

Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Windsor Recreation Center, Buckeye/Redwood Room

250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550

1. Introductions

- ❖ Aaron Buckley, CSU
- ❖ AnnaRose Cunningham, NFRMPO
- ❖ Brian Stone, City of Evans
- ❖ Dave Dixon, Bike Fort Collins
- ❖ Erica Hine, Bicycle Colorado
- ❖ Evan Pinkham, Weld County
- ❖ Katie Guthrie, City of Loveland
- ❖ Leslie Beckstrom, WCDPHE
- ❖ Liz Young Winne, LCDHE
- ❖ Matt Ruder, City of Loveland
- ❖ Mitch Nelson, Town of Severance
- ❖ Nancy Nichols, City of Fort Collins
- ❖ Ryan Dusil, NFRMPO
- ❖ Tess Jones, Citizen / Cycling Without Age
- ❖ Tom Jones, Great Western Trail Authority
- ❖ Wade Willis, Town of Windsor
- ❖ Will Karspeck, Town of Berthoud

2. August Recap and Next Steps

Dusil stated the notes from the August meeting will be used to continue the organizational structure discussion. The individuals who expressed interest in continuing the conversation as a small group will meet and develop a recommendation to bring back to the larger group in the next couple months.

3. State Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF) and Other Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Dusil stated the NFRMPO is receiving \$5.57M funding from the Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF) created in Senate Bill (SB) 18-001. Dusil stated bicycle and pedestrian projects are an eligible use of those funds. The NFRMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will discuss the project selection process for the MMOF at their October 16 meeting and NoCo members are encouraged to attend. MMOF money requires a 50% local match. The local match can include any money that isn't MMOF money and some communities are eligible to submit a match relief request to reduce their contribution. Heidt stated DRCOG has already awarded MMOF money they were allotted after several workshops where projects were identified and prioritized based on how they contributed to connectivity between communities. Guthrie stated transit and other mobility projects are eligible for the MMOF, but NoCo should be sure to demonstrate there is a demand for more bicycle and pedestrian project funding.

4. Workshop: Regional Bike & Ped Project Updates

Dusil stated this workshop is an opportunity to identify and quantify the planning and funding needs for bicycle and pedestrian projects on or connecting to the NFRMPO's Regional Non-Motorized Corridors (RNMCS). Dusil stated these updates can be used to support TAC's upcoming discussion of the MMOF and 2020 Call for Projects, the NFRMPO's 2021 Non-Motorized Plan, CDOT's 2020 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) application period, and other initiatives. Information gathered during the workshop and other sources was combined to create **Attachment A: NFRMPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Pipeline**. Funding estimates in Attachment A are approximate and figures will be updated as more information becomes available.

5. Roundtable Updates

Jones stated she is with a global organization called Cycling Without Age that provides free rides to older adults with limited mobility. The rides are always free and the “pilots” will typically take riders anywhere the bike can physically and legally go. Jones stated the Northern Colorado Chapter currently consists of her and two other women in Windsor. Their team is trying to identify both start-up and ongoing funding. The typical bike they use costs approximately \$10,000. Jones requested ideas or contacts for identifying potential partners and assistance identifying insurance needs. Jones plans to talk with individual communities to gauge interest. Dusil will send Jones’ information out to the group.

Willis stated Windsor staff recently presented a list of potential quick wins for improving bikeability to the Town Board and the presentation was received well. The Windsor Parks and Open Space Division is kicking off a Strategic Master Plan. Willis expects the River Bluffs Open Space trail connection to go to bid soon and the Poudre River Trail gaps between Windsor and Fort Collins to be completed by 2023.

Beckstrom stated the Weld County Community Health Survey is out now and October 2nd is National Walk to School Day.

Nichols stated the City of Fort Collins is currently conducting bike counts around town and tallying bicycles at schools to better understand bike travel patterns

Buckley stated the students have returned to CSU and the recent pedestrian death on Pitkin Ave is under investigation. E-scooters will be coming to campus and the greater City later this fall.

Heidt stated the City of Brighton recently submitted a grant application for the Spear Canal Trail to connect Barr Lake State Park to Lochbuie and Hudson and also submitted an application for Bicycle Friendly Community Status from the League of American Bicyclists. The City is also working on completing a 22-mile loop trail around the community. The City is using the Fort Collins’ bicycle wayfinding guidance and template developed in 2015. It is referenced in Brighton’s Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Plan, and will be in their Parks, Open Space, Recreation, and Trails (PORT) Plan. Willis stated there is still a desire among partners in the NFRMPO region to standardize bicycle wayfinding so users are receiving a consistent message regardless of where they are on the regional network.

Hines stated Bicycle Colorado’s Annual Bike Summit is next month and the agenda should be posted soon. Heidt stated getting Council members to attend this summit in the past has helped them get more done locally.

Attachment A: NFRMPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Pipeline



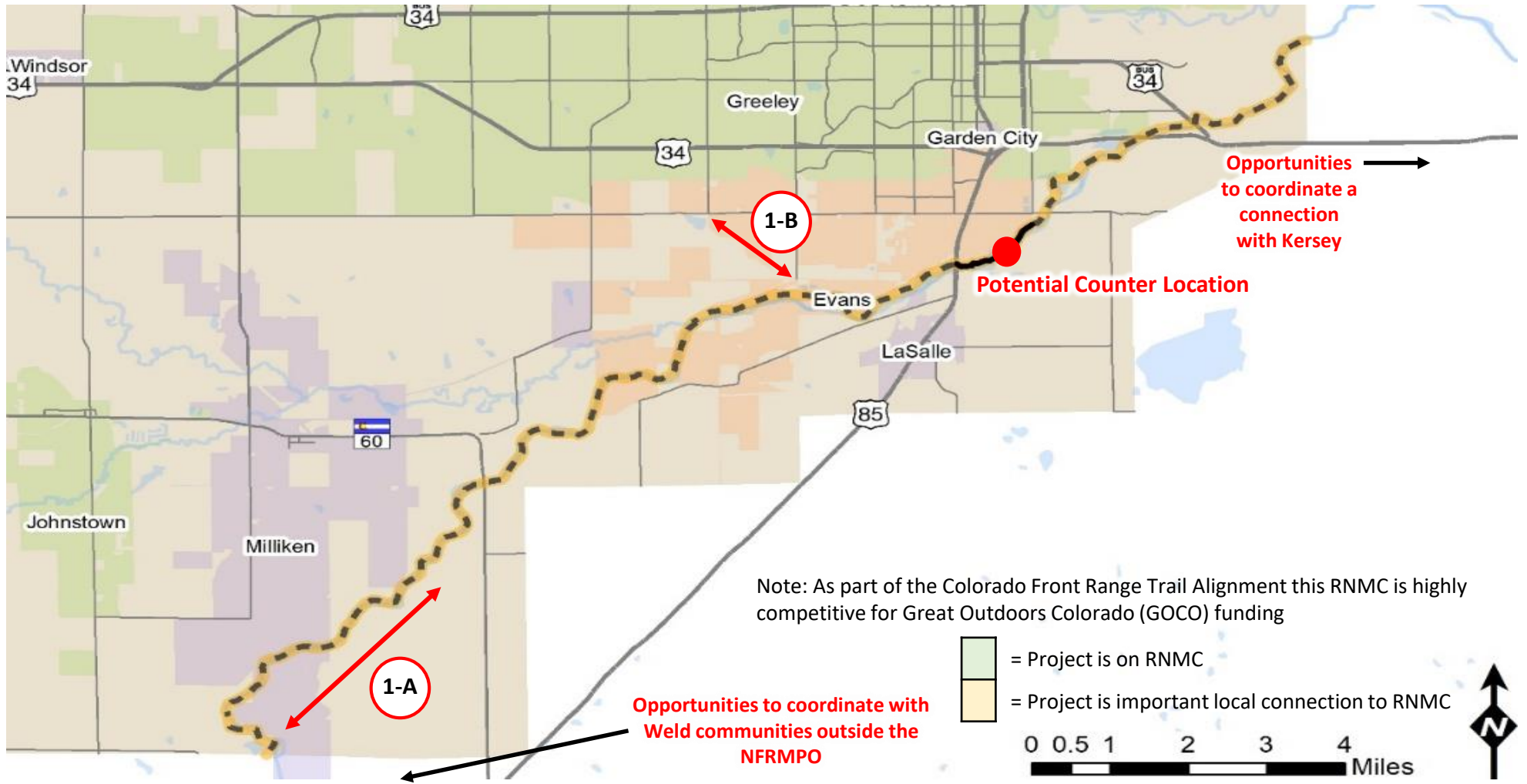
This Project Pipeline represents a 10-year list of bicycle and pedestrian projects on the NFRMPO's Regional Non-Motorized Corridor (RNMC) network, important local connections to the RNMC network, and other non-corridor-specific needs. Nearly half of the identified projects in the following pages do not currently have cost estimates and are not included in the overall funding need estimates. Estimates will be added as more information becomes available. For the the projects with cost information, the following estimates conservatively represent the funding need over the next decade as identified by NFRMPO member agencies and planning partners:

