morris  
City of Evans
- Town of Garden City
- Mayor Tom Norton  
City of Greeley
- Troy Mellon  
Town of Johnstown
- Commissioner Tom Donnelly  
Larimer County
- Paula Cochran  
Town of LaSalle
- Joan Shaffer  
City of Loveland
- Jordan Jemiola  
Town of Milliken
- Mayor Don Brookshire  
Town of Severance
- Paul Steinway  
Town of Timnath
- Commissioner Sean Conway- Past  
Chair  
Weld County
- Mayor John Vazquez  
Town of Windsor

Chris Colclasure  
 CDPHE- Air Pollution Control  
 Division  
 Kathy Gilliland  
 Transportation Commission

**MPO Staff**

- Terri Blackmore  
Executive Director
- Becky Karasko  
Regional Transportation Planning  
Director
- Rena Steffen  
Administrative Director
- Crystal Hedberg  
Finance and Operations Manager

**Next Council Meeting**  
**May 5, 2016**  
**Loveland Police Institute**  
**810 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Loveland, CO**

**NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION &  
 AIR QUALITY PLANNING COUNCIL  
 MEETING AGENDA**

**April 7, 2016**  
**LaSalle Town Hall**  
**128 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**  
**LaSalle, CO**

**Council Dinner 5:30 p.m.**  
 MPO Council Meeting – 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*2-Minute Public Comment (accepted on items not on the Agenda)*

*Anyone in the audience will be given time to speak to any item on the Consent Agenda. Please ask for that item to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Items pulled will be heard at the beginning of the Regular Agenda. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak to the item before the Council acts upon it.*

1. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes-Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality/MPO-March 3, 2016 (Pg.7)

**Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda**

**Estimated Time**

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- |  |                  |       |
|--|------------------|-------|
| 3. Air Pollution Control Division Report (Pg.13) | (Written Report) |       |
| 4. Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) (Pg.36)   | Gerry Horak      | 5 min |

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda**

**Estimated Time**

**REPORTS:**

- |                                      |                  |       |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| 5. Executive Director Report (Pg.38) | Terri Blackmore  | 5 min |
| 6. Report of the Chair               | Gerry Horak      | 5 min |
| 7. TAC                               | (Written Report) |       |

**DISCUSSION:**

- |                               |             |        |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| 8. Central 70 Funding Package | Sean Conway | 30 min |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------|

**PRESENTATION:**

- |                              |                      |        |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| 9. FASTLANE and TIGER Grants | Blackmore/Stockinger | 30 min |
| 10. US 34 PEL Presentation   | Olson                | 20 min |

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- |   |              |        |
|---|--------------|--------|
| 11. US 34 PEL Study (Pg.64)             | Conway/Olson | 10 min |
| 12. MPO Support of FASTLANE/TIGER Grant | Gerry Horak  | 10 min |
| 13. MPO Central 70 Letter               | Gerry Horak  | 10 min |

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- |                                  |                 |        |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Transportation Commission Report | Kathy Gilliland | 15 min |
| CDOT Region 4 Report             | Johnny Olson    |        |
| North I-25 Coalition             | Joan Shaffer    |        |
| Host Council Member Report       | Paula Cochran   |        |
| STAC                             | Conway/Karasko  |        |
| Other Council Members Reports    | Council Members |        |

**MEETING WRAP-UP:**

- |                                       |  |       |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------|
| Final Public Comment (2 minutes each) |  | 5 min |
| Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions |  |       |



## **MPO MEETING PROCEDURAL INFORMATION**

1. The order of the agenda will be maintained unless changed by the MPO Planning Council Chair (MPO Chair).
2. "Public Comment" is a time for citizens to address the Planning Council on matters that are not specifically on the agenda. Each citizen shall be limited to a total of two (2) minutes time for public comment, or at the discretion of the MPO Chair.
3. Before addressing the Planning Council, each individual must be recognized by the MPO Chair, come and stand before the Council and state their name and address for the record. (All proceedings are taped.)
4. For each Action item on the agenda, the order of business is as follows:
  - MPO Chair introduces the item; asks if formal presentation will be made by staff
  - Staff presentation (optional)
  - MPO Chair requests citizen comment on the item (two minute limit for each citizen)
  - Planning Council questions of staff on the item
  - Planning Council motion on the item
  - Planning Council discussion
  - Final Planning Council comments
  - Planning Council vote on the item
5. Public input on agenda items should be kept as brief as possible, and each citizen shall be limited to two (2) minutes time on each agenda item, subject to time constraints and the discretion of the MPO Chair.
6. During any discussion or presentation, no person may disturb the assembly by interrupting or by any action such as applause or comments. Any side conversations should be moved outside the meeting room. Courtesy shall be given to all speakers.
7. All remarks during the meeting should be germane to the immediate subject.

## GLOSSARY

1310	State funds for surface transportation
5303 & 5304	FTA program funding for multimodal transportation planning (jointly administered with FHWA) in metropolitan areas and States
5307	FTA program funding for public transportation in Urbanized Areas (i.e. with populations >50,000)
5309	FTA program funding for capital investments
5310	FTA program funding for enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities
5311	FTA program funding for rural and small Urban Areas (Non-Urbanized Areas)
5316 (see 5307 or 5311)	FTA program funding for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC; a pre-MAP-21 program)
5317 (see 5310)	FTA program funding for “New Freedom” (a pre-MAP-21 program)
5326	FTA program funding to define “state of good repair” and set standards for measuring the condition of capital assets
5337	FTA program funding to maintain public transportation in a state of good repair
5339	FTA program funding for buses and bus facilities
3C	Continuing, Comprehensive, and Cooperative
7th Pot	CDOT’s Strategic Investment Program and projects—originally using S.B. 97-01 funds
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials
ACP	Access Control Plan
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
ADT	Average Daily Traffic (also see AWD)
AIS	Agenda Item Summary
AMPO	Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
APCD	Air Pollution Control Division (of Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment)
AQC	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program funds (also CMAQ)
AQCC	Air Quality Control Commission (of Colorado)
AQTC	Air Quality Technical Committee
AWD	Average Weekday Traffic (also see ADT)
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (federal)
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (a FHWA funding program)
CMP	Congestion Management Process
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CPG	Consolidated Planning Grant (combination of FHWA & FTA planning funds)
DOT	(United States) Department of Transportation

