

Statewide MPO Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2022 from 8:30 am – 10:30 am

VIRTUAL MEETING

Meeting Recording Link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/16yiAyBdm8YOaOl_kDH_4m4Hzamc7e0-d/view?usp=drive_web

Notes

Present:

- **Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs):** Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)- Alvan Bidal-Sanchez, Todd Cottrell, Emily Kleinfelter; Grand Valley Metropolitan Planning Region (GVMPO): Dana Brosig and Rachel Peterson; North Front Range MPO (NFRMPO) – Becky Karasko; Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG): Danelle Miller, John Liosatos, Laura Crews, Mark Northrop, and Will Mast; and Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG): John Adams, and Eva Cosyleon
- **CDOT Division of Transit and Rail (DTR):** Amber Blake and Kim Kinnison
- **CDOT Regions:** Region 1 – Danny Herrmann, Jordan Rudel, Bridget Hart; JoAnn Mattson; Region 2 – Wendy Pettit; Region 4 – Jan Rowe
- **CDOT Division of Transportation Development (DTD):** Rebecca White, Darius Pakbaz, Marissa Gaughan, Aaron Willis, Jamie Collins, Kathleen Collins, Carrie Tremblatt, Nathan Lindquist, Neysa Bermingham, Enrique Perez, and Miriam Aranoff
- **CDOT Performance and Asset Management Branch:** Jacob Kershner
- **CDOT Division of Accounting and Finance:** Paige Castaneda and Eric Ehrbar, Cheryl Knibbe, and Avery Turman
- **CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations:** Jamie Grim and Andy Karsian
- **CDOT Environmental Justice and Equity Branch:** Marsha Nelson
- **Region 8 FTA:** Emma Belmont
- **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):** Aaron Bustow
- **Denver Public Schools:** Luis Uribe

Introductions – Kathleen Collins, CDOT Statewide and Regional Planning -[Video Time Stamp 0:03:56](#)

STIP Update – Jamie Collins, CDOT STIP Manager – [Video Time Stamp 0:07:00](#)

- Jamie is finalizing incorporation of comments received and ensuring STIP and TIP projects match
- Meeting with DTR and NFRTPR about making improvements to process laid out in STIP amendment guidelines. Moving forward with a larger meeting to overview STIP guidelines with new MPO members.
- Paige Castaneda has working TIP contact list that is to be sent out
- STIP will go to TC to have the STIP approved next week.

Program Allocation – Marissa Gaughan, CDOT Multimodal Planning Branch – [Video Time Stamp 0:11:08](#)

- Marissa sent out a Program Allocations Memo that notifies everyone of updated program allocations (i.e. TAP, CMAQ, STBG?, Carbon Reduction)
- Changes with IIJA allows for forecasts to be extended to FY23 -FY26; Corrections also sent out with updated tables and formulas.
- Carbon Reduction Dollars left blank for Grand Valley and PPACOG (dashes); error in calculations; numbers will be fixed/updated with a new memo.
- [FHWA Guidance Document](#)
- [IIJA Carbon Reduction Program](#)
- MMOF is not included with the carbon reduction program allocation
- Michael Snow: The annual MMOF allocations are projections only - the formula can and will change when the TC reconsiders the formula and it's updated with more recent year's data before each subsequent allocation.
- MPOs would like to see all available funding sources in one place (one document)
- Protect Funds, how will the state use Fund Allocations, how they will be distributed and how can MPOs apply. No grant program has been contemplated. Treating Protect Dollars within the mix of existing programs. Must apply at the federal level.

GHG Policy Directive Update – Rebecca White, CDOT Division of Transportation Development –
[Video Time Stamp 0:27:08](#)

- Proceeding with Policy Directive related to GHG Rule
 - PD describes process for creating GHG mitigations, scoring and quantifying those, how new mitigations will be provided
 - Final decisions from commissioners wrapped up; Will go to TC to adopt mitigations policy
 - Seeking phone calls with interested parties/ MPOs to walk thru issues to be discussed at TC
- One of the provisions is to have intergovernmental agreements completed...before deadline in october

Legislative Update –Andy Karsian, and Jamie Grim, CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations
– [Video Time Stamp 0:30:04](#)

Jamie Grim

- Earmark Letters due tomorrow to senate offices. Asking for projects not included in STIP/TIP to get a letter of recommendation from CDOT, CC Jamie on those request
- If you have MEGA, INFRA, Rural projects in your MPO, flag title(s) for Jamie.
- Please send CDS requests or flag MPD projects to me at jamie.grim@state.co.us
- <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/upcoming-notice-funding-opportunity-announcements-2022>

