



Transit and Rail Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2020

12:00 – 3:00 PM

2829 W. Howard Place, Denver, CO 80204 / East Auditorium (#162)

Member	Organization	Yes	No	Member	Organization	Yes	No
David Averill	SMART	X		Michael Koch	Town of Winter Park	X	
Craig Blewitt	Mountain Metro Transit	X		Alana Miller	City of Denver	X	
Rob Eaton	Amtrak		X	Mike Ogborn	Ogborn Consulting		X
Matthew Helfant	DRCOG	X		Ann Rajewski	CASTA	X	
Lauren Isaac	Easy Mile, Inc.	phone		Pete Rickershauser	BNSF Railway		X
Dave Johnson	RFTA	phone		Vince Rogalski	Gunnison Valley TPR / STAC	X	
Will Jones	City of Greeley	X		Jim Souby	ColoRail	X	
Danny Katz	CoPIRG	X		Bill Van Meter	RTD	X	

Others Present	CDOT Present
Patrick Byrne, Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig Cady Dawson, Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Krutsinger, Director - DTR • Randy Grauberger, SWC&FRPR • Qing Lin, DTR • Bob Wilson, CDOT • Sophie Shulman, Chief – Innovative Mobility • Nate Vander Brock, DTR • Eric Richardson, CDOT • Laura Morales-Garcia, DTR • Ken Mooney, DTR • Brian Hartman, DTR • Jeff Prillwitz, DTR • Brodie Ayers, DTR • Sharon Terranova, DTR • Mike Timlin, DTR • Mike King, OIM • Audrey Dakan, DTR

1. Introductions/Meeting Overview/Welcome

Ann Rajewski called the meeting to order at 12:17 PM, welcoming everyone to the meeting, asking for a roll call.

2. Round Table

- Windsor to Fort Collins route ridership is growing every day.
- Ridership studies up 2019 from 2018 against the national trend.
- Winterpark Ski Train started again today for the season.
- RTD Board of Directors – in a search for CEO, 5 finalists and processing in the next few weeks.
- TC approved current list of project for 267 Transit funds.
- SMART just completed and adopted their Strategic Operating Plan.

3. Federal & State Legislative Update – Andy Karsian (State) & Eric Richardson (Federal)

Federal Legislative update

- \$500M loss overall
- Shortline extension
- Not a high priority because of other issues
- Q: Commuter change? / Current subsidy changes are unknown.

4. State Transit Plan Update – Nate Vander Broek (attachment)

- Operating dollars are not increasing, costs are increasing.
- Q: #3 How did you arrive at this %? / Those are arrived by the votes; a conservative consumption is by the tax-payer bill of rights % in increase will be as calculated 2.8 as Colorado estimates.
- Maintain the existing funding and add in what is estimated for capital, operating, etc. Still have not finalized all the surveys and need to dig down into the remaining surveys breaking it down by TPR and informing it by scenario.
- Q: How is it the medical transport trips needed are decreasing? / This is only the current information and could adjust according to population, age and future financial status.
- Discussion section of memo:
 - Colorado ranks near the bottom in terms of best practice / we can look in to this.
 - Subsidized fares can be an incentive to ridership. Many agencies underprice their fares and then never increase them for years so the revenue generated does not keep up with the increased costs of doing business.
 - Q: Does this co-incide with the call for projects? / Something to think about. Connected Colorado initiative sounds like a good idea, are the things listed things that most people not doing? Not completely sure, but will work with them to figure this out. Maybe the financial support is part of what could be provided.

5. Electric Bus Goals – Mike King

- First version for Electric Bus Goal Planning was completed in 2018. In 2018 this version was released with a goal for release by 2030.
- Plan for 2020 is proposing: state of 2020 by July of 2021 to develop a timeline and develop sufficient resources by 2050.
- Convert state transit fleet of 1000 by 2030 & full zero emission by 2050, this includes light duty fleet.
- Would like your feed-back & hopefully your partnership.
- Q: Do we have information on how they might run in the extreme cold and high elevation? / The technology continues to improve and prices are coming down with range improving. The plan is to start converting and see where we can build on with success for more current years and start planning.

Comments:

- Assure funding is in place before goals as this is the important piece, this needs to be realistic.
- Transit & utilities need to be called out. Is there a goal date to be set for that, can we get a date set for that to incentivize that into place as well, this is something that needs to be thought out.
- Exciting to see that we can move forward along with other cities and states even though we don't have the same type of weather and geology.
- The time-frame seems to be attainable.
- Funding and utility conversations need to be keeping pace.
- Q: Is there a state rule on the requirement? / Terms of the settlement, do not dis-incentivize items, depends on the funding and the practice.

