

# ON THE MOVE

North Front Range Transportation News

April 2016

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## FAST Act Passed

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law December 4, 2015 by President Obama. This is the first Federal law to provide long-term funding for surface transportation projects since 2005. The \$305B, five-year (FY2016–FY2020) bill provides funding for highway; highway and motor vehicle safety; public transportation; motor carrier safety; hazardous materials safety; rail; and research, technology, and statistics programs. It is anticipated Colorado could receive an average of \$566M for each of the five years for a total of \$2.8B in funding.

Funding Program in Colorado	2016 Funding Level	2020 Funding Level
The National Highway Performance Program	\$297M	\$323M
The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program	\$137M	\$149M
The Highway Safety Improvement Program	\$29M	\$31M
National Highway Freight Program	\$15.5M	\$20.3M

## FLEX Extension to Boulder in Service

For \$1.25, Transfort riders can now ride between the Downtown Transit Center and the University of Colorado Boulder campus. The new FLEX extension opened January 18, 2016, providing a one-seat ride with limited stops five times each weekday between Fort Collins and Boulder. The service operated without collecting fares between January 18 and January 22, 2016.

The service is operated by Transfort and is made possible by a Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), and partnerships with the cities of Boulder, Longmont, and Loveland. The FLEX extension runs in addition to the existing FLEX service between the South Transit Center in Fort Collins and Longmont via Loveland and Berthoud. Riders can use Transfort, COLT, RTD Eco Passes, and RTD College Passes to ride.

On January 21, 2016, Transfort held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the MAX University Station. In attendance were Planning Council Chair Mayor Pro Tem Gerry Horak, CSU Vice President for External Relations Tom Milligan, CSU's Alternative Transportation Manager Aaron Fodge, Transfort's General Manager Kurt Ravenschlag, and Fort Collins City Manager Darin Atteberry. Following the ribbon cutting at the MAX station, City and transit officials rode the FLEX to Boulder to attend opening ceremonies at the route's Boulder terminus.

More information about the service, including schedules and maps, can be found on the Transfort website at [www.ridetansfort.com/flex](http://www.ridetansfort.com/flex).



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## FASTLANE and TIGER Grant Applications

The NFRMPO and CDOT will be submitting applications for the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) and the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recover (TIGER) grant programs. Each of these grants will be used to replace the Cache La Poudre River and Union Pacific Grade Separation bridges, widening the Great Western Railroad Grade Separation and Big Thompson River bridges, add one lane of additional capacity on north I-25 from SH402 to SH14, and construct transit-only slip ramps. The TIGER grant would also construct a park & ride lot at Kendall Parkway and provide the clearance for the Poudre River Trail connection under I-25.

There is \$800M available in 2016 for the FASTLANE grant and applications are due 6:00 p.m. MST on April 14, 2016. A total of \$500M is available in 2016 for the TIGER grant and applications are due 6:00 p.m. MST on April 29, 2016. The next steps include securing additional letters of support and local match.



<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov>

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Counter Installation

### Quantifying Non-Motorized Trips

This spring, the NFRMPO will be installing electronic bicycle and pedestrian counting devices in Larimer and Weld counties to begin quantifying the number of non-motorized transportation trips in the region. The data collection will be incorporated in non-motorized plans and projects in the future.

The NFRMPO purchased two permanent and three mobile counters this winter for this effort. On April 26 & 27, 2016 the permanent counters will be installed in Greeley at the Rover Run Dog Park and the River Bluffs Open Space in Larimer County, along the Poudre River Trail Corridor.

The three mobile devices will be available May 1, 2016 for NFRMPO member communities to check out for short duration counts. A training session for member community staff will occur on April 26, 2016 in the NFRMPO's offices at 9:00 a.m. All interested communities and organizations are encouraged to attend, but the use of the devices will be limited to NFRMPO member communities.

Please forward questions or count location requests to Aaron Buckley ([abuckley@nfrmpo.org](mailto:abuckley@nfrmpo.org)).



## North I-25 Coalition Forms I-25 Funding Subcommittee

Providing funding for the maintenance and expansion of I-25 in northern Colorado is a major regional issue and a goal of the NFRMPO Planning Council. CDOT, along with other state and local agencies, applied for funding from the National Disaster Resilience Competition to replace four bridges along North I-25, three of which are in the NFRMPO. Unfortunately, these projects were not selected for funding. As a result, local governments and organizations came together to focus on funding improvements along North I-25.