- Projects on the RNMC network = **\$24.7M**
- Important local connections to the RNMC network = **\$7.1M**
- Other regional projects, initiatives, and programs = **\$472,000**

The projects listed in the following pages vary widely in complexity, geographic scale, and current phase. It is anticipated a portion of the identified need will be appropriated as local budgets are adopted. 12 of the NFRMPO's 15 member agencies have submitted projects for the Project Pipeline.

The Project Pipeline can serve as a starting point for non-motorized project prioritization in the NFRMPO region as funding and partnership opportunities present themselves. The NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative requests the NFRMPO use this Project Pipeline be used as a reference for the Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF), the biennial Call for Projects, and other opportunities where bicycle and pedestrian projects can be considered.

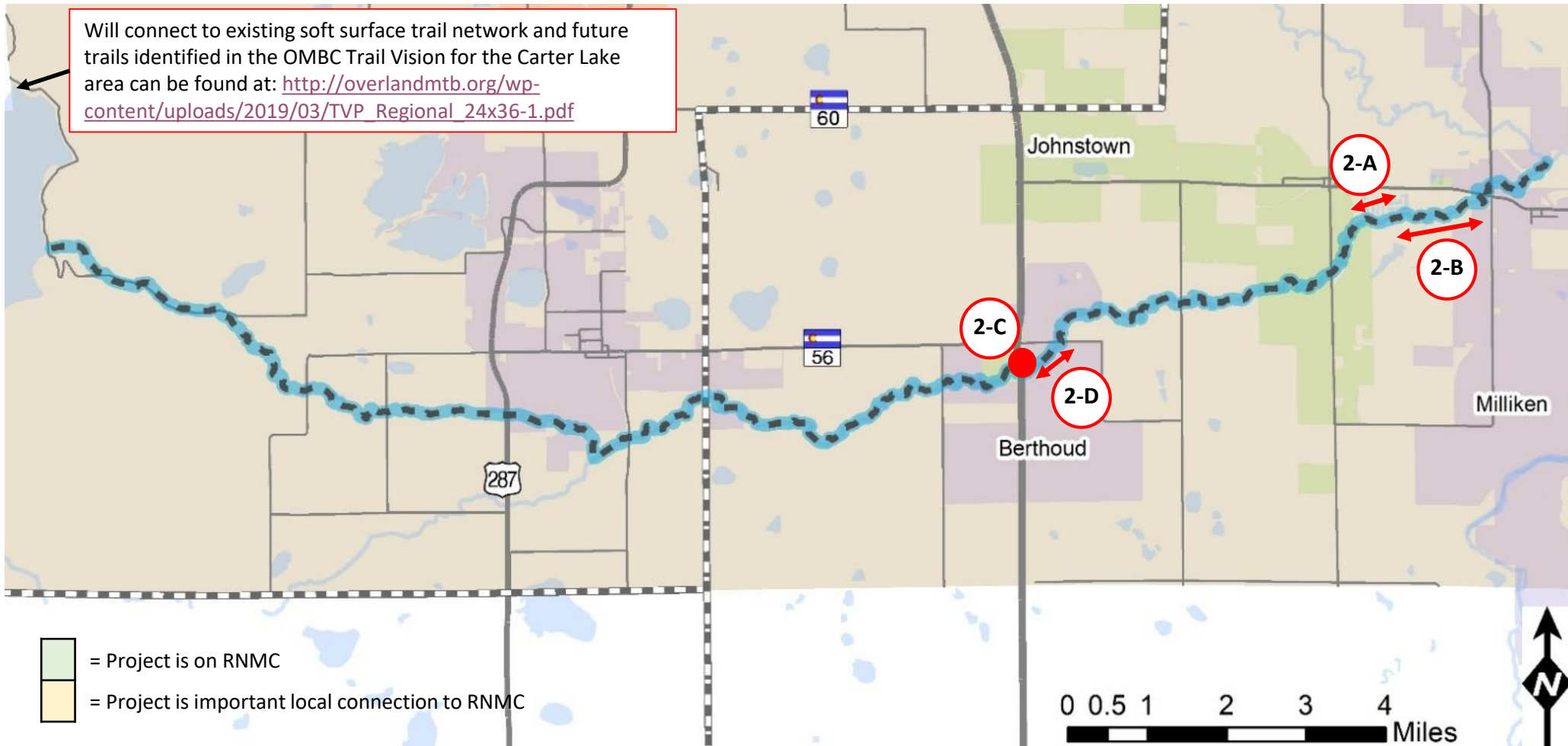
RNMC #1: South Platte / American Discovery Trail / Front Range Trail (East)



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
1-A	Wildcat Trail Environmental Impact Mitigation – Thompson River Parks and Rec District (TRPR) is working with state agencies to determine habitat mitigation needs along the trail alignment between Milliken and Firestone. Funding for eventual mitigation efforts and trail construction may be needed	Ongoing	TBD	TBD
1-B	Ashcroft Trail Land Acquisition for Trailhead – The City of Evans is working to acquire land for a trailhead for the Ashcroft Trail, an important local connection between RNMC #1, Evans residents, and RNMC #11	TBD	TBD	TBD

