

Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, November 9, 2016

Windsor Recreation Center, Aspen Room

250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550

1. Introductions

In attendance:

- ❖ Kimberly Baker, Larimer Department of Health & Environment
- ❖ Kathleen Benedict, Poudre Heritage Alliance
- ❖ Aaron Buckley, NFRMPO
- ❖ Ryan Dusil, NFRMPO
- ❖ Aaron Fodge, Colorado State University
- ❖ Tessa Greegor, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Katie Guthrie, City of Loveland
- ❖ Kelly Haworth, Larimer Department of Health & Environment
- ❖ Mark Heidt, City of Brighton
- ❖ Nick Heimann, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Ken Kawamura, Windsor
- ❖ Janet Meisel-Burns, City of Loveland
- ❖ Robert Ward, Poudre Heritage Alliance
- ❖ Zac Wiebe, Larimer County, DNR
- ❖ Wade Willis, Town of Windsor
- ❖ Liz Young, FC Bikes

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of October 12, 2016 meeting were approved.

3. Regional Trail Updates

Bicycle Counter Updates

The NFRMPO has three mobile bicycle and pedestrian counters for use by member communities. The two new permanent counters are working, but the free data upload service has expired. Greeley and Larimer County will have to pay for the service to continue. In the interim, each entity will have to manually collect and email data to the NFRMPO on a quarterly basis. A question was raised about timeliness of the information being provided to the NFRMPO. Buckley stated information is required on a quarterly basis and communities could collect more frequently if they desired. Fodge reported CSU is opening bike shelters on campus and will be charging for the service. Tessa reported the addition of an Eco-Counter Eco-Totem counter on the Remington Bikeway, which will display the number of bicyclists passing by the unit. Wills stated the region will have some great comparisons and asked if the NFRMPO could provide a dashboard on the website to show regional counts with monthly averages and monthly totals. Buckley stated he would investigate.

4. Poudre Heritage Area – Heritage Trail Strategic Plan

Benedict from the Poudre Heritage Trail Strategic Initiative described how the Heritage was designated by Congress, how the resources have defined American culture and the landscape, and the pivotal role the 45 mile long Poudre River has played in water law. The River's sphere of influence covers all of Larimer and Weld Counties.

Benedict stated interpretive signs span the river and include QR codes refer to archived videos. Heritage Culturalists lead tours along the river and provide an interpretive experience by explaining history and water law. One missions of the plan is to find consistency by building partnerships in tying together agencies involved in the Poudre Trail. The Initiative will work with communities and bring partners

together to build sustainable projects. The group has a stake in wayfinding signage and history is a unifying feature of the area.

Benedict asked:

- ❖ Where do the trail connections with the Poudre Trail fall into priority with our group?
- ❖ Are there opportunities for this project to be a part of our process?
- ❖ Is there value in a partnership to focus specifically on the Poudre Trail?

Fodge stated we don't do a good job of sharing how this trail got started. It required a slow methodical effort and now only has small segments left to complete. The Poudre River Trail can be an example for other trails across the country. Fodge asked if it is important to see the trail connect to the confluence with the South Platte River. Heidt, 5285 was helped by this effort previously. Colorado front range trail benefited by implementation. Trails play key role in connectivity and storytelling. Willis stated wayfinding that incorporates history could be placed across the region and have a cultural impact by helping users realize the significance of the resources they are using or are adjacent to. Gregor stated Fort Collins would be interested in participating in a more thorough discussion to see if there are ways to incorporate wayfinding in the near term. Buckley stated the NFRMPO 2013 Regional Bicycle Plan highlights all of the regional trails in area and the new Non-Motorized Plan will be released soon.

Benedict asked, how do we move forward?

Fodge stated the I-25 expansion would be an opportunity for development. Willis stated working with the different communities will be critical to success. Create a collaborative culture and explore opportunities of what the trail could look like in the future. NoCo Bike & Ped would be willing to provide resources as requested. Fodge stated a study should be conducted to show the ability to use planning funds to show value of trail impacts to property values. A request was made to make the trail an active part of the website and emphasize the historic aspects.

5. 2017 Walkability Action Institute Team Building

Willis asked if there is interested in building a team, Haworth, Fodge, Guthrie, and Buckley expressed interest in forming a team at the meeting. Proposed committee members include Fodge, Guthrie, Buckley, Loveland Mayor Gutierrez, Aaron Iverson with Fort Collins, an elected member from Greeley, and possibly Windsor. Fodge agreed to lead the committee initially.

6. Non-Motorized Plan Update

Buckley stated the plan would be sent to group for review today using Dropbox. The Plan Steering Committee will be meeting Friday, November 18, 2016 to provide feedback. Buckley will be present to TAC this month. The outstanding portions of the plan are crash data and finalizing the mapping effort.

7. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC meeting next week at the Windsor Recreation Center will concern Q4 TIP Amendments, partner reports, the Non-Motorized Plan, and the FY2018-FY2021 TIP. Fodge will attend for NoCo Bike & Ped.

8. Updates/Other Business

Willis explained the conference committee's decision to not have a full day conference in 2017. Instead half day workshops were proposed on a quarterly basis to promote education, show off improvements, bring in consultants, etc. A possible recognition dinner or lunch was proposed. The committee will set up a meeting to talk with Bicycle Colorado about collaboration.

Meisel-Burns stated the City of Loveland will be updating each of their transportation plans in 2017, and she agreed the workshops would be a great regional opportunity. Gregor stated Fort Collins still has some money available possibly for a workshop.

Guthrie stated Dick Jackson to be brought into the region for a discussion on March 23.

Wiebe with Larimer County stated Chris Keimier with Colorado the Beautiful contacted Larimer County, and discussed the Colorado long term vision, some type of program to support trails by the state, and the possibility of funding. Compiling of trails, learning what challenges exist, and highlighting issues will be the focus. Zac will invite him to next meeting.

Meisel-Burns stated the City of Loveland received a CDOT TAP grant and GOCO funding for design at Namaqua Avenue going under the road, which parallels Barns Ditch. They are starting construction on a couple of missing links that will tie trail together. Gregor stated Fort Collins received State TAP funds for the Harmony underpass.