The North I-25 Coalition formed a Funding Subcommittee, comprised of representatives from communities along north I-25, the Fix I-25 Business Alliance, CDOT Region 4, CDOT legislative staff, the High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTe), and the NFRMPO. Members of the subcommittee meet to discuss funding issues, challenges, and possibilities in Northern Colorado. Funding possibilities include applying to federal programs such as Fostering Advancement in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE), Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA); state funding from the Colorado General Fund and the TRANs Bonds II program and private and local funds.

The first meeting occurred on February 5, 2016, with the second meeting on March 11, 2016. The February meeting provided an update on the National Disaster Resilience Competition, updated I-25 cost estimates by segment and segment priorities for funding, and the North I-25 Funding options brochure. Agenda items from March included

updated cost estimates by segment; Traffic and Revenue Studies; Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act funding; and an updated North I-25 Funding Options brochure. The Subcommittee agreed to work closely on both a TIGER and a FASTLANE grant for improving North I-25. Many local communities have already committed funding for matching federal dollars for North I-25 improvements.

The North I-25 Funding Options Brochure is a tool produced by the NFRMPO, which looks at available funding streams at the federal, state, and local levels. Because no one funding source is large enough to fund the entirety of North I-25 maintenance and expansion, the brochure provides information about a range of options. The brochure is available at: [http://](http://bit.ly/1QNeGxU)

[bit.ly/1QNeGxU](http://bit.ly/1QNeGxU)



Sunrise, Ft. Collins, CO - Paul Sullivan - Flickr



I-25 - Ricky Romero - Flickr

## Updated NFRMPO Riders Guide

### New Contact Information, Provider Updates, and Service Revisions

Throughout the winter, the NFRMPO worked on the new Riders Guide. The Guide was last updated in 2014. Updates include new contact information, changes to providers and types of services available, and a new format. The new format categorizes the information to make the guide more user-friendly.

At its core, the Rider's Guide provides access to information about the travel services needed for self-sufficiency and independence. Available in a print version and online, the guide provides an overview of public transportation services in the North Front Range region, including fixed-route, paratransit, and demand-response services. Contact information is provided for each agency and organization for users to obtain more information about fares and schedules.

The NFRMPO Rider's Guide is the result of a collaborative effort between the NFRMPO, Larimer County Mobility Committee (LCMC) and the Weld County Mobility Committee (WCMC). Both the LCMC and the WCMC provided comments, guidance, and contact information.

The print version of the Rider's Guide will complement the Online Rider's Guide, which is available at [noco.findmyride.info](http://noco.findmyride.info). The Online Rider's Guide provides the same information as the print version, but allows the user to identify which services are available for the time of day, type of trip, and considers mobility needs.



## Non-Motorized Plan Public Outreach

### New Plan Initiated for 2016-2017 and Non-Motorized Plan Survey

The NFRMPO has begun developing its Non-Motorized Transportation plan and is requesting public input. Click here, [Non-Motorized Plan Survey](#) to provide your input on non-motorized transportation in the region. Your responses will be considered in the formation of the plan.

The plan builds on the 2013 [NFRMPO Regional Bicycle Plan](#) by incorporating pedestrian systems and recreational trails. It will update completed sections of the 12 regional bicycle corridors presented in the previous plan and in the 2040 RTP, and will add recommendations on developing and monitoring bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, plans, and programs across the region. Furthermore, topics concerning health, accessibility, system equity, and environmental aspects will be incorporated into the plan. Planning Council adoption of the plan is anticipated to be in December 2016.

The first community event where the NFRMPO will be discussing the plan is the first annual FC Bikes Projects Fair on Wednesday, April 13 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Museum of Discovery (408 Mason Ct. Fort Collins, CO 80524). Additional outreach events will be scheduled soon. Stay tuned to the NFRMPO website or contact Aaron Buckley ([abuckley@nfrmpo.org](mailto:abuckley@nfrmpo.org)) with any outreach opportunities, questions, comments, or feedback.



# CDOT US 85 Planning & Environmental Linkages Study

## Strategic Vision to Address Safety, Mobility, and Access Concerns

CDOT has been conducting a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study for the 62 mile segment of US Highway 85 (US 85) between Interstate 76 (I-76) in Commerce City to Weld County Road 100 (WCR 100) in Nunn.

