

# Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Minutes – Wednesday, May 13, 2020

GoToMeeting Virtual Meeting



## 1. Introductions

- ❖ **Aaron Buckley**, Colorado State University
- ❖ **Aaron Fodge**, Colorado State University
- ❖ **Abdul Barzak**, Town of Severance
- ❖ **AnnaRose Cunningham**, NFRMPO
- ❖ **Allison Baxter**, City of Greeley
- ❖ **Betsy Jacobsen**, CDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Section
- ❖ **Dave Dixon**, Bike Fort Collins
- ❖ **Evan Pinkham**, Weld County
- ❖ **Katie Guthrie**, City of Loveland Public Works
- ❖ **Kelly Zuniga**, City of Loveland Open Lands
- ❖ **Kim Meyer**, Town of Johnstown
- ❖ **Kristen Debo**, City of Evans
- ❖ **Leslie Beckstrom**, Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment
- ❖ **Liz Young Winne**, Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
- ❖ **Matt Ruder**, City of Loveland Public Works
- ❖ **Melina Dempsey**, FC Moves
- ❖ **Mitch Nelson**, Town of Severance
- ❖ **Nancy Nichols**, City of Fort Collins Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- ❖ **Ryan Dusil**, NFRMPO
- ❖ **Suzanne Bassinger**, City of Fort Collins Park Planning
- ❖ **Tessa Greeger**, FC Moves
- ❖ **Tom Jones**, Great Western Trail Authority

## Introductions and COVID-19 Roundtable

All agencies monitoring bike/ped volumes reported higher volumes, more resident awareness of neighborhood connectivity features or gaps, increased local efforts to promote active transportation digitally, and/or successfully shifting programs and grand openings to an online format. Some agencies reported dramatic changes to trail maintenance due to staffing reductions or differing regulations between counties (CDOT), while others say maintenance has not been impacted. Some agencies anticipate most or all new trail construction will be halted due to budget cuts and the focus will shift to maintenance for the next few years. Several agencies are actively promoting their low-stress on-street bike networks to encourage social distancing and encouraging teleworking internally and community wide. CSU's Bike Buddy program will help employees navigate a safe commute route to encourage a shift towards bike commuting instead of single-occupant vehicle (SOV) commuting, given uncertainties around transit service.

All agencies who operate Bike to Work Day programs will be celebrating the events on Tuesday, September 22 this year, instead of in June. Colorado Bike Month will still be celebrated in June and some agencies will promote competitions throughout June, such as Loveland's "Keep Moving NoCo" Campaign.

## Approval of March Minutes

The March 11, 202 minutes were approved unanimously

## **NFRMPO Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Steering Committee Recruitment**

Dusil stated he is still looking for additional members for the ATP Steering Committee. The commitment level is anticipated to be 2-4 online meetings in 2020 to provide guidance on the direction of the ATP. The Committee currently consists of the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, City of Loveland Public Works, Town of Severance, City of Fort Collins FC Moves and Safe Routes to School (SRTS), City of Greeley Public Works, and CSU.

## **Benefits of Active Transportation Document and NFRMPO Call for Projects Recommendations**

The Collaborative recommended adding an introduction to the document to highlight its value and how it can be used. Members agreed the facts are sound and the document is comprehensive. The information included is well established and having it organized into one document is helpful for decisionmakers. The Leadership Team will try to add more data specific to COVID-19 in the Health and Community Resiliency categories. The document will be updated periodically with new information and can be found under Resources at [nfrmpo.org/bike-ped/noco/](https://nfrmpo.org/bike-ped/noco/).

## **Roundtable Updates**

Zuniga stated Prairie Ridge Natural Area is now open and Boedecker Bridge will open soon. The City of Loveland and Larimer County are partnering on installing a traffic signal at US34 and Glade Road which will allow for a future natural area west of Devil's Backbone Open Space.

Fodge stated CSU is working on several new bike paths on main campus and CSU's first protected bike lane which will connect to the oval.

Cunningham stated NFRMPO is working on a Vision Zero Initiative and encouraged NoCo members to call into the May 20<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting to learn more and join the discussion. Cunningham is also requesting information from partners who have employer-based trip reduction programs she can highlight for a Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) work group.

Bassingier stated the Q1 2020 trail counts are available. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) has created a \$1.5M COVID-19 recovery fund for awardees and a new spur trail was completed connecting Lincoln Middle School to the Poudre Trail.