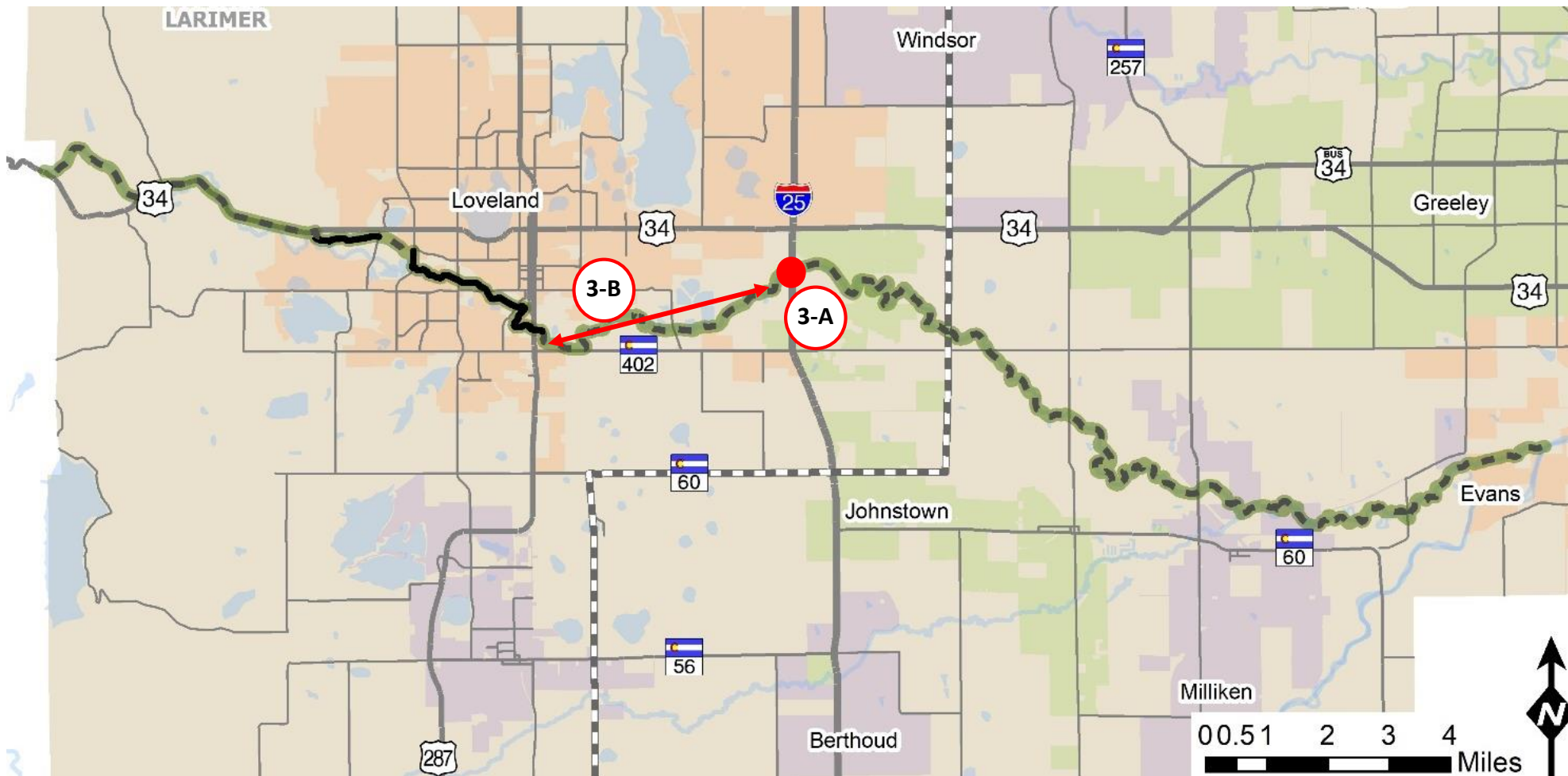
RNMC #2: Little Thompson River

Will connect to existing soft surface trail network and future trails identified in the OMBC Trail Vision for the Carter Lake area can be found at: http://overlandmtb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/TVP_Regional_24x36-1.pdf



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
2-A	Little Thompson River Corridor Trail Phase 1 - Constructs 5,000 linear feet of crusher fines trail and is 8' in width.	2020	\$313,000	\$0
2-B	Johnstown to Milliken – Trail construction would expand the Project 2-A to connect the two towns	TBD	TBD	TBD
2-C	I-25 Trail Crossing – Space will be preserved for a trail crossing of I-25 at the Little Thompson Trail. Berthoud, CDOT, and DNR are working together to design crossing(s) for both humans and wildlife	2022	TBD	\$0
2-D	Southeast Corner of I-25 and SH56 – Developer plans to construct this segment as the area develops	TBD	TBD	\$0

