

**Meeting Minutes of the  
NORTH FRONT RANGE TRANSPORTATION &  
AIR QUALITY PLANNING COUNCIL**

**October 3, 2019**

**Loveland Public Works Administration Building  
2525 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Loveland, CO**

**Voting Members Present:**

<b>Kristie Melendez - Chair</b>	-Windsor
William Karspeck	-Berthoud
Mark Clark	-Evans
Wade Troxell	-Fort Collins
Robb Casseday	-Greeley
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Tom Donnelly	-Larimer County
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Dave Clark	-Loveland
Don McCleod	-Severance
Lisa Laake	-Timnath
Barbara Kirkmeyer	-Weld County
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission

**Voting Members Absent:**

Rick Coffin	-CDPHE
Kevin Ross	-Eaton
Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken

**MPO Staff:**

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director; Renae Steffen, Administrative Director; and Medora Bornhoft, Transportation Planner II.

**In Attendance:**

Dawn Anderson, Karen Artell, Ben Aste, Jeff Bailey, Darin Barrett, Frank Baszler, Dan Betts, Ken Bennett, Chad Crager, Richard DelaCastro, Danny Giltinan, Jamie Grimm, Will Jones, Evelyn King, Dave Kisker, Mitch Nelson, Karen Schneiders, John Sera, Robin Stoneman, and Rod Wensing.

Chair Melendez called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Public Comment:**

Evelyn King of Loveland, who was granted two extra minutes of comment by Chair Melendez, handed out and briefly reviewed documents supporting her plea for Council members and others to protest EPA Ozone Standards. She commented Colorado has clean air and suggested the State's time and focus should be given to higher priority health issues. Melendez thanked King for her comment.

**Move to Approve Agenda:**

D. Clark **moved** to approve the, *October 3, 2019 Meeting Agenda*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

### **Move to Approve Minutes:**

Casseday **moved** to approve the *September 5, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

### **Public Comment Period:**

#### 2020 VanGo™ Fare Increase

Director Mallette stated there had not been an increase in VanGo™ fares since 2016. An in-house fare analysis was performed that showed the program is barely breaking even. With an increase in maintenance fees and potentially insurance, a 2% fare increase is being recommended, equivalent to approximately \$4/month for each vanpooler. This will be an Action item at the November 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, possibly on Consent.

Melendez opened the Public Comment Period. There was no public comment.

Melendez closed the Public Comment Period at 6:15 p.m.

### **Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda**

Chair Melendez opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

#### Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

No report was provided.

#### Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written APCD report was provided.

### **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda**

Chair Melendez opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

### **Reports:**

#### Report of the Chair:

Chair Melendez did not have a report.

#### Executive Director Report:

Mallette provided information on the following:

- Printed copies of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) brochure are now available.
- 2019 Summer Outreach has wrapped up for the year. There were a total of 16 events held in 12 communities, and three Bike-to-Work stations. These events brought approximately 3,000 public interactions, double last year's numbers and higher than the past two summers combined.
- Fort Collins, Timnath, Windsor, and Larimer County were awarded a GOCO Grant which will allow the Poudre River Trail, which goes from Fort Collins to Greeley, to become the first completely connected regional bike trail. The Poudre River Bridge over I-25 is scheduled to be replaced with other North I-25 construction which completes the trail.
- The MPO continues its search for a Finance Director and is grateful for Mayor Karspeck's time spent with the interview team.

**Mobility:**

A written report and Fall 2019 Newsletter were provided.

**VanGo™ Dashboard:**

A written report was reported.

**Action Items:**

**Executive Director Performance Evaluation**

Tom Donnelly, HR Committee Chair, noted the HR Committee met September 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the appropriate evaluation process for Director Mallette for 2019. He stated the Committee was amenable to once again using the Employers Council (EC) online evaluation process for \$500 with the same questions used previously and with the participants being Council, Staff, TAC, and Director Mallette. Donnelly introduced Richard DelaCastro, Senior Consultant at EC who indicated the 360 evaluation would take each participant between 15-20 minutes to complete and assured them it was completely unanimous. Any written comments will be paraphrased, and the results will be summarized. Donnelly expressed this was a complete evaluation tool which was cost-effective and provided a good result.