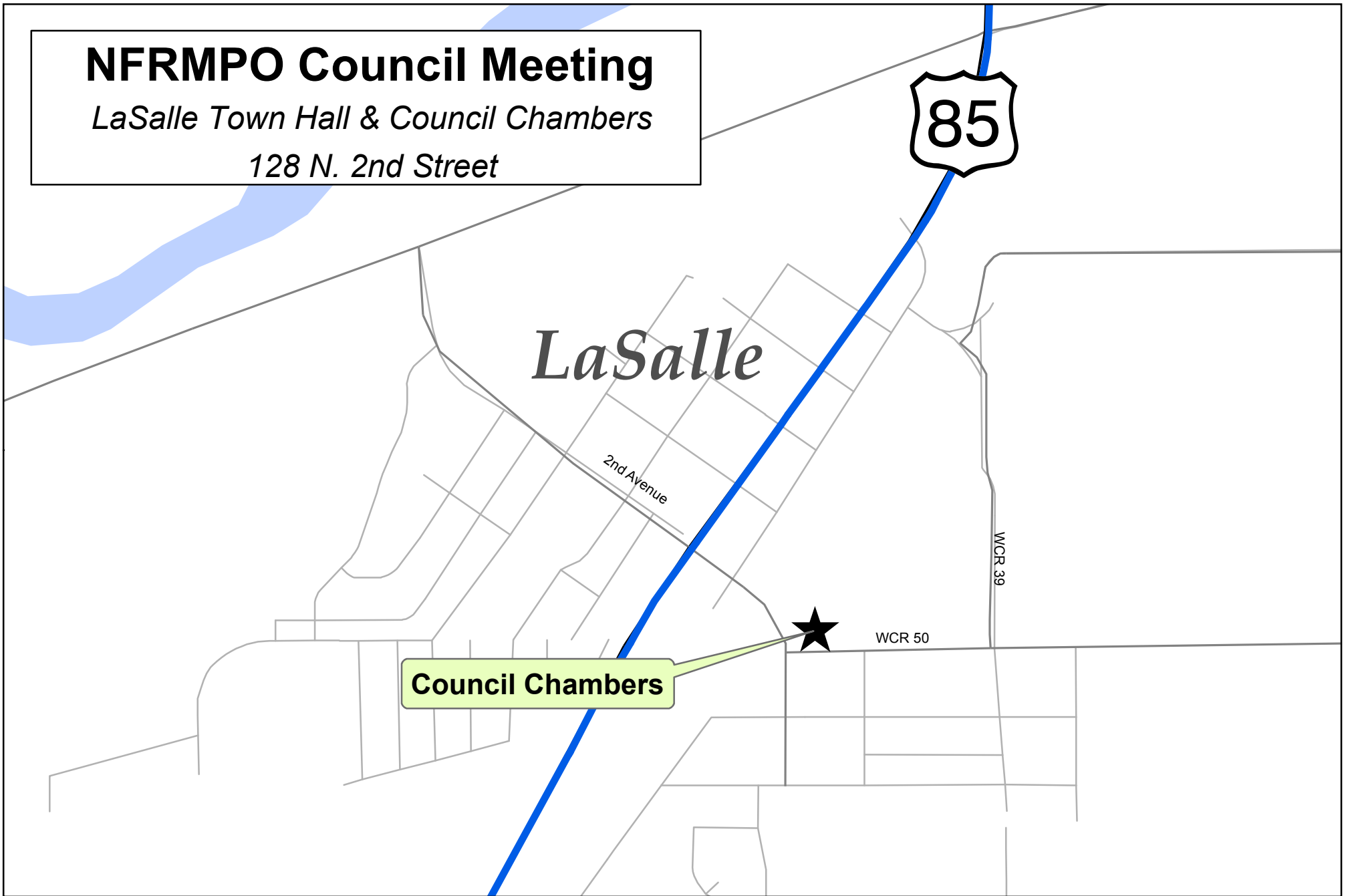
DRCOG	Denver Regional Council of Governments
DTD	CDOT Division of Transportation Development
DTR	CDOT Division of Transit & Rail
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FASTER	Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery (Colorado's S.B. 09-108)
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FY	Fiscal Year (October - September for federal funds; July to June for state funds)
FFY	Federal Fiscal Year
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HPTE	High-Performance Transportation Enterprise (Colorado)
HTF	Highway Trust Fund (the primary federal funding source for surface transportation)
HUTF	Highway Users Tax Fund (the State's primary funding source for highways)
I&M or I/M	Inspection and Maintenance program (checking emissions of pollutants from vehicles)
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems
LRP or LRTP	Long Range Plan or Long Range Transportation Plan
MAP-21	Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (2012 federal transportation legislation)
MDT	Model Development Team
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MVEB	Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget
NAA	Non-Attainment Area (for certain air pollutants)
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFRT & AQPC	North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council (also NFRMPO)
NFRMPO	North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (also NFRT & AQPC)
NHS	National Highway System
NOx	Nitrogen Oxide
OBD	On-Board Diagnostics (of a vehicle's engine efficiency and exhaust)
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone
PL	Planning (funds)
PPP (also P3)	Public Private Partnership

R4 or R-4	Region 4 of the Colorado Department of Transportation
RAQC	Regional Air Quality Council
RPP	Regional Priority Program (a funding program of the Transportation Commission)
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RTP ( <i>see TAP</i> )	Recreational Trails Funds - FHWA Environment funds
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Replaced by MAP-21)
SH	State Highway
SIP	State Implementation Plan (air quality)
SOV	Single Occupant Vehicle
SPR	State Planning and Research (funds)
SRP	State Rail Plan
SRTS ( <i>see TAP</i> )	Safe Routes to School (a pre-MAP-21 FHWA funding program)
STAC	State Transportation Advisory Committee
STE ( <i>see TAP</i> )	Surface Transportation Program funds (FHWA) for Transportation Enhancement Activities (a pre-MAP-21 FHWA funding program)
STIP	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
STU	Surface Transportation Metro (a FHWA funding program that is a subset of STP)
STP	Surface Transportation Program (a FHWA funding program)
STP-Metro	Surface Transportation Metro (a FHWA funding program that is a subset of STP)
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee (of the NFRMPO)
TAP	Transportation Alternatives Program (a FHWA funding program)
TAZ	Transportation Analysis Zone (used in travel demand forecasting)
TC	Transportation Commission of Colorado
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TE	Surface Transportation Program funds for Transportation Enhancement Activities (a pre-MAP-21 FHWA funding program; now see TAP)
TEA-21	Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (replaced by MAP-21)
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
Title VI	Refers to the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting discrimination in connection with programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance
TMA	Transportation Management Area (federally-designated place >200,000 population)
TOD	Transit Oriented Development
TPR	Transportation Planning Region (state-designated)
TRAC	Transit & Rail Advisory Committee (for CDOT)
UPWP	Unified Planning Work Program
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