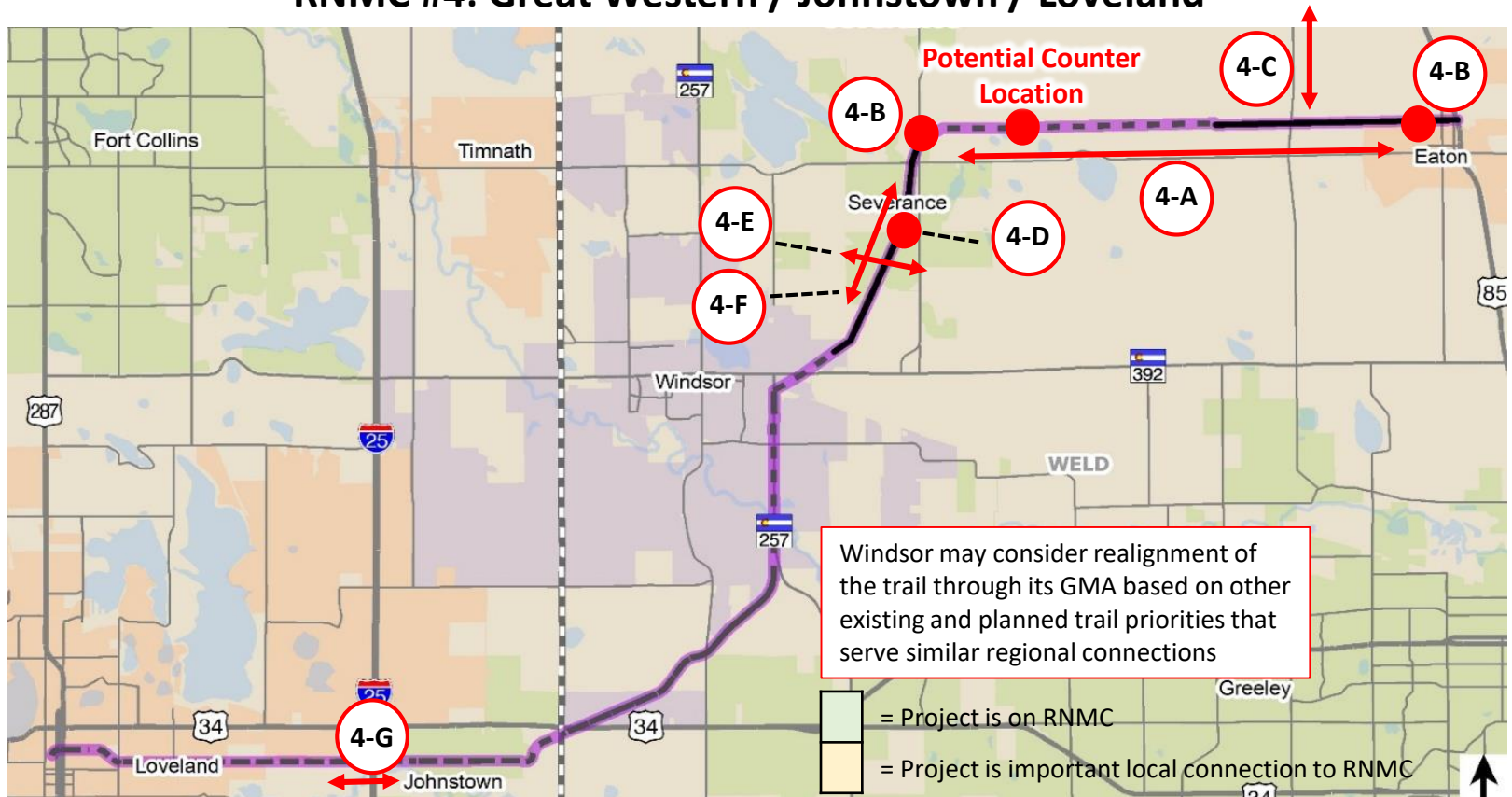
RNMC #3: Big Thompson River



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
3-A	I-25 Trail Underpass at Big Thompson River Bridge – Space will be preserved for a trail crossing as part of CDOT’s work on the Big Thompson bridge. CDOT, Loveland, and Johnstown are working together	2022	TBD	\$0
3-B	East Big Thompson River Trail – From 287 to I-25 underpass, includes City-owned properties, secured easements, and properties requiring access negotiation.	2022-2028	\$8.0 M	\$8.0 M

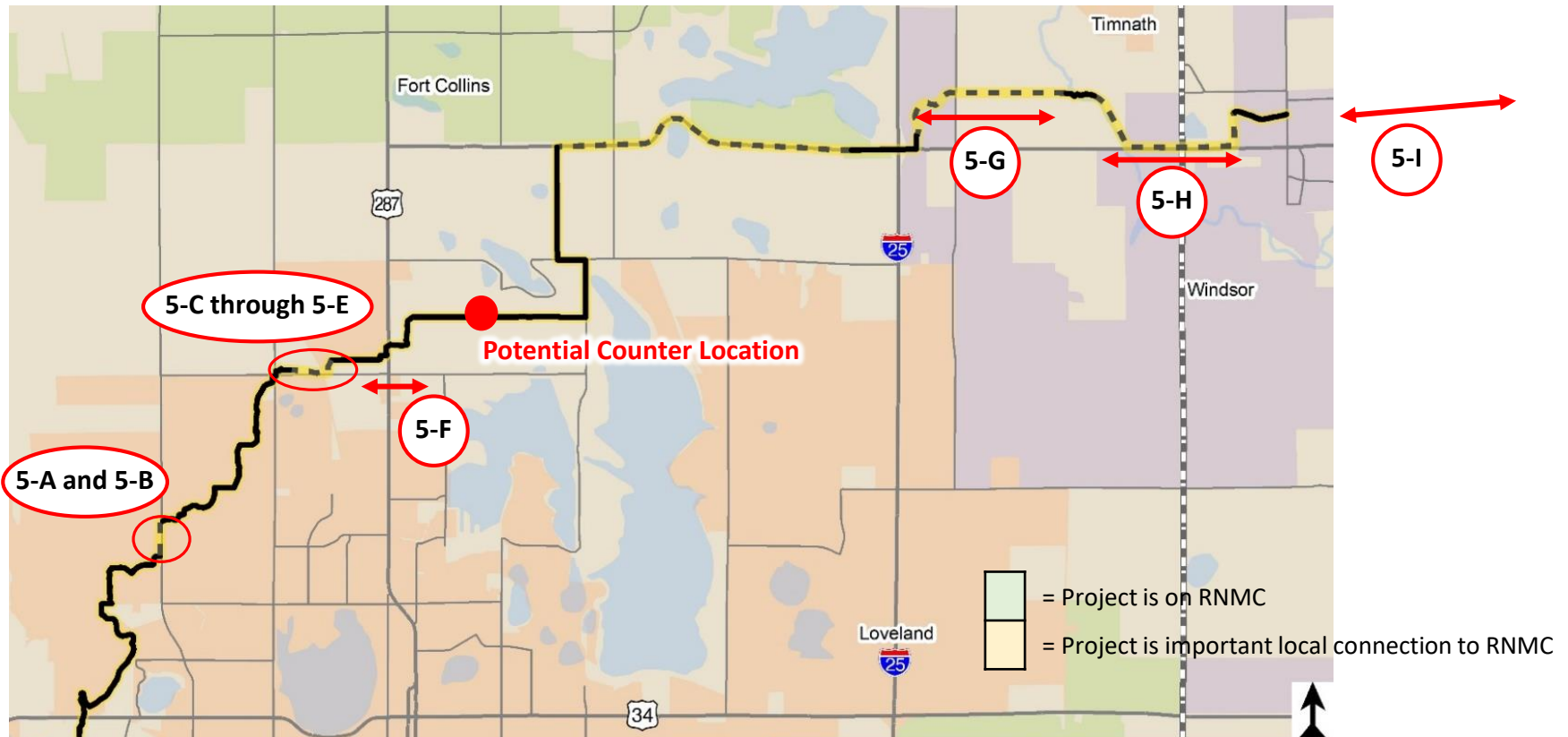
- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