The objective of the US 85 PEL study is to develop a strategic vision for US 85 which addresses safety, mobility, and access concerns. The study identifies the needs along US 85, creates a vision to address those needs, determines the short- and long-term transportation priorities, and positions the corridor for successful and streamlined implementation of identified improvements. Short- and long-term improvements have been identified and prioritized through a collaborative process with stakeholders along the corridor. The US 85 Access Control Plan (1999) served as a foundation for this study.

On February 11, a US 85 Executive Committee Meeting was held to discuss the progress of the study to date, the recommended improvements, and the prioritization process developed and used to rank locations along the corridor in greatest need of improvement. The study used three main measures to recommend improvements: mobility, safety, and railroad interaction. Applying the measures to the US 85 corridor resulted in eight locations rising to the top:

104th Avenue	WCR 14.5/14th Street
120th Avenue	WCR 32
Bromley Lane	37th Street
124th Avenue	31st Street

Next steps in the US 85 PEL process include:

- Continued coordination between the project team and the US 85 Technical Advisory Committee to develop conceptual level cost estimates;
- A series of public meetings to be held in Spring 2016, in late March and early April;
- Finalization of the US 85 PEL report and fact sheets; and
- Amendments to the US 85 Access Control Plan.



U.S. 85 approaching Greeley, CO. LaSalle, CO, just below South Platte River, Peckham, CO in center, and Gilcrest, in lower right - Ken Lund - Flickr

## Department Spotlight: Transportation Planning Team

The Transportation Planning team at the NFRMPO provides support to local government and transit agencies through the planning process, allowing them to receive federal funding for transportation projects and programs. The process involves maintaining the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) which highlights existing and forecasted growth and long-term projects, programming funds for current projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and completing air quality conformity as well as other federally required documents and plans.



Transportation Planning Team Left to Right:  
Jenna Levin, Medora Kealy, Becky Karasko,  
Aaron Buckley, and Alex Gordon

For more information on the transportation planning team of the NFRMPO, visit our website at [www.nfrmpo.org](http://www.nfrmpo.org) or contact one of the team members below:

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## New I-25 Courtesy Patrol

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is funding and staffing a Courtesy Patrol along north I-25, between the Highway 66 and Highway 14 (Mulberry) exits. The service began February 29th using one roving vehicle during the peak AM and PM commute hours, Monday through Friday.

The purpose of the CDOT Courtesy Patrol, is to provide assistance to stranded motorists on I-25 with the following issues:

- Running out of gas: 1 free gallon of gas will be provided to stranded motorists.
- Jumping a dead battery: a jumpstart will be provided to get the stranded vehicle moving again.
- Fixing a flat tire: will change a flat tire, if the vehicle has a spare.
- Moving a vehicle out of danger: push or pull a stranded vehicle away from vehicle travel lanes

The CDOT Courtesy Patrol vehicle is a red truck with blue and white signage that clearly identifies the vehicle to the public. It will operate on a roving basis and can only be dispatched by CDOT, the public cannot contact the service directly.