# NFRMPO Council Meeting

*LaSalle Town Hall & Council Chambers*

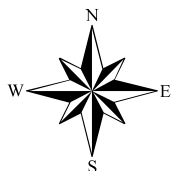
*128 N. 2nd Street*



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Prepared by: SMonk  
Creation Date: 7/26/2010



March 3, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Minutes of the  
NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION &  
AIR QUALITY PLANNING COUNCIL**

**March 3, 2016**

**6 p.m.**

**Larimer County Offices Building  
Carter Lake/Boyd Rooms  
200 West Oak Street  
Fort Collins, CO**

**Voting Members**

**Present**

<b>Gerry Horak-Chair</b>	-Fort Collins
Jan Dowker	-Berthoud
Chris Colclasure	-CDPHE
Kevin Ross	-Eaton
John Morris	-Evans
Tom Norton	-Greeley
Tom Donnelly	-Larimer County
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Joan Shaffer	-Loveland
Jordan Jemiola	-Milliken
Paul Steinway	-Timnath
Kathy Gilliland	-Trans. Comm.
Sean Conway	-Weld County
Myles Baker	-Windsor

**Absent**

Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Don Brookshire	-Severance
*No member	-Garden City

**MPO Staff:**

Terri Blackmore, Executive Director; Renae Steffen, Administrative Director; Crystal Hedberg, Finance and Operations Manager; Becky Karasko, Regional Transportation Planning Director. Alex Gordon, Transportation Planner/Mobility Coordinator.

**In Attendance:**

Jeff Bailey, Eric Bracke, Michael Brian, Leah Browder, Mike Crow, Julie Cozad, Thomas Edwards, Joel Hemesath, Saja Hindi, Myron Hora, Mark Jackson, Louis Keen, Janet Lundquist, Dan Mattson, Suzette Mallette, Karen Schneiders.

Chair Horak called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Karen Schneiders, CDOT R4, thanked the Council, MPO staff, CDOT staff, and others for the numerous heartfelt sentiments, cards, flowers, and support she received following the passing of her husband, Greg Schneiders, on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA:**

The meeting agenda was accepted as presented.



## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

*Norton **moved** to approve the February 4, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously. Dowker and Gilliland abstained as they had not attended the meeting.*

## **Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda**

Chair Horak opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

### Air Pollution Control Division Report

Chris Colclasure, Planning and Policy Program Manager of the Air Pollution Control Division (APCD), gave the following presentations to the Council:

- 8 Hour Ozone Concentrations- Steinway asked how the 4<sup>th</sup> Maximum is determined. Colclasure explained that the 8-hour average is developed from the hourly ozone concentration provided daily by all of the site monitors in the network. Then the highest 8-hour average, or peak concentration, for that day is recorded. The three highest days in a year are excluded from the data to help account for unusual conditions such as inclement weather or fires. The 4<sup>th</sup> highest reading from a particular monitor on any given day is used in the annual data and is referred to as the 4<sup>th</sup> Maximum. If a 4<sup>th</sup> Maximum reading from a single monitor exceeds 75 ppb then the Colorado is out of attainment for the year. Dowker questioned the rationale for the placement of the monitors. Colclasure stated that the federal guidelines require that monitors are initially placed where they may receive the highest readings. He also noted that the monitors may be moved if they do not appear to be giving representative data.
- Background Ozone- the Council expressed their frustration and concern that the EPA standards are essentially unattainable, thus attainment is unachievable citing that roughly a 30% cut in emissions resulted in a 3-6% reduction in ozone concentrations, which are the basis of attainment. Colclasure noted that 16-22ppb of ozone is actually outside of Colorado's jurisdiction because it is either coming from outside of the State or it is biogenic. He reminded the Council that the goal of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health with an adequate margin of safety and that the standards are set in their best effort to attain that goal. Although cost is not a factor when EPA sets the standards, CDPHE evaluates costs when developing a State Implementation Plan, and CDPHE regulations are based on what is considered both technologically feasible and economically reasonable. Colclasure also explained that the EPA's options for addressing background ozone are limited because they can only allow flexibility that is included in the Clean Air Act. He was unaware of any Congressional effort to change the Act but noted that the ozone standard is required to be reviewed every five years by the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee.

Council discussion ensued regarding the cost effectiveness of their efforts, EPA policy/standards and the connection between emissions and public health. Colclasure praised the overall success of the State's efforts to reduce ozone concentrations through improved transportation planning and gas and oil business practices, citing improved air quality since the 1970's, even with the high increase in population. Without the State's efforts the air quality would be much worse.

- Clean Power Plan Update- Colclasure announced that the Clean Power Plan rule has been highly controversial and involved in a law suit. Although it was unusual, the rule was put on hold before the lower court made a decision. Therefore, while there is litigation going on the implementation of the Clean Power Plan rule has been stayed. A decision is not expected until 2018. It is currently unknown how the requirements and deadlines in the plan will be effected.

### Regional Air Quality Council –RAQC

A written report was provided.

## Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair Horak opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

### REPORTS:

#### Executive Director Report:

Terri Blackmore, Executive Director, briefly reviewed information from the March 2016 Director's Report Addendum as well as the following handouts provided at the Council table: North Front Range MPO Rider's Guide, Fix Colorado Roads Agreement and FAQ's and Viable Funding Sources for the North I-25 Corridor. It was noted that the date for the next Fix N I-25 meeting was March 11, not February 11. In response to a request by Dowker to have presentations on the VanGo<sup>®</sup> program, Blackmore asked Council members for assistance in getting Jeff McVay, VanGo<sup>®</sup> Customer Service & Outreach, onto their community's agenda for a presentation on the vanpooling program. Blackmore also announced there may be a new vanpool going between Cheyenne and Fort Collins.