6. Outrider Phase III – Recommendation – Michael Timlin / Jeff Prillwitz (attachment)

- Q: Can we assure we will not go beyond the 15% for 5311F funding? / yes.
- Q: Is there marketing & projection? / Yes, we do have an ad agency that does our marketing and they rely heavy on social media and we do have projections.
- Un-committed FASTER funds for rural-regional routes, ask that we be mindful of how funds are being distributed. Funding within a specific amount must be approved by Transportation Commission.
- Q: Do we have a steadily declining line for Bustang as we also have for the declining line in the State Transit graph? / A year ago a fare increase was requested and this was denied by the Transportation Commission. It was noted that TC supports Bustang.
- Phase IV plan is for Montrose to Gunnison as it was highest on the list but due to construction, it has been placed on the back burner.
 - Phase IV is only possible should funds be available.

Motion to approve the draft resolution: any discussion / none

None – denied

All members present & on the phone approved / motion passed

7. SB 267 DRCOG Arterial Projects – David Krutsinger / Sharon Terranova

- These projects will affect intersections, bicycle, and totality making some major safety changes. It will be a lot of safe and good ideas with the projects that have been selected and coming up to take place.
- It was noted the quick timeline of the call for projects caught at least a few members of the Committee off guard.

8. “Super Call Discussion – Qing Lin (attachment)

- Propose to conduct all 3 NOFA (Admin & Operating, Capital Call, and Planning) beginning April 1, 2020 with different deadlines.

Discussion:

- Q: Is this a hardship for some of the smaller agencies or is there a better time of year? Capital specifically could be an issue, budgeting might be hard. Q: Have we thought about how this would affect the CDOT Procurement Division?
- Considerations are we change the dates because we have moved forward so much.
- Appreciate the idea of the one call, as long as the instructions are very clear.
- Like the concept, we have come so far just have to be sure not to take a step back.
- Either delay a year or push and proceed this year giving an option to do later in the year.
- Suggest deadlines in the order of Planning, Operating, lastly Capital.
- Maybe take this concept to the monthly Winter Call and if needed can always take back a section.
- If the application process completion is also going to assist with filling in the blanks on all of the other applications for the Grant Partners as an assist that would be great.
- Another option is to wait a year.

It was decided to go to the Grant Partners directly for input putting this on hold for the moment until further input is received.

9. New TRAC Members – David Krutsinger (attachment)

- David Averill, Alana Miller, Michael Koch, Lauren Isaac all new members with TRAC, welcome.

10. Sub Committee Discussion – Davis Krutsinger (attachment)

- No current committees in place
- Usually invite staff outside of CDOT to join subcommittees
- Believe going forward will need two:
 - Bustang Rural Regional

- Very Rural Regional Transit
 - David Averill, Vince Rogalski, Alana Miller, and Lauren Isaac are interested in these subcommittees.
- Subcommittees are flexible, if you feel the need for one or a specific topic, let David Krutsinger know.
- Q: Not sure if it warrants a subcommittee, Bus Electrification and what ways it can enhance, Multi-modal and looking at ways to do this. David is suggesting Alana and possibly Lauren get connected to Mike King as believes he has a subcommittee on this and then the information can be brought back to TRAC.

11. 2020 CCCP Update – Ken Mooney / Audrey Dakan (attachment)

- \$34M available but \$100M in requests
- Committee requested a report to TRAC on what was not awarded at a later meeting

12. Ten-Year Pipeline – David Krutsinger (attachment)

- 10% of the approved amount is for Transit
- Amount is not guaranteed each year
- MMOF was defined in 2018 SB 1 language
- Important to remember year 5-6 are not funded
- This is considered extra funds

13. Southwest Chief Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Update – Jim Souby / Pete Rickershauser / Randy Grauberger (attachment)

- SWC & FRPRC & Randy look forward to working with TRAC and raising the bar on funds and looking at adding services along the front range known as Front Range Rail. Look forward to being part of that conversation and part of that public support.

Sharon Terranova introduced Brian Hartman, DTR's new Senior Transit & Rail Planner, he also oversees the FAC Rail Committee.

14. Meeting adjourned at 3:07 Ann Rajewski