# Motorist SAFETY

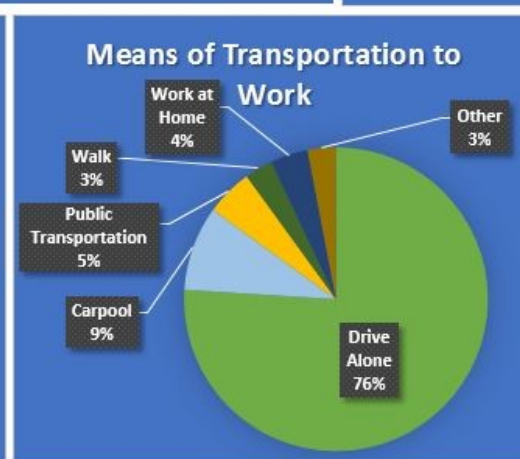
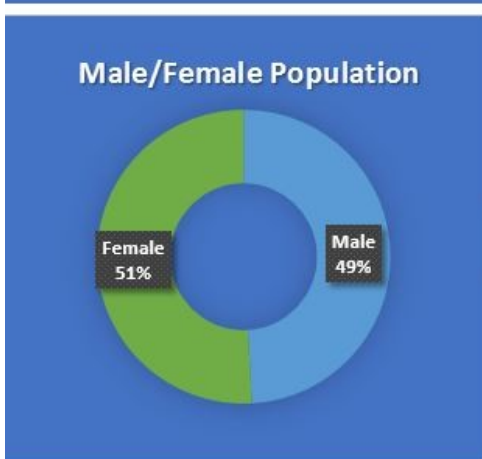
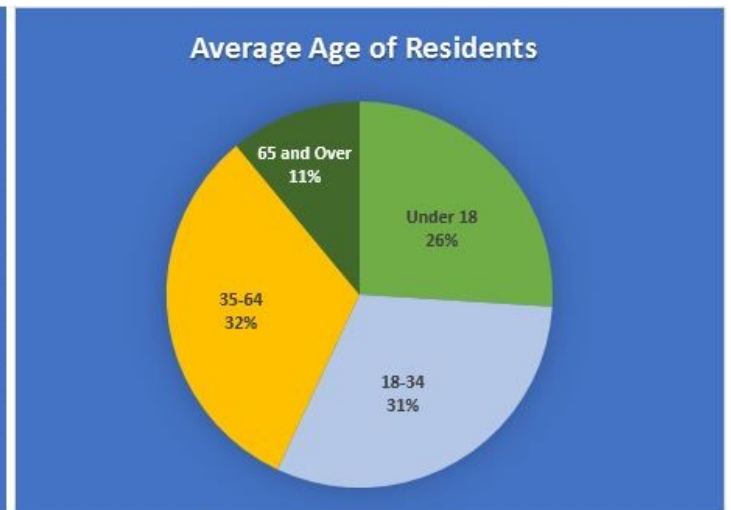
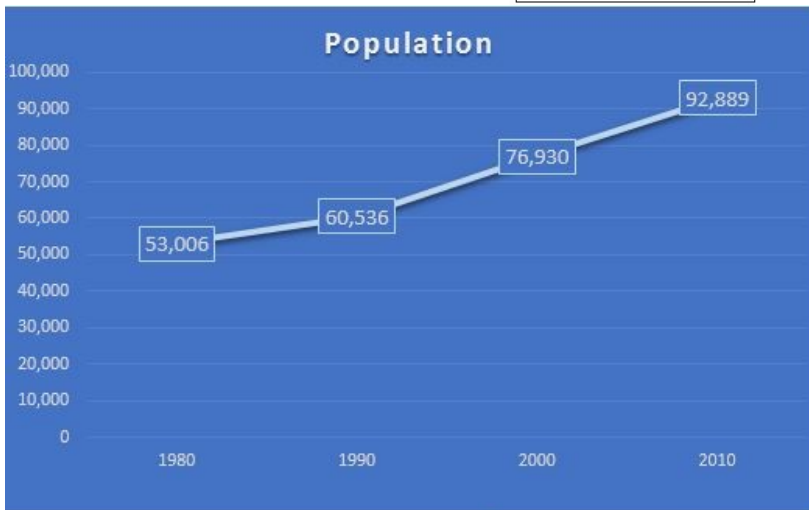
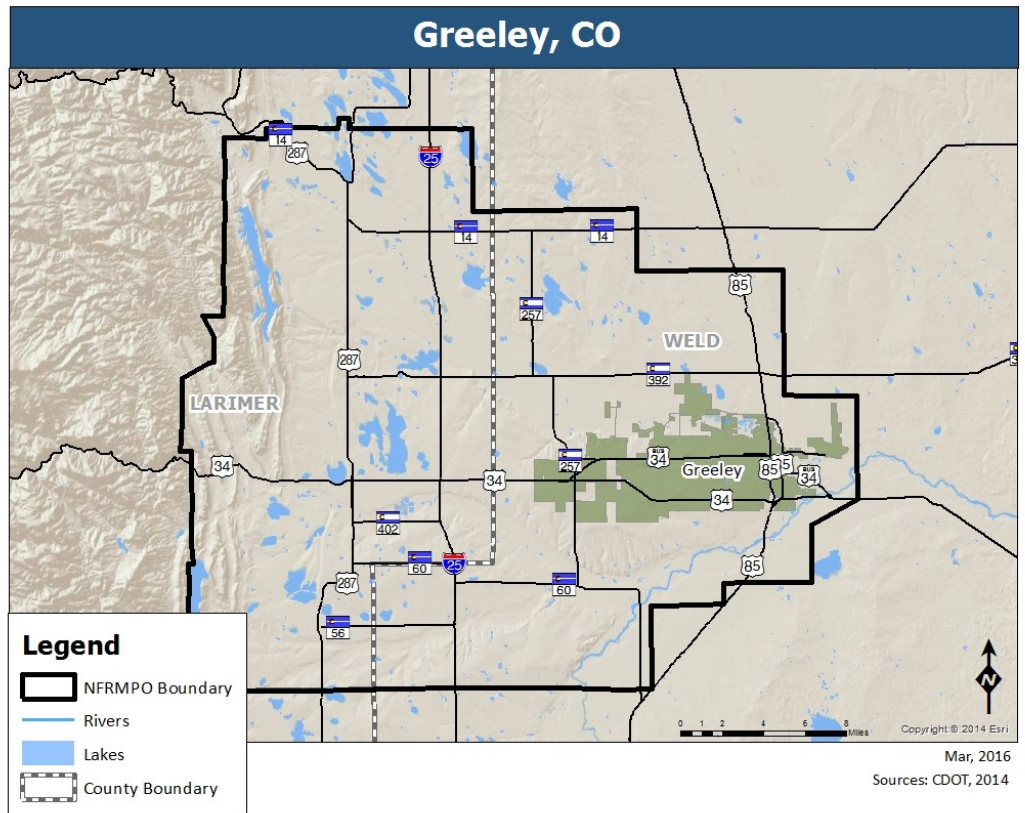