RNMC #4: Great Western / Johnstown / Loveland



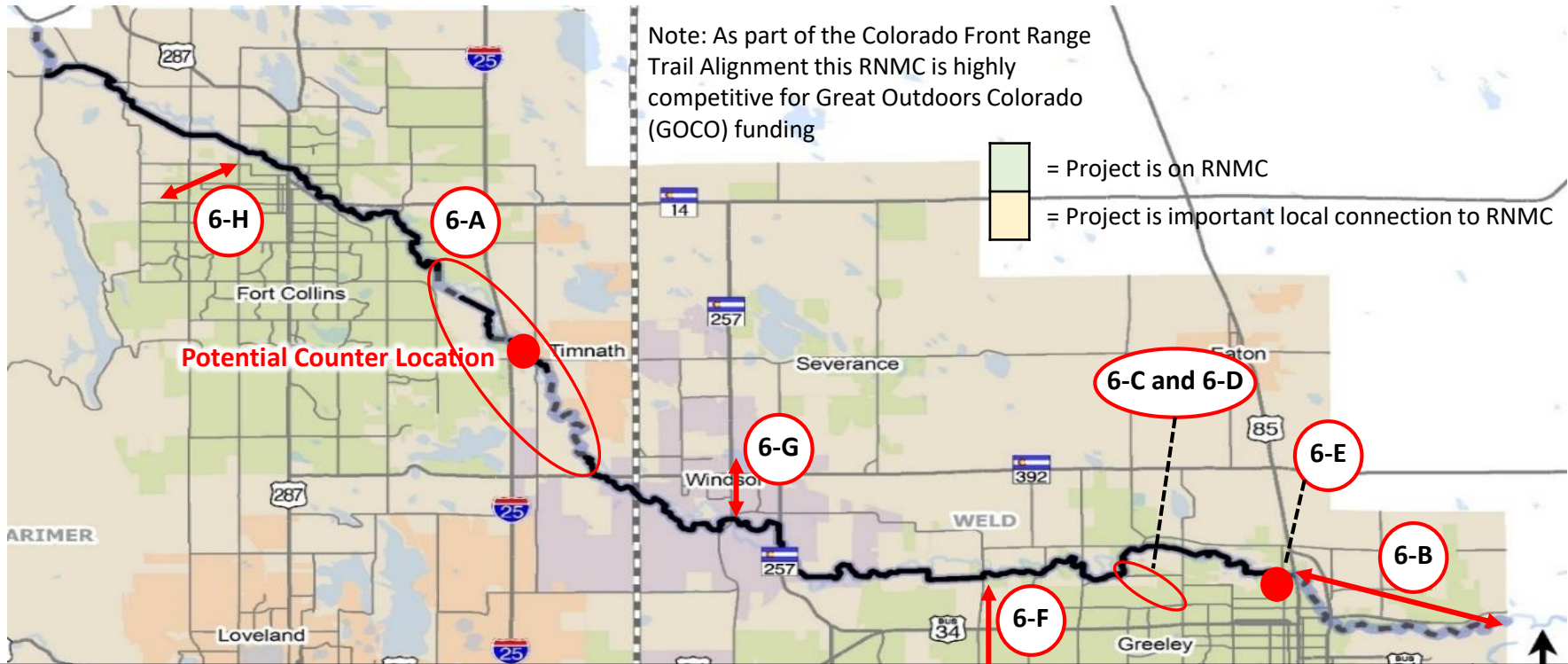
Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
4-A	Severance to Eaton Trail Construction – Using TA funding, trail is expected to be complete in 2020	2020	\$1.1M	\$0
4-B	Trailhead Construction and Design – Trailheads being constructed at WCR23 in Severance and near the Eaton Recreation Center to improve local access. The American Society of Civil Engineers is designing two additional trailheads free of charge	TBD	TBD	TBD
4-C	Loop to Gateway Trail Planning – Town of Ault currently working under a GOCO grant to plan a 3.5 mile trail to connect the town with the Great Western Trail. Identify location; contact landowners; gain permissions; provide preliminary plans and list of cost estimates and ideal materials	Ongoing	\$67,295	\$0
4-D	Severance Town Core Trailhead Construction – Will likely pursue NFRMPO and/or GOCO funding	TBD	\$500-800K	\$500k-800K
4-E	Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Connections to Great Western Trail – Town wants to make several safe connections for students using the trail to get to school	TBD	\$200-500k	\$200-500k
4-F	Paving section of the Great Western Trail in Severance – Pave trail between WCR70 and WCR74 (2.1 Miles)	TBD	\$1.32M	\$1.32M
4-G	LCR 20-E Bike Lanes – Will serve as a safe I-25 crossing and interim for RNMCs #3, #4, and #11	2022	TBD	\$0

RNMC #5: North Loveland / Windsor



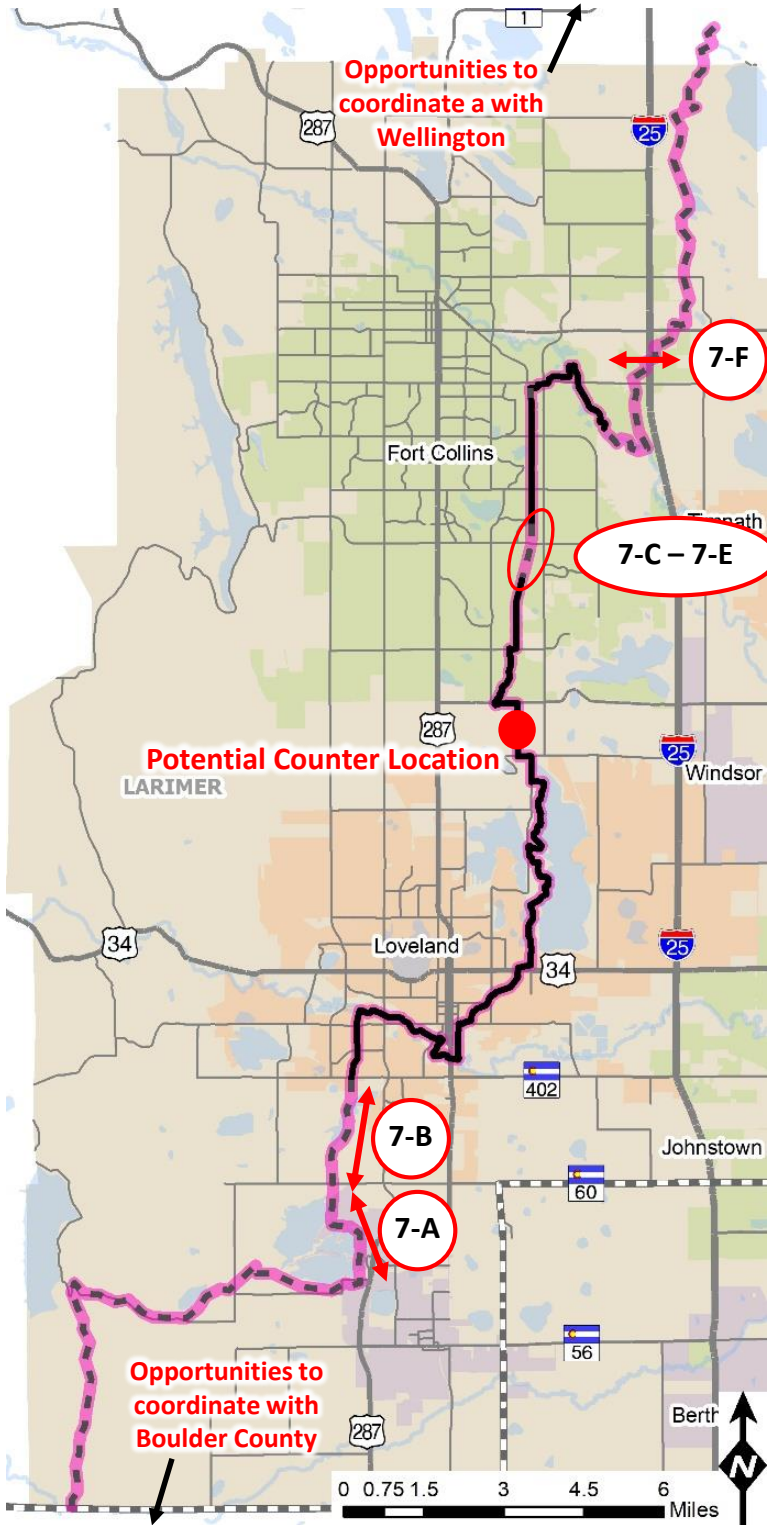
Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
5-A	Wilson Avenue SRTS Trail Construction – Funded through a Colorado SRTS grant	2020	\$980,000	\$0
5-B	Wilson Avenue Trail Underpass Construction – Safe pedestrian underpass at Wilson Avenue	2022	\$3M	\$3M
5-C	Sunset Vista to BNSF Railroad Trail Construction - Runs along 57th Street and into natural area	2020	\$1.2M	Appropriated
5-D	BNSF Railroad At-Grade Trail Crossing Construction – Sunset Vista. Funded through BNSF	2020	\$10K	Appropriated
5-E	Copper Ridge Trail Construction – Funded by developer	2020	\$300K	\$0
5-F	57th St across US287 Shared-Use Path Construction – Important local connection for residents to access Rec Trail, shopping, natural areas, and parks. Currently no pedestrian facilities east of US287 along 57 th	TBD	TBD	TBD
5-G	River Bluffs Open Space to I-25 Trail Construction – Town of Windsor will construct	TBD	TBD	TBD
5-H	Greeley Ditch Trail to River Bluffs Open Space – Town of Windsor will construct	2020	TBD	TBD
5-I	Windsor Lake to WCR19 Trail Construction – Would allow RNMC #5 to be extended to RNMC #4, connecting Eaton and Severance to several new communities	TBD	TBD	TBD