The Council discussed the concerns of the immediacy of the application process for FASTLANE and whether it was the right choice for the MPO. Horak indicated that the Railroad Bridge and Cache la Poudre River Bridge had been selected for replacement rather than the Big Thompson and Little Thompson River Bridges because they are able to handle an interim lane. Also, the Poudre Bridge is only a 10-year flood bridge. Blackmore identified that although the total of the bridge projects did not meet the \$100M minimum, the FASTLANE funding could be leveraged with TIGER money to help fund all of those bridge projects. Gilliland expressed concern that the MPO may end up competing with CDOT for FASTLANE funding, although there was no way to know this early in the process. Blackmore agreed that it was possible, but stated that generally the first-round applications are the easiest to get approved. She believed it was imperative that they at least begin the lengthy process now and then take action on the completed application at the next meeting, at the Council's discretion. Norton noted that the MPO would need to be in close communication with CDOT to ensure there was no completion for funding, and agreed that it was important to begin the application process. Donnelly asked for Norton's concurrence that moving forward with the application process would not damage relations with CDOT. Norton concurred and added that would not be problematic as long as the MPO informs CDOT of their intention and coordinates with them as the process goes forward. Blackmore added that she saw this as an opportunity for the MPO and CDOT to form a partnership.

*Norton made a **motion** to Approve MPO Staff Draft an Application of Intent for FASTLANE. The motion was **seconded** and it **passed** unanimously.*

Horak clarified that the motion incorporates the philosophy that the MPO will be working closely with CDOT and the intent to apply is the only action currently being taken. He also suggested it may be beneficial to get help from Senators Bennet and Gardner and Representatives Polis and Coffman and coordinate efforts with the National League of Cities. He requested that MPO staff provide a single sheet of viable funding sources for handing out. Blackmore agreed to provide the requested information and reminded the Council that the money need not be obligated until 2019 and the construction will not need to be completed until 2024.

#### Report of the Chair:

Chair Horak addressed the following topics with the Council:

- FASTER Funding- The MPO sent a letter requesting the standard on the VanGo<sup>®</sup> van replacement be changed so that it is no longer necessary to identify specific Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) one year in advance in order to replace a van. A meeting is scheduled with CDOT on March 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss changing the standard to be more similar to the FTA guidelines.
- I-25 Subcommittee- A meeting was held on February 5<sup>th</sup> to identify what information is wanted from the High-Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE), CDOT and Fix I-25. Their next meeting will be March 11<sup>th</sup>. Those interested in attending should inform Blackmore so she can get appropriate seating.

- **New Community Representatives-** All members who will no longer be on the Council following April 5<sup>th</sup> elections were encouraged to foster new members. Horak recognized Dowker, Jemiola and Vazquez for their years of service with plaques. Council members praised Dowker, Jemiola and Vazquez for their work on the MPO Council.

Mobility:

A written report was provided.

Finance Committee:

Ross reviewed the February 18<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Report bullet points and minutes with the Council highlighting that some of the member entities have not responded to their billing for their 2016 local match. He offered to discuss the issue with members who were questioning if their community had paid their match.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Unaudited Financials

Conway **moved** to accept the CY 2015 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Unaudited Financial Statements dated December 31, 2015. The motion was **seconded** and it **passed** unanimously.

FY2016 UPWP Amendment

Blackmore briefly reviewed FY2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment memo and noted that this was not, in fact, an increase in the budget, but simply an amendment to the UPWP itself. She said the resolution would be revised to reflect the omission of the word "budget".

Norton **moved** to approve Resolution 2016-06 Approving the FY2016 UPWP Budget Amendment with "Budget" omitted. The motion was **seconded** and it **passed** unanimously.

**WORK SESSION:**

US 34 PEL Study

Sean Conway, US 34 Coalition Chair, stated that the US 34 Coalition was formed by several elected officials along the North Front Range nearly a year ago. The coalition also includes MPO Executive Director, Terri Blackmore and a member of CDOT staff as non-voting members. He said that the Coalition as a whole had determined that in order to have projects ready to receive funding on US 34 it is necessary to complete a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study on the corridor. In December CDOT was asked what a PEL study would encompass and how much it would cost. CDOT brought a presentation to the Coalition in February and it was then determined that CDOT needed to also present the information to both the Upper Front Range Transportation Planning Region and the North Front Range MPO. Conway introduced Mike Crow, CDOT Region 4 Traffic Engineer, who introduced Construction Resident Engineer/Project Manager; Lou Keen, and Project Engineer; Dan Mattson. He also recognized Blackmore for her assistance and Transportation Planner/Mobility Coordinator, Alex Gordon, for his work on the map.

Crow and Keen gave the US 34 PEL presentation to the Council. Conway indicated that the Council needed to decide if the PEL was a good idea for the MPO and then provide CDOT with feedback on the information that was provided in the presentation. He also said it was necessary for them to have a refined plan defining how much RPP money should be used to complete the study. Blackmore identified that the RPP money is flexible and goes to the region...It can be spent early and CDOT works with the MPO to determine where it will be spent.

Myron Hora, Senior Engineering Manager at WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff Engineering Services, formerly with CDOT Region 4, reported that the base cost for the US 85 PEL had been determined by FASTER safety standards that were previously in place but CDOT is no longer funding projects with FASTER funding so they are requesting RPP funding instead.

Blackmore identified that there may be changes to Land Use Mileage/Percentage Breakdown numbers that differ from those shown in the previous draft because the percentages are now attributed to both the community including its growth boundaries. Council debate and discussion ensued for thirty-seven minutes.

Following their discussion the Council requested that the following be addressed by the US 34 Coalition at their March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Actual cost and justification of MPO funding for the PEL study.
- Clarification of areas included in the study.
- Actual proposed municipality shares.
- Clarification on allocation of RPP money to the study and how much of the \$1.8M is requested for RPP funding.
- Other funding available from CDOT.
- Growth boundaries clearly defined.