**CDOT Partner**

# Quarterly Member Profile

## The City of Greeley

The City of Greeley, Colorado, is the county seat, and the most populous municipality in Weld County. Incorporated in 1885, the City is now home to over 100,000 residents (Colorado Department of Local Affairs Estimate), sits at an elevation of 4,658 feet, and occupies a land area of 30 square miles. Visit the City of Greeley's website at <http://greeleygov.com/> for more information. The images below contain a snapshot of information about the City as a community.



# Upcoming Events

April		
6th 4:00 pm	US 85 Planning and Environmental Linkage Study Public Meeting	Eaton Town Hall, 223 1st St., Eaton, CO 80615
6th 6:30 pm	I-25 Coalition	Southwest Weld County Services Center 4209 Weld CR 24 1/2, Longmont 80504
7th 5:30 pm	NFRMPO Council Meeting	LaSalle Town Hall, 128 N 2nd Street, LaSalle, CO 80645
13th 10:00 am	NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative	Windsor Town Hall, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, 301 Walnut Street Windsor, CO 80550
14th 2:30 pm	Northern Colorado Highway 287 Corridor Coalition	Loveland Public Library, Gertrude Scott Meeting Room, 300 N Adams Ave, Loveland, CO 80537
20th 1:00 pm	Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room 250 N. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Windsor, CO 80550
21st 1:30 pm	Larimer County Mobility Committee	Foothills Gateway, 301 W. Skyway Drive in Fort Collins, CO 80525
26th 9:00 am	Mobile Bicycle and Pedestrian Counter Training	NFRMPO Offices 419 Canyon Avenue, Suite 300 Fort Collins, CO 80521

May		
4th 6:30 pm	I-25 Coalition	Southwest Weld County Services Center 4209 Weld CR 24 1/2, Longmont 80504
5th 5:30 pm	NFRMPO Council Meeting	Loveland Police Institute, 810 East 10th Street, Loveland, CO 80537
11th 10:00 am	NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Windsor Town Hall, 301 Walnut Street Windsor, CO 80550
18th 1:00 pm	Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room 250 N. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Windsor, CO 80550
24th 1:30 pm	Weld County Mobility Committee	Greeley Chamber of Commerce, 902 7th Ave, Greeley, CO 80631
30th	Memorial Day	NFRMPO Offices Closed

June		
1st 6:30 pm	I-25 Coalition	Southwest Weld County Services Center 4209 Weld CR 24 1/2, Longmont 80504
2nd 5:30 pm	NFRMPO Council Meeting	Brookside Gardens, 619 E State Hwy 56, Berthoud, CO 80513
8th 10:00 am	NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Windsor Town Hall, 301 Walnut Street Windsor, CO 80550
15th 1:00 pm	Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room 250 N. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Windsor, CO 80550
16th 1:30 pm	Larimer County Mobility Committee	TBD
23rd 2:30 pm	Northern Colorado Highway 287 Corridor Coalition	Loveland Public Library, Gertrude Scott Meeting Room, 300 N Adams Ave, Loveland, CO 80537

APRIL 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sat
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.nfrmpo.org](http://www.nfrmpo.org)

*The goal of the NFRMPO is to enhance mobility and air quality within Northern Colorado by developing cooperative, working relationships and financial partnerships among member governments, the Colorado Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and other public agencies as well as the private sector.*