RNMC #6: Poudre River Trail (Colorado Front Range Trail East)



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
6-A	Fort Collins to Windsor Trail Construction – with the help of a \$2M GOCO grant, the three remaining gaps will be filled by 2023.	2022	TBD	\$0
6-B (part 1)	East Poudre Trail Phase 1 – 11 th Ave to 5 th St	TBD	\$510,000	\$510,000
6-B (part 2)	East Poudre Trail Phase 2 and Beyond – Downtown Greeley to the South Platte River	TBD	TBD	TBD
6-C (part 1)	Larson Trail to Poudre River Trail Land Acquisition - Larson Ditch Trail to Rover Run/ Poudre Trail	2021	\$208,000	\$208,000
6-C (part 2)	Larson Trail to Poudre River Trail Construction - Important local connection to RNMC #6	TBD	\$800,000	\$800,000
6-D	Broadview Acres Trail Phases Two and Three Construction – Currently acquiring land, construction timeline dependent on funding; Includes two HAWK signalized crossings	2020	\$639,902	\$364,902
6-E	Island Grove Trailhead Relocation – New location will make the trailhead more accessible	TBD	TBD	TBD
6-F	83rd Avenue Trail Construction – Will connect Sheep Draw Trail near 16 th Street north to RNMC #6	TBD	\$2.2M	\$2.2M
6-G	7th Street Bikeway Construction – Important on-street connection between downtown Windsor and RNMC #6	TBD	TBD	TBD
6-H	Spur Trail from Poudre Trail to two PSD Schools – Important local SRTS connection through northwest Fort Collins neighborhoods, connecting to two schools	TBD	TBD	TBD

RNMC #7: Front Range Trail (West)

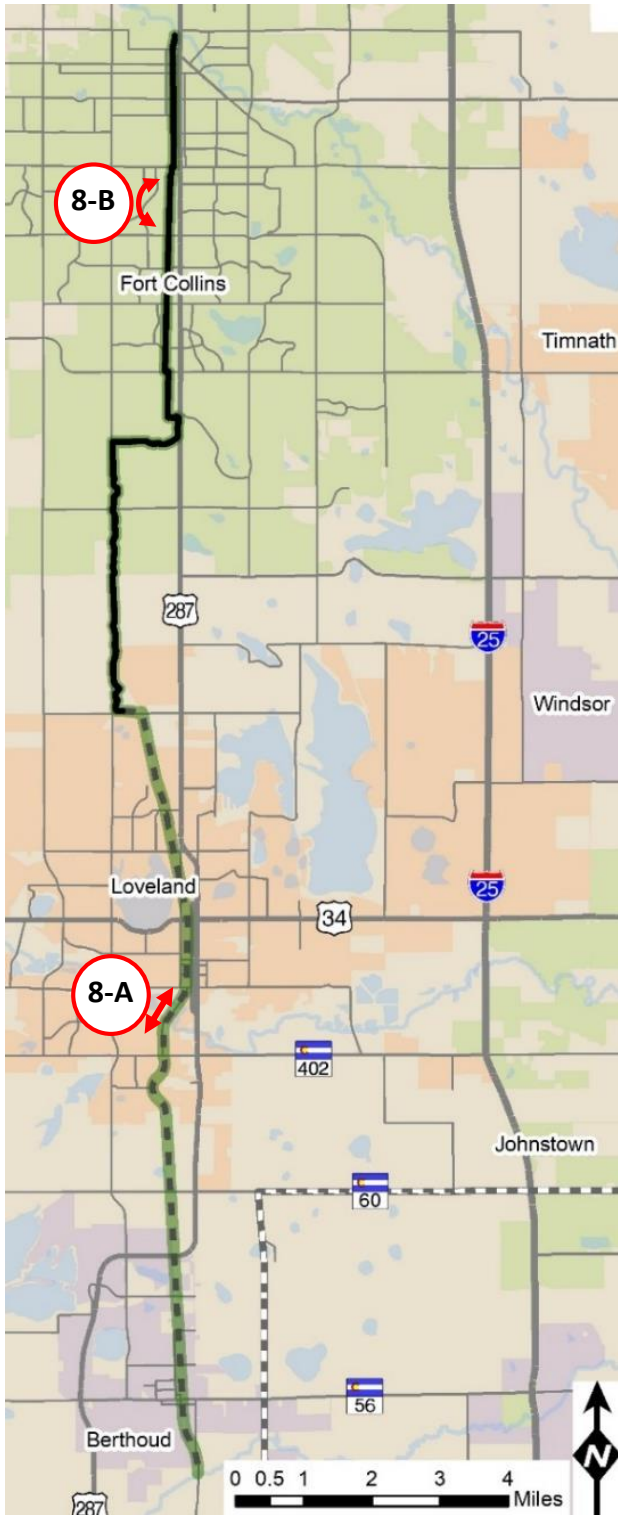


Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
7-A	Heron Lakes Trail Construction – To be funded as part of development at Heron Lakes at TPC	TBD	Developer Funded	\$0
7-B	Berthoud to Loveland Land Acquisition and Trail Construction – Discussion between Berthoud, Larimer County, and Loveland haven't started. Loveland owns land along the potential corridor (Eagle Vista)	2024	\$4.0M	\$2.0M
7-C	Grade-Separated Railroad Crossing Construction near Keenland Dr – Underpass of BNSF railroad south of Harmony Road	TBD	TBD	TBD
7-D	Power Trail Grade-Separated Crossing Construction at Harmony Road - #1 priority grade separation project for City of Fort Collins	2022	\$3.28M	\$2.28M (\$0 if county sales tax passes)
7-E	Grade-Separated Railroad Crossing Construction near Golden Meadows Park – Underpass of BNSF railroad north of Harmony Road	TBD	TBD	TBD
7-F	Feasibility and Alternatives Study of Boxelder Creek Grade-Separated Crossing – Discussions between CDOT and Fort Collins haven't started. Need to determine where/if the crossing is feasible in preparation for next round of North I-25 projects	TBD	TBD	TBD