The US 34 Coalition was asked to report back to the Council on these items at the April 7<sup>th</sup> MPO Council meeting in order for them to take action on the funding for the PEL.

#### 2016 Council Goals

Horak determined that based on Council discussions during the past several meetings, the following were areas the Council wanted to focus on over the next year:

- North I-25
- Cache la Poudre River Bridge and the Railroad Bridge
- US 34 PEL Study
- Airports presentations and identifying the MPO's role for air transportation

#### Additional goals Council member requested as greater areas of focus:

Harmony Road- Identify where the process is currently and address needs for the future by outlining the planning steps needed to facilitate final plans.

Freight Plan- Freight Plan- Blackmore noted that the MPOs Plan schedule is now aligned with the State's freight and passenger rail plan and they should be finished at about the same time. Horak requested that Karasko provide Council with an update on the schedule for the Multimodal Freight Plan and the Freight and Passenger Rail Plan in the next meeting packet. Blackmore stressed the importance of finalizing the plan because beginning in 2018 it will be required to have an adopted freight plan in order to be eligible for freight funding allocated to the State or through the FASTLANE funding streams.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

#### Transportation Commission Report

Gilliland reported that the Commission has been discussing new revenue streams for transportation and working on their 10-year plan. She also noted that soon there will be information on whether \$200M from Senate Bill 228 will go to I-70 Central.

#### CDOT Region 4

Schneider briefly reviewed the CDOT Project Status Updates (1 Mar 2016) with the Council. She noted that weather permitting; many projects would be coming out of their winter shut-down and mentioned that a VMS board was going up on US 34 near 10th Street that will complement those going up near Centerra in Loveland.

STAC Report- A written report was provided.

#### North I-25

There was no additional information to report.

#### Highway 34 Coalition

There was no additional information to report.

#### Host Council Report

Donnelly thanked everyone for coming to the Larimer County Courthouse and recognized Karris Bryant, owner of Bite by Bite Catering and one of Larimer County's 2013 Young Entrepreneur Program contest winners, for the delicious meal.

Milliken- Jemiola expressed his appreciation in working with the Council.

Evans- Morris reported his concern and frustration that the UPRR is trying to shut down four roads in Evans and he is uncertain how traffic will be rerouted. He was hopeful that their need to obtain permits for the closures could alter the dates of the closures to allow for open routes.

LaSalle- Cochran reported that LaSalle had finished their improvements to Main Park off US 85 and that Sunset Auto Sales of Greeley was a new business for them that would be occupying the building at 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and US 85.

Windsor- Baker indicated that he was uncertain if he would continue to be the alternate for Windsor and thanked the Council for their support during his time with them.

Berthoud- Dowker said it had been an honor to serve with the Council and said she loved the passion and diversity shown by the Council.

Timnath- Steinway indicated that he was uncertain of whether he would remain on the Council following the April elections. He is running for re-election but there are four candidates running for two positions on the Town of Timnath Board.

Loveland- Shaffer highlighted that the Fire and Ice Celebration in Loveland, February 12-14, was a great success. She also indicated that the US 287 Coalition had met on February 25<sup>th</sup> and Berthoud, Longmont and Larimer County all gave presentations on what their communities are currently doing on the corridor. The MPO is scheduled to present on land use and inventory on the corridor at their next meeting.

Eaton- Ross reported that the Town of Eaton continues to work with CDOT on securing funding for improvements needed at the intersection at CR 76 and US 85 where several accidents, some with fatalities, have occurred recently as well as historically.

#### **MEETING WRAP-UP:**

##### Final Public Comment:

There was no comment.

##### Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

1) US 34 PEL

2) TIGER Grant

3) FASTLANE

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff

Air Pollution Control Division Report: April 2016



## Monthly Report from CDPHE to the North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council

April 2016

### The Air Quality Control Commission:

- The AQCC did not meet in March.
- The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for April 21-22 in Denver, CO.

### The Air Pollution Control Division:

- The Air Pollution Control Division held a stakeholder meeting on March 17, initiating a process to revise Colorado's air quality regulations for the ozone nonattainment area. The Division proposed four rule changes, listed below. The first three respond to the "bump-up" of the Denver Metro/North Front Range area to a "moderate" nonattainment area. The fourth change responds to EPA's comments on a previous State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision:
  - The gasoline vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program covers parts of Larimer and Weld Counties on a state-only basis. The I/M program would become federally enforceable for these areas, with all other aspects of the I/M program staying the same.
  - Federal permitting thresholds for moderate ozone areas would be adopted.
  - Existing state-only requirements for oil and gas facilities to use auto-igniters on flares and to conduct audio, visual, and olfactory (smell) inspections would become federally enforceable.
  - The monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements for natural gas processing plants and dehydrators would be revised.
- On March 4, the RAQC previewed these potential changes to the ozone SIP. The RAQC board will vote on the bump-up SIP, including these proposals, in July 2016.

###





Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) Report: April 2016

# Regional Air Quality Council Report (RAQC)

March 4, 2016 Meeting

## SIP for 70ppb

- RAQC presented legislative summaries of interest
  - HB 1332 would modify the Alternative Fuels Tax Credits more user friendly (available at dealers at time of lease or sale)
- RAQC presented the schedule for the Review and approval of the new SIP for moderate designation
  - RAQC approval July 8, 2016
  - Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) Request for SIP Hearing July 21, 2016
  - AQCC SIP Hearing and adoption October 20, 2016
  - SIP Report submitted to Colorado Legislature January 15, 2017
  - SIP Submitted to EPA if no Legislative Review Requested After February 15, 2017
  - SIP Submitted to EPA if Legislative Review Requested After May 3, 2017
- RAQC staff presented summaries of three chapters of the new State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the 70ppb.
  - 2011 and 2017 Emission inventories and Draft Reasonable Further Progress
  - Draft Inspection/Maintenance Program – the North Front Range IM program must become part of the Federal SIP
  - New Source Review

The RAQC Mobile Sources/Fuels Subcommittee met on March 4 immediately following the RAQC meeting.

