

Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Windsor Recreation Center, Maple Room

250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550

1. Introductions

In attendance:

Dawn Anderson, City of Evans, TAC Chair	Chris Johnson, Bike Fort Collins (Phone)
Leslie Beckstrom, WCDPHE	Tom Jones, Great Western Trail Authority
Aaron Buckley, NFRMPO	Nancy Nichols, City of Fort Collins SRTS
Ryan Dusil, NFRMPO	Robert Ward, Cache la Poudre National Heritage Area
Aaron Fodge, Colorado State University	Samantha Wittrock, WCDPHE
Mark Heidt, City of Brighton	Robert Ward, Poudre Heritage Alliance
Betsy Jacobsen, CDOT	Wade Willis, Town of Windsor

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of September 14, 2016 meeting were approved.

3. Regional Trail Updates

Bicycle Counter Updates

Buckley explained that the Greeley bike/ped counter ran out of battery in August and thus was not collecting data but is now back up and running. He then explained the current service to upload counter data will cease in early November 2016. The counter manufacturer JAMAR Technologies Inc. will be releasing an updated user interface for their count devices.

Buckley explained the NFRMPO has three portable bike/ped counters available to its member communities, but so far the City of Loveland is the only community to check them out. Willis suggested a case study be put together to summarize Loveland's use of the bike counters. This could be used to show other communities how and why they may want to use the counters.

Buckley summarized the recently collected count data.

4. Ranch Events Complex Non-Motorized Facilities

Johnson described current access routes to The Ranch Larimer County Fairgrounds and Events Complex. The group discussed the viability of existing and future routes to serve The Ranch. The group concluded within a couple years, The Ranch will be served by four viable routes conducive to non-motorized travel from various directions.

5. NFRMPO 2016 Call for Projects

Buckley described a project for a segment of the Little Thompson Trail in Johnstown, the first segment of Regional Bike Corridor #2. The city requested a four foot wide crusher fines trail. The NFRMPO Technical

Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended an upgrade to an eight foot width to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. The TAC also offered to completely fund the project.

Buckley briefly described the shoulders are being added to Highway 17 (N. Shields St.) north of Fort Collins.

6. CDOT Main Streets Guide

Jacobsen introduced the group to a project recently completed by CDOT, CDPHE, and DOLA. The main publication, *Colorado Downtown Streets: A Tool for Communities, Planners, and Engineers*, is comprised of tools or actions that communities can consider when faced with transportation issues. It is geared towards bringing people together in discussion and introducing potential solutions. It is not a “guide” of rules for engineers to follow in the shaping of streets. The document is a toolkit that was created in six months, which can help community leaders and staff start conversations.

To view the related videos, click here: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/main-street-resources>

7. NFRMPO Non-Motorized Plan Steering Committee

Buckley summarized the process to date.

8. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Buckley discussed items for the upcoming TAC meeting including the 20 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments.

9. Updates/Other Business

Willis summarized the outcomes of the conference planning committee meeting that took place before the 10:00AM meeting. The group is planning on a full day event, which will include a mayor’s lunch with a keynote speaker, breakout sessions, and continuing education credits. The group is looking at a budget of \$18,000 with funding sources that may include CDOT and Kaiser Permanente. Willis offered to contact potential keynote speakers which include the Mayor of Oklahoma City and a mayor from Idaho. A location is yet to be decided, but the date would tentatively be the first week in November. The group is hoping to hire an event coordinator to do most of the planning. If funds are available, this coordinator could be an intern or a contact that Johnson recommended.

Ward explained that the Poudre Heritage Alliance is conducting bike tours and asked for safety tips for conducting group rides on the trail. Nichols recommended a resource used by the Safe Routes to School Program and Fodge recommended a group riding module offered by the League of American Bicyclists.

Ward also mentioned that he hopes to see more consistent wayfinding along Heritage Trails in the region.

Buckley mentioned that Regional Bike Corridors 7 and 8 from Fort Collins to Loveland should be completed within the next two years. He also mentioned that four more Zagster stations are set to open in Fort Collins.

Fodge mentioned that a 14 foot wide underpass will be constructed under Shields Street at Elizabeth St. to facilitate bike/ped traffic to and from CSU. The underpass should be ready for the 2017 school year. Fodge also mentioned an RFP was sent out for bicycle facilities along Pitkin Street but that no proposals were submitted.

Nichols mentioned an impressive underpass under I-25 near Wellington

Wittrock described her progress on the development of the Wildcat Trail from Milliken to Firestone. The 11.5 mile trail will follow a rail bed along the South Platte River and then follow the St. Vrain River into Firestone. The project is now in the community engagement stage with a few landowner talks remaining.

Jones from the Great Western Trail mentioned they recently hired a part time Trails Manager and they will need to raise \$135,000 to match their TAP funds

Fodge concluded the meeting with a brief discussion of the uncertain future for the I-25 underpass, which connects to the CSU Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center