Note: As part of the Colorado Front Range Trail Alignment this RNMC is highly competitive for Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) funding

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

RNMC #8: BNSF Fort Collins / Berthoud



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
8-A	Alternatives Study to connect Fairgrounds Park to Downtown Loveland – Discussions haven't started. Need to evaluate alternatives for connecting these two important local destinations via shared-use path	TBD	TBD	TBD
8-B	CSU South Campus Spur Trail Construction – Two local connections between RNMC #8, CSU south campus, and Natural Research Center Federal Buildings	TBD	TBD	TBD

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

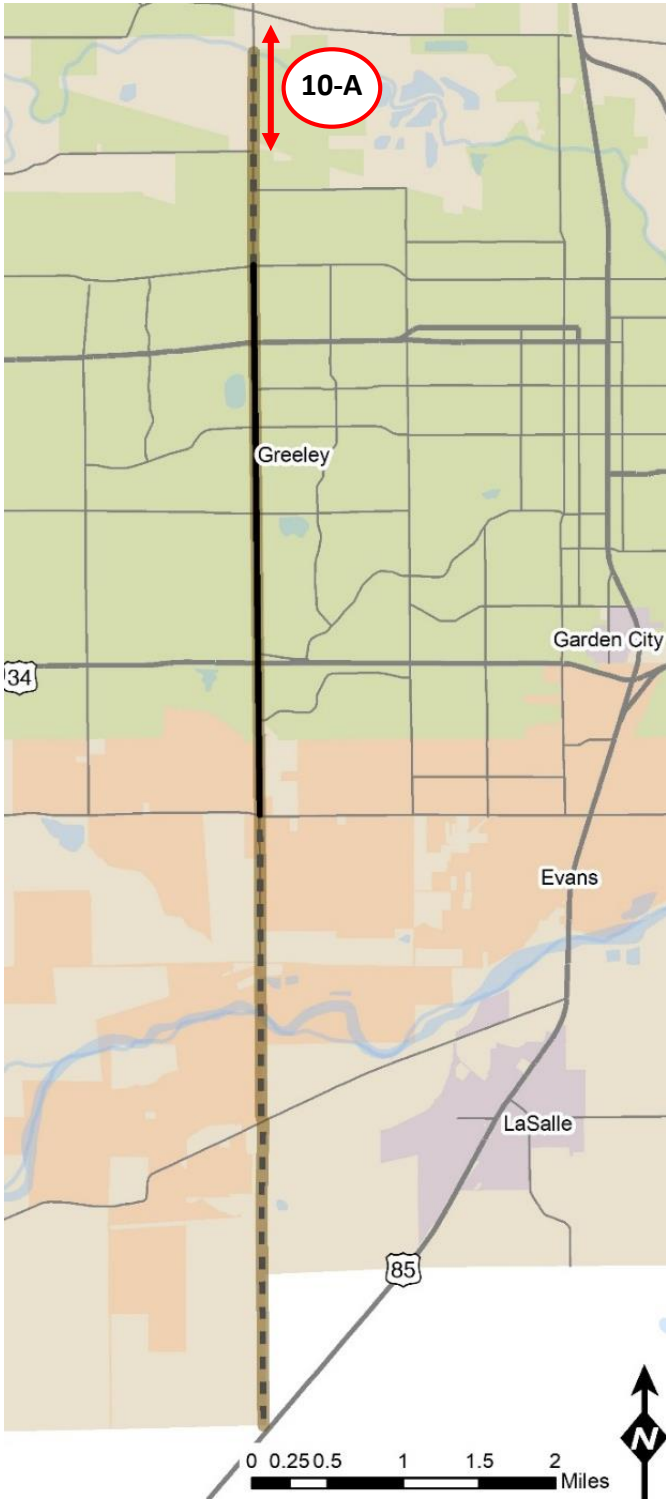
RNMC #9: Johnstown / Timnath



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
9-A	Trail Construction from SH392 to Poudre Trail – Windsor staff soon requesting funding from Town Board	TBD	TBD	TBD
9-B	Trail Construction from Poudre Trail to Raindance Development – Could be added to project 9-A if funding identified	TBD	TBD	TBD

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

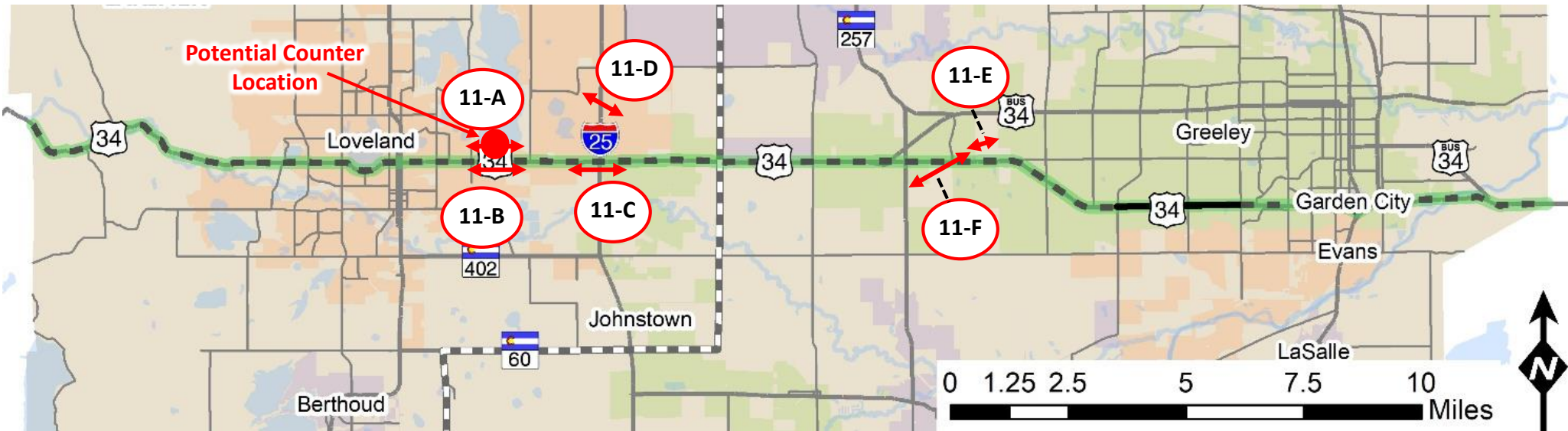
RNMC #10: Greeley / La Salle



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
10-A	Bike Lane Construction from C Street to Poudre Trail – An important connection to RNMC 6 that will be completed with regularly scheduled road maintenance	TBD	TBD	TBD