- A Fuels Study was discussed including the pros, cons and whether the Tier III fuel standards would be enough. It was noted that the Tier III fuel standards are already incorporated in the modeling.
- The Subcommittee agreed to move forward to update the Fuels study to determine if requiring a reformulated fuel would be helpful in reaching attainment.
- RAQC staff will draft a scope of work for the Subcommittee to review.

Executive Director Report: April 2016

## April 2016 Director's Report

### Fix N I-25

- The Subcommittee met on March 11
- The Subcommittee decided to submit the same improvements for both TIGER and FASTLANE – two bridge replacement, two bridge widenings, a third lane from SH402 to SH14 and the slip ramps to Kendall Parkway.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 1 from 11:30 to 1:00 pm at Perkins at Crossroads

### Local Community Training for new Bike/Auto and Bike/Pedestrian Counters

- The MPO has purchased three mobile counters that may be used by local communities to count bikes/autos (2) or bikes/pedestrians (1).
- The counters will be loaned out to local community members according to a schedule identified annually by all members.
- Local community staff who would be setting and picking up the Bike/Auto/Pedestrian counters are invited to a half day training at the MPO offices starting at 9:00 am on April 26
- The MPO also purchased two permanent counters which will be installed along the Poudre Trail in Greeley and Larimer County.
- Those interested in seeing the installation process can participate on April 27 at the Rover Run Dog Park in Greeley at 1:00 pm.
- For more information, contact Aaron Buckley at 970-416-2309 or by email [abuckley@nfrmpo.org](mailto:abuckley@nfrmpo.org)

### FY 2017-2020 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)

- The State has released the STIP for public comment and will hold a public hearing at the April 21 Commission meeting but public comments will be accepted through April 29, 2016
- CDOT will present the STIP to STAC on April 29
- Public comment period closes on April 29
- CDOT Transportation Commission will approve the STIP on May 19
- The STIP can be accessed at <https://www.codot.gov/business/budget>
- Public comment can be submitted via mail, e-mail, or through the CDOT website using [Jamie.collins@state.co.us](mailto:Jamie.collins@state.co.us) or Jamie Collins, 4201 E Arkansas Ave, Room 212, Denver, CO 80222.

### NFRMPO Audit

- The firm Anton, Collins, Mitchell completed their in office review for the audit and will present the draft audit to the Finance Committee on April 21, 2016.
- There were no findings during the audit.

### BNSF/UP Proposal

- The Rocky Mountain Railroad Xpress held a meeting on March 22 to discuss their proposal for an eastern bypass
- They are putting together a proposal similar to a Chicago bypass that will soon be under construction
- They are proposing that the eastern bypass use some existing route and construction

a new portion that would save the railroads between 20 and 44 hours over moving freight through all of the Front Range communities

- They plan to hire Transportation Consultants, Inc to make the proposal to BNSF

#### FREIGHT Northern Colorado Plan

- The MPO is putting together a Freight steering committee of industry representatives.
- Please provide names and contact information to Becky Karasko at 970-416-2257 or [bkarasko@nfrmpo.org](mailto:bkarasko@nfrmpo.org)
- The State Freight Plan consultant will be on board by Mid-April and the plan is expected to be completed in 12 months.

#### VanGo™

- MPO/VanGo™ staff are working with FTA and Transfort to identify a process that allows the sale of FTA funded vans without having to return 80% of the funding.
- MPO/VanGo™ staff met with CDOT Division of Transit and Rail (DTR) on May 23 and future contracts will include both FTA requirements of 4 years or 100K miles.
- MPO/VanGo staff also sent a letter asking to return the FY 2015 FASTER funds of \$64K because it is not feasible to use the funds.
- Both MPO/VanGo and CDOT DTR staff will work to ensure that 2016 and 2017 funds can be used.
- The MPO is working to update an IGA with the City of Fort Collins for the maintenance of the VanGo™ vehicles. This was identified by the FTA during the Triennial review although not a finding.

#### Mobility Committees

- The Weld County Mobility Committee met on March 22 and the Committee will be examining membership, goals and purpose.
- The Larimer County Mobility Committee provided a letter of support for the Larimer County Transit Planning 4 All, Inclusive Planning Impact Grant application to address the needs of rural Larimer County.

#### NFRMPO Staff Changes

- The NFRMPO hired two new planners Medora Kealy who started on March 8 and Jenna Levin who started on March 14.
- The VanGo™ program has a temporary part-time employee, Kelly Miller, assisting the program while the number of positions needed is evaluated.

#### NFRMPO Documents available electronically or as paper copies

- To assist with public outreach, staff has designed and printed the following documents:
  - NFRMPO and VanGo™ Brochures
  - Annual Report
  - Mobility Postcards
  - Rider's Guide
  - Quarterly Newsletter
- Any Planning Council member who would like extra copies of any of the documents should contact me at [tblackmore@nfrmpo.org](mailto:tblackmore@nfrmpo.org) or pick them up at the Planning Council meeting

