

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

**September 3, 2020
Virtual Meeting**

Voting Members Present:

Dave Clark- CHAIR	-Loveland
Dena Wojtach	-CDPHE
Lanie Isbell	-Eaton
Mark Clark	-Evans
Kristen Stephens	-Fort Collins
Brett Payton	-Greeley
Tom Donnelly	-Larimer County
Elizabeth Austin	-Milliken
Kevin Ross	-Weld County
Paul Rennemeyer	-Windsor
Kathleen Bracke	-Transportation Commission

Voting Members Absent:

Will Karspeck	-Berthoud
Fil Archuleta	-Garden City
Troy Mellon	-Johnstown
Paula Cochran	-LaSalle
Don McLeod	-Severance
Lisa Laake	-Timnath

MPO Staff:

Suzette Mallette, Executive Director; Becky Karasko, Transportation Planning Director; Medora Bornhoft, Transportation Planner II; Alex Gordon, Mobility Coordinator/Transportation Planner II; and AnnaRose Cunningham, Transportation Planner I.

In Attendance:

Dawn Anderson, Jeff Bailey, Abdul Barzak, Frank Baszler, Allison Baxter, Dan Betts, Rick, Coffin, Chad Crager, Jamie Grim, Josie Hadley, Butch Hause, Myron Hora, Mark Jackson, Katrina Klobberdanz, Mitch Nelson, Heather Paddock, Karen Schneiders, Robin Stoneman, James Usher, and Dan Welsh.

Chair D. Clark called the MPO Council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Move to Approve Agenda:

Ross moved to approve the *September 3, 2020 Meeting Agenda as Submitted*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Move to Approve Minutes:

Ross moved to approve the *August 6, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted*. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Lead Planning Agency for Air Quality Agenda

Chair D. Clark opened the Air Quality portion of the meeting.

Air Pollution Control Division (APCD)

A written report was provided.

Dan Welsh, Air Quality Meteorologist with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE) presented the wildfire impacts on air quality in Larimer and Weld counties due to the recent wildfires in Larimer County and their impact on the air quality in the nonattainment area.

Donnelly commented on the impact of the wildfires on the nonattainment area and if an exceptional event exemption will be applied for by the State to the EPA. Welsh stated that this decision is to be determined. Mallette asked what the time frame for applying for this would be. Welsh responded the information would be due to EPA in May 2021.

Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC)

A written report was provided.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agenda

Chair D. Clark opened the MPO portion of the meeting.

Reports:

Report of the Chair:

Chair D. Clark reported on the following:

- Succession Planning for Planning Council members and Committees
- Discussed the MPO Boundary Committee and assignments of Council members. Members are – Dave Clark, MPO Chair; Kevin Ross, Weld County Commissioner; Tom Donnelly, Larimer County Commissioner; Kristen Stephens, Fort Collins Mayor Pro Tem; Lanie Isbell, Eaton Mayor Pro Tem.
- Future Planning Council meetings and the potential of hybrid meetings

Executive Director Report:

Director Mallette reported on the following:

- Upcoming updates to the MPO Articles of Association
- The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Subcommittee request for feedback from AQCC
- The Transportation Commission approved \$115,000 for the NFRMPO region to support “Transportation Services for Vulnerable Populations, including Seniors”
- In lieu of Bike to Work Day, the NFRMPO, the City of Greeley, and City of Loveland are partnering on the Northern Colorado (NoCo) Active Transportation Challenge September 20-26, 2020
- New Accounting Manager, Stuart Kurtz, will start on September 8, 2020

TAC:

A written report was provided.

Mobility:

A written report was provided.

Consent Agenda:

Ross moved to APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

The Consent Agenda included the following item:

- NFRMPO Safety Vision: Towards Zero Deaths Policy

Discussion Items:

MPO Boundary Discussion

Jamie Grim, CDOT Local Government Liaison updated the Council on the status of the CDOT Boundary Guidebook. She discussed the history of the study and the purpose of the guidebook. She discussed the seven-step process described in State Statue to change TPR boundaries as well as the federal requirements that pertain to MPOs. She reiterated the outcome of this CDOT study will be a high-level document which provides a template for MPOs and TPRs on the boundary change process and not what the boundaries should be.

FY2019-FY2021 CMAQ & FY2021 STBG Additional Funding Allocations

Bornhoft explained her presentation would be in three parts: background of the NFRMPO’s Call for Projects process, and explanation of Toll Credits, and the proposed allocations for additional FY2021 STBG and FY2019-FY2021 CMAQ funds.

Following the background discussion, she discussed what toll credits are and the roll they can play with local match assistance for currently selected transportation projects, specifically due to COVID-19 related funding shortfalls. She also detailed the two ways toll credits can be used: with a reduction in scope or without a reduction in scope. She then discussed how toll credits could be used during this current round of additional allocations for a City of Greeley CMAQ project and the approval process.

Lastly, Bornhoft walked through the proposed additional allocation of \$3.3M of STBG and \$2M of CMAQ funds. She discussed the three projects eligible to receive the additional STBG funds. She then discussed the four projects eligible to receive the additional CMAQ funds as well as moving a project forward to ensure fiscal constraint in all years of the NFRMPO's FY2020-2023 TIP. Planning Council members responded positively on what was presented.

Council Reports:

Transportation Commission Report

Bracke reported on the following:

- The "Transportation Services for Vulnerable Populations, including Seniors" funding recently allocated by the TC
- The Commission approved the Statewide Transportation Plan at their August meeting
- A new Freight Committee of the Transportation Commission has been formed, with Gary Beedy as Chair
- Nick Farber, HPTA provided an update and presentation on the TIFIA Loan process at the I-25 Coalition meeting
- A video documenting the progress on N I-25 Segments 7&8 has been released: https://youtu.be/KTLhj_HiYMg
- The Commission continues to work to grapple with the fallout from the COVID-19 induced budget shortfalls

CDOT R4 Update

A Project Status Update was provided for September 2020. Paddock reported the following:

- The new Statewide Plan and documents as well as the SB267 projects are available on the CDOT website
- Impacts of the Cameron Pass Wildfire on the CDOT Maintenance Facility in Rustic
- The Grizzly Creek Fire and damage to rockfall fences has only the I-70 eastbound side open now, high rockfall threat on the westbound lanes.
- Halfway through negotiating the N I-25 Segment 6 construction package
- Encouraged everyone to view the N I-25 video mentioned by Commissioner Bracke

I-25 Coalition

D. Clark reported on the presentation from Nick Farber with HPTA regarding the \$154M TIFIA loan process for the N I-25 Segments 6, 7 & 8 project.

STAC Report

A written report for August was provided.

Host Council Member Report-

Mitch Nelson, Community Development Director for the Town of Severance reported on the following Town of Severance transportation projects:

- Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan for the Town in process
- WCR 74 Access Control Plan is wrapping up

Meeting Wrap-Up:

Next Month's Agenda Topic Suggestions:

There were no suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Becky Karasko, NFRMPO Staff