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

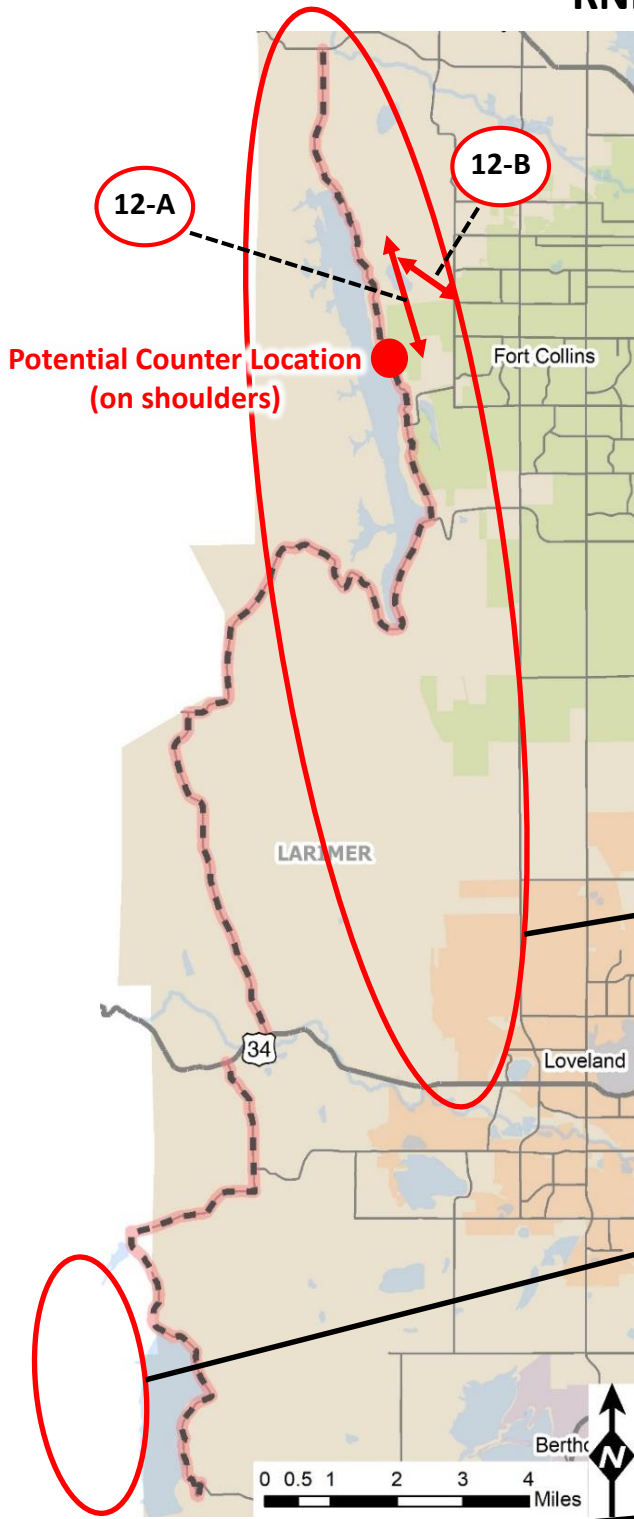
RNMC #11: US 34 Non-Motorized



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
11-A	Trail Construction from Denver Ave to Boyd Lake Ave – Trail will follow the Greeley-Loveland Irrigation Canal (GLIC) near the southern shore of Boyd Lake. Also an important local connection to RNMC #7 in two locations.	2021	\$1.5M	\$1.5M
11-B	US34 Bike Lane Construction from Denver Ave to Boyd Lake Ave – To be completed as part of US34 highway expansion project	2020	TBD	\$0
11-C	Bike/Ped Improvements across I-25 on US34 bridge - TBD	2022	TBD	\$0
11-D	Kendall Parkway Bike Lane Construction – Bike lanes will provide a relatively safe interim crossing of I-25 for RNMCS #3, #4, and #11	2022	TBD	\$0
11-E	Sheep Draw Trail Construction from Pebble Brook Development to 95th Ave – An important eventual local connection to RNMC 11 and RNMC 6 via future trails in Greeley and Windsor	TBD	\$350,000	\$350,000
11-F	Southwest Trail Construction – Will connect Sheep Draw Trail at 95 th Avenue to Ashcroft Draw	TBD	\$4.95M	\$4.95M

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

RNMC #12: Carter Lake / Horsetooth Foothills



Project ID (see map)	Project Description	Timeline	Approx. Cost	Remaining Funding Need
12-A	Dixon Canal Trail Spur – CSU, CDC, and ditch company are working together to plan a trail along Dixon Canal, and important local connector connecting to RNMC #12.	TBD	TBD	TBD
12-B	CSU Foothills Trail –Important local connector spur trail connecting RNMC #12 to Overland Trail via Rampart Rd	TBD	\$3M	\$3M

- = Project is on RNMC
- = Project is important local connection to RNMC

Overland Mountain Bike Club (OMBC) has a vision plan for soft-surface trails that would minimize the need for recreators to drive to their destinations between Fort Collins and Loveland. An average of 400 vehicles per weekend day are turned away from area trailheads and drive around until finding a parking spot. This trail network could drastically shift mode share for recreation access trips from motor vehicle to pedestrian and bike. Many of the proposed trails parallel or connect to RNMC #12

The OMBC Trail Vision for the Fort Collins-Loveland area can be found at: http://overlandmtb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/TVP_FoCo_Loveland_24x36.pdf

The OMBC Trail Vision for the Carter Lake area includes new trails just west of the NFRMPO region that would rely heavily on RNMC #12 for access by motor vehicle or bike

The OMBC Trail Vision for the Carter Lake area can be found at: http://overlandmtb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/TVP_Regional_24x36-1.pdf

Opportunities to coordinate with Boulder County

Other Regional Projects, Initiatives, and Programs

Some projects and initiatives discussed by the NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative are regional in nature and can be applied across RNMCS and communities. The bulleted list below represents the current and future projects and initiatives NoCo has identified either for implementation or improvement. Several of the items listed are programmatic in nature and would require ongoing funding.

- **Regional wayfinding standards** - \$8,000 - \$12,000 per corridor for implementation
- **Safe Routes to School (SRTS) educational program expansion** - \$900 – \$5,600 per elementary school, \$1,000 – \$6,700 per middle school
- **Regional bike share system expansion** - ~\$10,000 per station
- **2019 Walkability Action Institute (WAI) Action Plan Implementation** - TBD
- **Cycling Without Age Northern Colorado Chapter** - ~\$32,000 startup and ~\$5,000 annually
- **2020 NFRMPO Non-Motorized Plan Tasks** – Requires no additional funding
 - **Regional short-duration count program strategy**
 - **Standardized regional e-bike and e-scooter regulations**
 - **RNMC project prioritization** - Especially for segments of the Colorado Front Range Trail (CFRT) with regards to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) funding. Requires no additional funding
 - **Initiating or continuing partnerships** – Especially with communities and counties neighboring the NFRMPO region that will eventually connect to the RNMC network (Town of Wellington, Town of Kersey, Town of Firestone, Town of Ault, Boulder County, Adams County). Requires no additional funding