

Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, July 12, 2017
Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room
250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550

1. Introductions

In attendance:

- ❖ Aaron Buckley, CSU
- ❖ Andy Nagel, Great Western Trail Authority
- ❖ Annemarie Heinrich, Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
- ❖ Betsy Jacobsen, CDOT
- ❖ John Ringland, Resident of Wellington
- ❖ Katie Guthrie, City of Loveland
- ❖ Kelly Smith, City of Loveland
- ❖ Kyle Fehr, City of Evans
- ❖ Nancy Nichols, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Ryan Dusil, NFRMPO
- ❖ Suzanne Bassinger, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Terri Blackmore, NFRMPO
- ❖ Tessa Greegor, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Tom Jones, Great Western Trail Authority
- ❖ Wade Willis, Town of Windsor
- ❖ Will Karspeck, Town of Berthoud

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The May 10, 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. NoCo Workshop Funds Discussion

Willis explained NoCo would like to partner with an organization to hold profits from NoCo workshops so they can be used by the group for future workshops and events. Blackmore explained the methods by which the NFRMPO can open a bank account to hold profits from NoCo workshops. NoCo can file for 501c3 status and the NFRMPO will hold the funds at no cost. Alternatively, if NoCo does not file for 501c3 status, the group would pay the NFRMPO a small fee to cover the administrative costs associated with the NFRMPO's audit. Willis stated when NoCo was formed, members elected not to apply for 501c3 status and does not think the group has changed enough to justify filing at this time. The group agreed unanimously to pay the NFRMPO a small fee to hold workshop funds. Willis will work with Blackmore and NFRMPO staff to complete a written agreement.

Guthrie stated for future workshops, the group should agree on a single online registration platform. NoCo went through the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) for the February 2017 workshop and the American Planning Association (APA) Colorado Chapter for the June 2017 workshop. Guthrie stated APA Colorado charged less money per registrant than CPRA. Guthrie also stated APA Colorado does a good job of advertising events statewide, boosting registration from outside the region.

Willis stated he will contact CPRA to see claim any February workshop profits now that NoCo will have a place to keep them. APA Colorado will hold on to the June Workshop profits until the agreement between NFRMPO and NoCo is finalized.

4. Additional Non-Motorized Funds Discussion

Blackmore stated two projects awarded Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding through previous NFRMPO Calls for Projects will be returning approximately \$383,000 combined to the region. Blackmore stated the funds should be applied to an existing project because the amount will likely not fund a new project. Additionally, Blackmore would like the funds to go toward a project that will begin construction in 2018 or 2019 because the funds are very old. The funds have not yet been returned and there is currently no timeline for when the funds will become available. Jacobsen suggested the group have a work session at the August meeting to prioritize regional projects. Willis asked members to bring proposed projects with them in August. Dusil will bring a large map of the Regional Non-Motorized Corridors (RNMCs), non-motorized facility inventory, and non-motorized counter inventory. Dusil stated the NFRMPO will soon purchase an additional infrared bicycle and pedestrian counter, as well as two additional permanent counters. The group will also discuss priority locations for the permanent counters at the August meeting.

5. NoCo Workshop Committee

Willis stated the workshop committee is planning to host one more workshop in 2017. The workshop will have two major themes. First, speakers will discuss how to make winter road and trail maintenance work for all users. The workshop committee would like to have speakers from Colorado State University (CSU) and the City of Fort Collins explain their strategies for keeping bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure usable through the winter months, and other ways to sustain non-motorized mode share. Second, speakers will discuss ways to monetize the value of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to more tangibly show its diverse benefits, as well as the long-term costs of failing to properly budget to maintain it. Jacobsen stated CDOT recently completed a study of the C470 Trail in the Denver region to assess trail condition and justify earmarking maintenance funds for trails, and someone from CDOT may be able present at the workshop. Bassinger stated Zac Wiebe with Larimer County may be a good speaker for the workshop, and Karspeck said the same for Kathleen Bracke from the City of Boulder. The committee plans to hold the meeting in November. Jacobsen suggested holding the workshop during the regularly scheduled meeting time due to the number of events happening in the fall on similar topics.

6. 2018 Walkability Action Institute

Dusil stated in November 2016 a group of NoCo members began the application process for the 2017 Walkability Action Institute (March 27-30) but did not submit it due to time constraints. It was suggested the group begin the application process in July 2017 for the 2018 Walkability Institute to allow adequate time. The action institute is a four-day workshop in which cross-disciplinary teams from a region (MPO, RPO, TPO) consisting of at least one professional in transportation, planning, public health, and an elected official develop an action plan for supporting walkable and sustainable communities. Jacobsen stated she has participated in the past on a state-level team that is still producing deliverables. Although

registration is not yet open, Jacobsen suggested NoCo begin discussing what the group's mission would be and how the process works to be ready when the application opens. Guthrie stated Loveland has a City Council member who may be involved. Karspeck stated he would be interested as an elected official as well. Dusil will send out information from the 2017 Walkability Action Institute and NoCo will continue discussing the matter in August.

7. Regional Trail Updates

On behalf of Zac Wiebe, Dusil stated the Fort Collins to Loveland portion of the Front Range Trail is under construction and scheduled to be completed by September 1.

Willis stated the Town of Windsor recently completed a maintenance guidance document for the Poudre Trail and will share more at the August meeting.

Karspeck stated the Town of Berthoud has completed its section of the Front Range Trail around the Heron Lakes golf course to Lone Tree Reservoir. The town also has preliminary plans to cross the BNSF railway to connect to the Little Thompson Trail.

Nichols asked what agency manages the Poudre River Trail through Bellevue and LaPorte because there are tree roots causing trail disruption. Bassinger stated it is Larimer County and Zac Wiebe would be a good contact.

Bassinger stated 1.2 new additional miles of the Fossil Creek Trail are scheduled to open next summer.

Guthrie stated Loveland held 11 events over the course of June Bike Month. Bike to Church was one of the most successful events, attracting 60 people at one church with various incentives and activities. Guthrie will share a report on Bike Month with the group. Jacobsen suggested Loveland and other communities conduct follow-up evaluations of continuing ridership following Bike Month and Bike to Work Day events.

Smith stated the trail segment from Namaqua Road to Wilson Avenue in Loveland went out to bid recently and should be completed in September. The Long View Trail will go out to bid in August.

Fehr stated two new bikes lanes will be painted in Evans by the end of 2017

Jones stated surveying from Severance to Eaton will take place the week of July 17, 2017. The Great Western Trail Authority is also in the final stages of establishing the Great Western Trail Foundation.

Greggor stated the Fort Collins Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) is exploring a municipal policy on e-bikes following state legislation allowing them on roads. Currently e-bikes are not allowed on trails in Fort Collins. The BAC would like to develop a white paper and recommendation that incorporates policy and experiences from other jurisdictions. Guthrie and Karspeck stated the recommendation would be useful to Loveland and Berthoud, respectively.

Gregor added the Pitkin Bikeway and Toucan crossings will open in the next few days.

Buckley stated the Elizabeth and Shields bicycle and pedestrian underpass will open in a month. The new stadium and various other buildings will be finishing up as well.

8. NFRMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Dusil stated the July TAC meeting will be held Wednesday, July 19, 2017 in the Windsor Recreation Center Pine Room at 1:00pm. Dusil will update TAC on the NFRMPO's bicycle and pedestrian count program. Willis and Karspeck will both attend the meeting to give the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative update.

9. Updates / Other Business

No items this month.