



Transit and Rail Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2020
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Google Meets

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.		X	Pete Rickershauser	BNSF Railway		X
Dave Johnson	RFTA	X		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
Drew Brooks, City of Fort Collins Lane Erickson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Krutsinger, Director – DTR • Kyle French, DTR • Randy Grauberger, SWC&FRPR • Bob Wilson, CDOT • Sophie Shulman, Chief – Innovative Mobility • Ken Mooney, DTR • Eric Richardson, CDOT • Laura Morales-Garcia, DTR • Brian Hartman, DTR • Lisa Streisfeld, OIM • Brodie Ayers, DTR • Sharon Terranova, DTR • TJ Burr, DTR • Brandon Najdovski, DTR • Audrey Dakan, DTR • Erik Stanley, CDOT • Matt Duchan, DTR • Jeff Prillwitz, DTR • Qing Lin, DTR • Geoff Guthrie, CDOT • Julia Wcislo, DTR • Glenn Krause, DTR

1. Introductions/Meeting Overview/Welcome – Ann Rajewski

Ann Rajewski called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM, welcoming everyone to the meeting, asking for roll call.

2. Round Table – Ann Rajewski

Michael Koch noted Winter Park transit design moving forward, have started to conduct interviews.

David Averill stated the high country is open for business and there are a lot of visitors in town. Numbers are just down a little bit compared to last year considering hotels are at about half-capacity and everyone seems to be figuring it out as we move along.

Alana Miller noted the City of Denver is working to make streets safe and more flexible, opening up patio space and closing streets across the city for walking & dining. Created a task force with stakeholders to think about COVID responses for the short response in the next 6 months with a lot of it related to transit.

Craig Blewitt noted they are doing a lot of things similar to what Alana has stated. They are anticipating their fiscal years for 2020 and 2021 will be lean budgets in these upcoming fiscal years. He also noted there has been an uptick in COVID cases recently for El Paso County so that is of concern.

CASTA is looking forward to the September Fall Conference – watch for additional information to come out likely next week on Monday or Tuesday at the latest. There will be some remote options if you are not wanting to travel, stay tuned. Conference dates are slated for September 1-4, 2020.

3. Federal & State Legislative Update – Andy Karsian - State & Eric Richardson - Federal Federal Legislative update

House democrats moving forward / party line vote,

- Reauthorizing bill 1.5Trillion transportation is approximately 1/3 of that fy21
- 206M fy21 would act as economic relief
- Revised as actual transit service
- 7M for CRISI over 5Y
- 29.3B for Amtrak over 5Y

Unlikely the senate takes anything on this, but this gives the department some information on what they are looking at. Still a chance for economic relief in early August.

State Legislative update – David Krutsinger

CDOT is preparing a legislative agenda to make its way to clean up legislation and deal with budget deficits in January.

4. Connect Colorado – Qing Lin (attachment)

- Project has 3 phases
- Advisory Committee – meet as needed & more frequently than TRAC
 - 1-2 volunteers and will take recommendations – (Will Jones, David Averill & Craig Blewitt offered Wendy Patterson from his group)

Jim Souby noted that California includes Rail, in their project of this type, will Connect Colorado be doing the same? Qing answered yes that is the direction we are heading.

5. Transit Asset Metrics – Audrey Dakan (attachment)

- Function of the funding that is available / believe the formula noted is correct as we currently stand.
- Targets provide us with where we need to look.

6. Financial Survey Results – David Krutsinger / Qing Lin (attachment)

- Most agencies reduced service, but their costs have not been reduced. Many agencies are very worried about fy21 budget as well as their local match.
- Another survey will be going out soon so we know where to go from here.

- We will be seeking input on proposals and bringing this back to TRAC at some point.

7. CARES Act – Phase II – David Krutsinger (attachment)

- Some of the questions and things under consideration for Phase II
 - What kind of deficit are the small agencies facing?
 - Do we set a cap to be fair across the board?
 - Since people shopped local, their sales tax went up, how does that affect some agencies?
 - A lot of people have been ordering on-line, so some of that also depends on the local rules.
- More analysis is needed before we move forward with the next phase.

8. SB 267 Re-Approvals - David Krutsinger / Sharon Terranova (attached)

- The attachment for each Region shows the white highlighted projects which are already committed and those highlighted in green in the tables are what is going to be taken to TC next month.
- The need to cut due to current fiscal constraints. Sophie noted Highway side is having to do the same.

9. Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Update – Randy Grauberger (attachment)

- Good meeting with Amtrak (Ray Lang).
- Received over 6,000 responses in the On Line Public Meeting which runs through July 31.
 - Feedback is generally very supportive of Pueblo to Fort Collins FRPR.

10. Bustang / Outrider Update - Mike Timlin / Kyle French / Jeff Prillwitz (attachment)

- The goal is to maintain or rise above 20% recovery ridership since resuming service.

Q: Memo notes the West line can recover if Winter recreation isn't impacted. What about your capacity limit, can you still "recover" with that in place, or will change be required on that front as well? A: It is counter intuitive that if the buses are full at 22 riders, and assuming fares stay the same, that financially that is enough revenue for a "recovery".

11. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 3:11 Ann Rajewski