D. Clark **moved** to approve *Employers Council services for a 360 Evaluation of the Executive Director at the cost of \$500*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

**Off-Cycle TIP Amendment**

Medora Bornhoft, Transportation Planner II, noted \$6.97M in additional TIGER funds were awarded to I-25 Segments 7 and 8 which will be processed as outlined in the TIP emergency policy. This will allow the federal funds to be added to the STIP prior to being amended in the TIP. Because there was not a September TAC meeting, TAC members will receive an informational update at their October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Council approval will be contingent on no public comments being submitted by October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Casseday **moved** to approve *RESOLUTION NO. 2019-25 APPROVING THE SEPTEMBER 2019 AMENDMENT TO THE FY2019-2022 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

**Discussion Item:**

**2020 VanGo™ Fare Increase**

Mallette reviewed information from the VanGo™ Fare Increase memo and VanGo™ 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Stats Dashboard with the Council stating the Finance Committee had recommended the 2% increase at their August meeting, recognizing the need to flatten out the fluctuations. Vanpoolers were presented with the potential increase at their September 18<sup>th</sup> Safety Meeting and will receive letters confirming the new rate, if approved at the November 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**Work Session:**

**10-Year Pipeline of Projects (Project Pipeline)**

Mallette and Karasko provided a presentation outlining the funding, timeframes, and strategies involved in providing CDOT with a prioritized regional project list for their 10-Year

Pipeline of Projects. Kirkmeyer presented a graph showing how the NFRMPO has provided projects to the 10-year Capital Development Plan (CDP), noting the absence of a direct link into the State's 20-year Transportation Plan and a prioritized list of projects in place much earlier in the overall process. Kirkmeyer also provided a portion of CDOT's presentation from the September STAC meeting highlighting a New Funding Approach, Legislative Funding, Guiding Principles, Potential Criteria, and the Development Process of the 10-Year Pipeline of Projects.

Following a comprehensive discussion, the Council agreed on the following:

- As a beginning, the NFRMPO transportation priorities are I-25, the US highways (US34, US287, and US85) and other roads of statewide significance in the region, including transit. The focus is on Regionally Significant Corridors (RSCs) within the region.
- Commissioner Bracke will promptly provide updated timelines to the Council as they become available.
- At the October 16<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting a Work Session will be held focusing on developing a project list to the Transportation Commission for the SB 17-267 and SB 18-001 funding as well as the creation of a 10-year Strategic Pipeline of Projects for the NFRMPO region. TAC will use the criteria presented at the Transportation Commission to create the project lists. There will be Council discussion and review at the November 7, 2019 meeting and Council approval at the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Council Reports:**

#### Transportation Commission Report /CDOT Region 4

A Project Status Update for September 24, 2019 was provided. Bracke reported she had recently attended the ribbon cutting for the I-25 Interchange at Berthoud and planned to attend the I-25 at SH402 ribbon cutting later in the month. CDOT held their Transportation Matters Summit earlier that day which had been well attended and their Whole System Whole Safety initiative, which recognizes the need for increased safety throughout Colorado's transportation network, was well-received.

#### I-25 Update

D. Clark reported he recently attended a North I-25 group retreat where they discussed working with a consultant for the past few months on identifying other funding sources. The I-25 Funding Committee will look at these potential sources and then provide their recommendations to the I-25 Coalition. He also noted Randy Grauberger, Rail Commission Project Director for the Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission (Commission) had indicated at the recent I-25 Coalition meeting the potential 2020 ballot issue mentioned during his presentation to the Council in September, would not be pushed through as they do not feel there is enough time to campaign or that there is sufficient information available.

#### STAC Report

A written report was provided.

Host Council Member Report- D. Clark welcomed everyone to Loveland and recognized Fireside Café and Catering for the provided meal. He also introduced staff members, Jeff

Bailey; Loveland City Engineer and Rod Wensing; Assistant City Manager. Then he reported on the following transportation related projects in Loveland:

- Loveland continues to collaborate with CDOT's I-25 project team and perfecting some timing issues.
- The ribbon cutting for the SH402 Interchange is scheduled in October.
- Work continues on US34, including lane widening between Denver Avenue and Rocky Mountain Avenue. A 2-lane gap they are getting addressed in early 2020.
- Working with CDOT R4 on the SH402 Access Control Plan which may need to be increased to a longer-range plan.
- COLT ridership is up 23%, somewhat due to the Youth Ride Free Program recently instituted.
- Kendall Parkway at I-25 will have one of the State's first BRT mobility hubs. Another may soon be going up soon after in Berthoud.

### **Meeting Wrap-Up:**

#### Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

No additional suggestions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Renae Steffen, MPO Staff