## APA Legislative Update

- The following bill updates are as of March 14:
- HB1008 – Roadway Shoulder Access for Buses was introduced in the Senate and assigned to Transportation – requires CDOT to consult with CSP before designating a shoulder for bus use – Governor signed 3/9/2016
- HB1018 – Transportation Advisory Committee Procedures had its second reading in Senate and passed with no amendments - provides STAC ability to provide advice and comments directly to Transportation Commission – Governor signed 3/2/2016
- HB1031 – Modify Transportation Commission Membership – referred to Transportation & Energy, refer amended to Appropriations – study 11 districts to determine whether the number boundaries should be modified – referred to referred to Appropriations 2/11/2016
- HB1067 – Regional Transportation Authority Mill Levy – referred to Local Government and referred unamended to Committee of the Whole – extends the authorization to 2029 -- Senate Committee on Transportation postponed indefinitely
- HB1138 – General Fund Transfers for State Infrastructure – assigned to State, Veterans & Military Affairs – adds another year of transfers to the capital construction fund and the Highway Users Trust Fund (HUTF) – House Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs postponed indefinitely 2/24/2016
- HB1155 Controlled-access Highway as County Primary Road – No description yet – Assigned to Transportation 3/17/2016
- HB1169 – Ute Representatives for Transportation Advisory Committee – referred to Transportation & Energy, referred unamended to Committee of the Whole – provides representation for the Ute tribe – Senate Committee on Transportation to consent calendar 3/22/2016
- HB1172 – CDOT Efficiency and Accountability Committee – referred to Transportation & Energy, referred unamended to Committee of the Whole – reestablishes the efficiency and accountability committee and expands membership to include 4 state legislators and representatives of counties, municipalities and nonpartisan good governance organizations – House Transportation & Energy referred unamended to Appropriations 2/11/2016
- HB1186 – MAP21 Rail Fixed Guideway Safety Fund Grant Match – assigned to Transportation & Energy – directs state treasurer to transfer first \$150K from public utilities to the Colorado public utilities commission's fixed utility fund to meet Colorado's grant match obligation – Referred unamended to Appropriations 2/11/2016
- HB1205 – Motorcycle lane-splitting – assigned to Transportation & Energy – allows motorcycles to drive between cars when traffic is moving less than 5 mph – House Committee on Transportation & Energy postponed indefinitely 2/17/2016
- HB1304 – Requires CDOT to hold at least one public meeting in each TPR to state CDOT's priorities and to allow the public to testify on their top priorities and their preferred methods for raising revenue to fund priorities – Assigned to Transportation & Energy 2/29/2016
- SB11 – Terminate use of FASTER fee revenue for Transit – assigned to Transportation & Energy – repeals requirement for transit related use – House Committee on Transportation & Energy postponed indefinitely 2/17/2016
- SB087 – Highway-rail Crossing Signalization Fund Funding – assigned to Senate Committee on Transportation, referred unamended to Appropriations 2/11/2016
- SB100 – County Road & Bridge Tax Reduction Requirement – assigned to Senate Transportation -- passed Senate 3/24/2016
- SB123 - Free Access to High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes – assigned to Transportation – prohibits CDOT or HPTE from requiring a vehicle owner to use a switchable transponder – Introduced in House – assigned to Transportation & Energy 3/22/2016

COMMITTEE REPORT: TAC – March 16, 2016

**Executive Summary of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Council  
March 16, 2016**

**APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 20, 2016 TAC MINUTES**

The January 20, 2016 TAC meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

No items this month.

**ACTION ITEMS**

No items this month.

**OUTSIDE PARTNERS REPORTS (verbal)**

**Northern Colorado (NoCo) Bike & Ped Collaborative** – Boyd reported on e-bikes and regional wayfinding presentations at the March 9, 2016 NoCo meeting.

**Regional Transit Items** – Jones stated the GET study investigating a transit route between Greeley and Fort Collins via Windsor is ongoing. Schneiders stated Bustang is doing well.

**Senior Transit Items** – Thomas reported the Travel Trainings for seniors sponsored by Berthoud, Loveland, and Fort Collins are doing well. He also stated he is a member of the Strategic Action Plan on Aging Initiative appointed by the Governor.

**Regional Air Quality Council** – RAQC is moving forward with the SIP and recently brought SIP chapters to the RAQC Board. The Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program will become federally enforced, rather than a “state only” requirement. SIP subcommittees continue to meet regarding strategies.

**PRESENTATION**

**NFRMPO Rider’s Guide** – Gordon presented the 2016 NFRMPO Rider’s Guide, which includes updated information on mobility options in the region.

**DISCUSSION**

**US 34 PEL Study** – Lou Keen, CDOT, presented on the proposed US 34 PEL Study. Funding and the study scope were determined based on previous studies along the corridor. The US 34 PEL Study will be brought to the April NFRMPO Council meeting for funding consideration.

**CDOT Intersection Prioritization** – Karasko reported on CDOT’s Regional Intersection Prioritization Study meeting on March 2, 2016. The study began with more than 6,000 intersections across CDOT Region 4 and has been refined to 40, 25 of which are within the NFRMPO. Communities should provide their communities’ priorities for the intersections listed to CDOT by Thursday, March 17, 2016.

**FHWA Bike/Ped Information Request** – Karasko discussed FHWA’s request for information regarding multimodal planning within the region to be used in a national facility and program inventory.

**REPORTS**

**NFRMPO Counter Program Update** – Buckley discussed the upcoming NFRMPO-sponsored mobile bike/ped counter training with JAMAR on April 26, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the NFRMPO offices. Installation of the permanent counters will occur on April 26 and 27, 2016.



PRESENTATION: TIGER & FASTLANE Grants

ACTION ITEM: US 34 PEL Study

ACTION ITEM: MPO Support of FASTLANE IV ~~VI~~ GT Grant



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#### **MPO Planning Council**

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Kathy Gilliland  
Transportation Commission*

#### **MPO Staff**

*Terri Blackmore  
Executive Director  
Becky Karasko  
Regional Transportation Planning Director  
Rena Steffen  
Administrative Director  
Crystal Hedberg  
Finance and Operations Manager*

April 7, 2016

TIGER and FASTLANE Selection Committee  
US Department of Transportation  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Colorado TIGER and FASTLANE Grant Applications

Dear Selection Committee:

The North Front Range has been working with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the I-25 Coalition of Elected officials, the Fix I-25 Business Alliance and the I-25 Funding Committee to improve North I-25 from SH 14 to SH 66. In July 2013, the first meeting was held on the future of I-25 to discuss ways to address the congestion in light of the projects for a doubling of the population by 2040. Northern Colorado is one of the fastest growing areas in the county and the fastest in Colorado. To continue the economic vibrancy of the area, accommodate the freight commodity movements associated with energy (oil and gas and wind components) and agriculture and the everyday travel of workers, residents and visitors, something had to be done. The above mentioned groups were formed and have been working diligently to identify a funding mechanism for the improvements identified in the N I-25 EIS which received a record of decision in August 2011.

All of the involved agencies, coalitions, and communities have been working toward improving North I-25 with limited funding. The congestion on this corridor increases crashes, increases emissions, and significantly slows freight movements. Improvements to date include the addition of Bustang, a regional bus option started in July of 2015 that carries 143 riders per day and 209 CSU students on Friday and Sunday evenings. The local community members of the NFRMPO voted to allocate \$3 M local STP Metro funds to fund a portion of the two mile truck climbing land which will be completed in the fall of 2016 providing relief for southbound congestion near Berthoud. In addition, the local communities are providing \$2 M to the replacement and widening of the I-25 Crossroads Bridge which CDOT will complete in 2017.