Andy Karsian

- Legislative session's final day was yesterday. Successful session for CDOT
- An overview of this year's legislative session
 - A flurry of bills, many opposed early in the session
 - Flexibility with the MMOF program
 - Burnham Yard project(s) bill
 - Traffic Safety, Idaho Stop amendments

- Broadband conversations
- Funding for expansion of transit (expansion of bustang)
- RMS Amendments to increase funding for the program
- Matching Funds from IJA bill
- Wildlife crossing bill
- Andy will be sending out final legislative report soon

Bustang Expansion – Amber Blake, CDOT Division of Transit and Rail - [Video Time Stamp 0:40:27](#)

Amber Blake

- Overview of the Bustang Family of Services and history
- Bustang - Pegasus
 - Friday - Sunday and Holiday Monday between Denver and Avon
 - Will operate passenger cans using Mountain express lanes
 - Service will begin Memorial Day Weekend
- Currently at 75% of pre-COVID levels of Bustang ridership
- Local community benefits of Bustang
 - Reduce Downtown parking needs
 - Reduce local street congestions from vehicles trolling for parking and
 - Promoting economic development at transit stops
- Statewide Benefits of Bustang Expansion
 - Capacity Enhancement- Hourly service moves more people per vehicle per mile traveled
 - Network managements - reduces congestion caused by passenger vehicles
 - GHG reductions
- CDOT proposing expansion to Bustang for a 3 year test period
 - Expansion components will be phased approach starting this year without the need of new funding
 - Phase 2 (2023) and Phase 3(2024)
 - Fares should remain the same, including keeping existing discounts and new multipacks
- GHG potential
 - Removes over 600k passenger vehicles from highway network; reduces 49.7 tons of NOx from passenger vehicles ; and reduces 14,000 tons of CO2 from passenger vehicles
- Budget Proposal FY22-FY26
 - Total Transit Need: \$72,800,000; Total Secured Revenue: \$72,000,000
 - Other potential sources of revenue: NAAPME, 10-Year Plan, CMAQ
- Laura Crews: Amber, Is there any discussion about expanding service to more than once a day on 285 so that people can complete a trip in a day. Also, is there any talk about service on 24 from COS to Fairplay? We are wrapping up a Tri-County Study and this has been identified as a significant need for individuals in the rural counties to get to medical services and jobs.: Inner City and regional bus plans to be updated soon and they will be noted here. Kim Kennison will reach out to those interested in these aspects.

Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF) Update – Michael Snow, CDOT

Multimodal Planning Branch- [Video Time Stamp 1:01:57](#)

- Original June 2023 expiration date on original State MMOF projects for has been loosened so extensions are now available and up to the awarding agency to determine how to approve them (i.e. up to the MPO)
- Would having to update contracts delay the projects? No, won't delay the starting period of projects perhaps to the end date.
- Only a one time extension.
- Chat Discussion
 - Paige Castaneda - CDOT: Any project with federal funds must be obligated within four years to avoid lapse and fully expended within 10 years.
 - Emma Belmont: Paige - different Federal Programs have different lapse and obligation timeframes, the 4 year is not consistent across the board.
 - Michael Snow - CDOT: True for federal funds generally, but these federal MMOF funds have a 2024 obligation deadline and a 2026 expiration expiration - and these are outlined in the MMOF guidance.

National Performance Measures Target Setting Update – Jacob Kershner, CDOT Performance and Asset Management Branch - [Video Time Stamp 1:14:14](#)

- PM3 (Sister Reliability Performance Measures) has been vetted to the Transportation Asset Management Oversight Committee (TAMOC)
- Methodology and Targets have been approved
- PM2 (Infrastructure Condition (Bridge and Pavement)) has since been established
- Need approval from CDOT Executive Director for this
- DRCOG and NFRMPO meeting to agree on joint Targets for Non-SOV and Peak Hours of Excessive Delay Performance, Performance Measures approval by June
- Documenting Targets for FHWA which are due Oct. 1, 2022 from which then MPOs will have 180 days to support state targets or establish their own

Other Business - [Video Time Stamp 1:16:29](#)

- COVID-19 Impacts / Updates – None.
- Staffing Updates
 - Bike and Pedestrian Transportation Specialist/ Planner Position posting
- Future Agenda Topics?
 - IGAs per Darius- One of the provisions is to have intergovernmental agreements completed...before deadline in october
 - Boundary Mapping of MPOs and TPRs
- Next SWMPO Meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2022