The North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council fully supports the TIGER and FASTLANE applications to provide much needed relief to a growing area.

Sincerely,

Gerry Horak, Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem City of Fort Collins

STAC REPORT: March 2016



## **STAC Summary – March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

- 1) **Transportation Commission Report – Vince Rogalski (STAC Chair)**
  - a) HPTE is concerned about SB 16-123, which would remove the requirement for HOV transponders. Several groups have publically opposed it, including DRCOG.
  - b) Tolling on Phase 2 segment of US 36 will begin on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - c) TC discussed FY16-17 budget, STIP, TIGER grants, and upcoming projects on C-470, I-70, and I-25N.
- 2) **STAC Comment Responses – Debra Perkins-Smith (Director of CDOT Division of Transportation Development)**
  - a) I-25N tolled express lanes will open by the end of March and tolling will begin in summer.
  - b) A “lessons learned” assessment will be done on the I-70 Glenwood Canyon closure. So far the cost of that event totals \$5 million.
  - c) CDOT has confirmed that FAST Act formula and discretionary funds may be combined in one project.
  - d) CDOT is undertaking a study of rest stop areas to inventory their usage and future needs.
- 3) **Chief Engineer Update – Josh Laipply (CDOT Chief Engineer)**
  - a) CDOT has identified a number of pilot projects for its de-federalization efforts, seeking a variety of project and funding types, locations, etc. and is aiming to complete at least one pilot per region.
- 4) **Federal and State Legislative Report**
  - a) Main focus at this time has been opposing SB 16-123 to eliminate transponder requirement for HOV.
  - b) Awaiting most recent economic forecasts that will feed into the state budget “long bill”.
  - c) Also tracking HB 16-1304 that would require CDOT to do a yearly public outreach activity to check in on public priorities and funding challenges – similar to existing efforts by CDOT DTD.
  - d) STAC Discussion: CDOT is expecting to receive \$200 million this year and \$100 million next year from SB 228 transfers. There is some concern that the Legislature may try to use a portion of these funds to fill the state budget gap in exchange for more consistent funding in the future.
- 5) **SWP Lessons Learned – Michelle Scheuerman (CDOT Statewide Planning Manager)**
  - a) Goal of the effort is to find out what worked and what can be improved for the next SWP process.
  - b) STAC workshop is planned for April and will focus on topics of education and plan coordination/integration.
- 6) **STIP Update – Jamie Collins (CDOT Office of Financial Management and Budget)**
  - a) The TC approved the draft FY17-FY20 STIP for public review and comment via the CDOT website, with final approval by the TC and FHWA/FTA to occur in May and June timeframe.
  - b) STAC Discussion: Changes to the STIP are driven by MPO TIPs and then rolled-up to the statewide level, or determined by CDOT regions in the case of rural TPRs.
- 7) **Central 70 Update – Tony DeVito (Central 70 Project Director)**
  - a) The I-70 Viaduct project is now rebranded as “Central 70” – central to communities, commerce, and Colorado.
  - b) Approximately \$1.2 billion project will delivered via a “Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Maintain” agreement with a team of private sector firms.
    - i) Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are viewed favorably by 71% of Coloradans.
  - c) Project schedule anticipates team selection in spring 2017 and construction start in early 2018.



- d) STAC Discussion: Central 70 will consume no more than 50% of Bridge Enterprise funding each year based on TC requirement. This is the last of 33 bridge projects identified in FASTER legislation to be funded. DRCOG is contributing \$50 million to the project, which they and CDOT feel is appropriate based on its statewide importance. Some other TPRs say that a larger DRCOG contribution is merited. There is also concern among these representatives that the costs of the project have increased without justification.
- 8) **Rural Regional Bus Network Update** – *David Averill (CDOT Division of Transit & Rail)*
- a) CDOT DTR is exploring possibilities for expanding and improving intercity bus transit in rural areas of the state and leveraging connections to the existing Bustang system.
  - b) DTR would use FTA 5311(f) and FASTER funding to purchase buses and bid out routes to private operators within strict scheduling and performance requirements.
  - c) Potential future routes include: Craig – Grand Junction, Steamboat Springs – Frisco, Gunnison – Montrose, Sterling – Denver, and Trinidad – Colorado Springs.
  - d) CDOT DTR staff will solicit input from TPRs, MPOs, and the public to develop routes, vehicle specifications, and priorities with the aim to begin operations by CY2018.
- 9) **TIGER/FASTLANE/FLAP Grant Updates** – *Herman Stockinger (CDOT Office of Policy & Govt. Relations)*
- a) Proposed TIGER VIII project is I-25N express lanes between Ft. Collins and Loveland (14 miles).
  - b) Potential projects for the new freight-focused FASTLANE grants include:
    - i) Lamar Bypass, US 85N, US 160 / US 550 Connection, and Truck Parking Coordination System.
    - ii) CDOT will also offer \$1 million match for Lamar’s Southwest Chief Phase 3 application.
  - c) Potential projects for the FLAP grant funding include:
    - i) US 160 Passing Lanes, US 50 Blue Creek Canyon, US 550 Corridor, and SH 139 Little Horse South.
    - ii) Main criteria is high-visitation or economic generation, such as National Parks or military bases.
- 10) **FAST Act Freight Program** – *Jeff Sudmeier (CDOT Division of Transportation Development)*
- a) The new formula freight program in the FAST Act provides approx. \$15 million per year to Colorado.
  - b) Eligibility will be tied to the National Highway Freight Network, including 80 miles of critical urban corridors and 160 miles of critical rural corridors throughout the state.
  - c) Due to small size, CDOT will use a statewide approach rather than sub-allocating to the regions.
  - d) STAC Discussion: CDOT should focus on leveraging these funds with other existing projects focused on safety, mobility, and asset management. It should prioritize finishing existing projects rather than starting new ones and also keep the importance of system resiliency in mind throughout.
- 11) **Other Business** – *Vince Rogalski (STAC Chairman)*
- a) The next STAC meeting will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
  - b) STAC Discussion: In light of the new legislation impacting STAC’s relationship to the TC it may be wise to consider another STAC/TC retreat in the coming months.