

Boulder County Subregional Forum TAC Meeting

September 29, 2021
10:30am to 12:00pm

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 720-400-7859](tel:+17204007859),664773428# United States, Denver

Phone Conference ID: 664 773 428#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions, Kathleen Bracke - 10 minutes

- Kathleen Brake, Alex Hyde-Wright, Gerrit Slatter, Jean Sanson, Danny O’Conner, Natalie Stiffler, Rob Zucarro, Alex Ariniello, Phil Greenwald, Jacob Riger, Josh Schwenk, Alvan Bidal Sanchez, Matthew Helfant, Dan Marcucci, Jan Rowe, Bryce Reeves, Katrina Klobberdanz, Miranda Fisher, Scott McCarey

2. TIP Project Updates

- **Project Updates** - 10 minutes
 - Boulder: Downtown Boulder Station Improvements
 - *A design team kick-off meeting will be held on September 29, 2021. The project is on track for construction in 2023.*
 - Boulder County: Enhanced FLEX Transit Service
 - *The additional weekday midday and Saturday FLEX service between Ft Collins-Longmont-Boulder began in January 2021, with the grant funding this service expansion for 4 years.*
 - Boulder County: SH 119 Completed Bikeway Design
 - *Boulder County and its consultant team are current working with stakeholders to finalize the alignment and design criteria, with FIR design expected to be completed in Spring 2022 and FOR design and the completion of this project in Q4 of 2022.*
 - Louisville: Regional Trail connection at 104th Street
 - *Project is in early design stages and survey data has been collected and is being analyzed. We hope to have final design plans late 1Q 2022. Project needs additional funding between the 3 partner agencies before construction advertisement.*
 - Louisville: SH 42 Design Plan
 - *The study is in progress and have had our first PMT/TT meeting with initial alternatives being discussed. We anticipate finalizing the study toward the end of Q1 of 2022.*
 - Nederland: Nederland MM Connections to downtown
 - **Nederland has submitted a preliminary design to CDOT for review. Negotiations with Xcel Energy about relocating utility poles are proving challenging. Sidewalk construction is anticipated to begin in April 2022.**

- Boulder: HOP Transit Service Expansion
 - *Project is to expand the HOP bus route network and service hours in Boulder and has not launched due to COVID-19 impacts to HOP ridership and transit market conditions. Amendment requested to program funding for the purchase of zero-emission battery electric buses for HOP service.*
- Boulder: SH7-Arap Multiuse Path and Transit Stop Improv.
 - *On Sept. 21, 2021, City Council approved the Community Environmental Assessment Plan for the project and it is now progressing into preliminary and final design. The project is anticipated to be advertised for construction by July 2022.*
- Lafayette: SH7 and 119th Intersection Improvements
 - *Property acquisition is underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2022.*
- Longmont: SH 66 Improvements - Hover to Main Street
 - *The City of Longmont is under contract with RockSol Consulting Group to perform design services for the SH 66 Improvements (Hover to Main) project. Major work items completed to date include: design survey, geotechnical investigation and pavement design, wetland delineation and environmental field survey, traffic data collection and traffic analysis, noise modeling, horizontal roadway design and development of FIR level plans.*
- Louisville: At-grade crossing S Boulder Road at Main Street
 - *This project is in design and pending 100% plan submittal to CDOT. We anticipate construction beginning in early 2022.*
- Superior: US 36 Bikeway Extension-Superior to Broomfield
 - *Segment 2 (along Rock Creek Parkway) was added to the project in July. The project is in design with bidding expected in late 2021. Construction start in early 2022 with completion by late spring.*
- Boulder County: US 287 BRT/ Safety Study
 - *Phase 1 of this project (BRT Study), which is locally funded, is expected to be complete by the end of 2021, with Phase 2 (Safety Study)- the TIP funded portion of this project- expected to begin in early 2022.*
- Lyons: St. Vrain Trail Extension
 - *The project was approved by the Lyons Board of Trustees at their September 7, 2021 BoT meeting and the agreement has been signed by the Town. Staff are working on three ditch crossing agreements.*
- Lyons: US 36 Multimodal Improvements in Lyons
 - *This project was approved by the Lyons Board of Trustees at their August 16 BOT meeting and the agreement has been signed by the Town. Design has begun with construction expected to start in 2022.*
- Boulder: 30th St Corridor Improvements
 - *The project will commence with a design kick-off in October 2021. Design will occur through 2022 and construction in 2023.*
- Longmont: County Line Rd Shoulder Improv.- 17th to SH 66
 - *There has not been any activity on County Line Road Shoulder Improvements since the design funding is programmed for FY 2023.*
- Phil mentioned the successful Coffman Open house that was just earlier this week. He thanked the many partners
- Gerrit talked about 28th Street and the design is moving forward and should be completed by Spring of 2022.

- Alex mentioned the traffic study that is being wrapped up by next month. Kathleen mentioned the progress on the bikeway.
- **City of Boulder request to change the HOP project scope of work**, Josh Schwenk and Danny O'Connor – 5 minutes
 - Reference attached memo from Boulder to DRCOG
 - Danny presented background on the HOP and current ops and funding concerns which is the rationale for their proposal to change MMOF funding from expanding operations (new routes) and instead use the funds to acquire add'l EV HOP buses. Danny identified key benefits of this change and meets eligibility and goals of city, CDOT, and DRCOG.
 - Alex A from Superior has questions re: use and availability of VW settlement funds and new SB260 funds will be available for EV buses. AA asked if ridership comes back, will city reapply for the expansion? Danny – yes, if/when market conditions warrant it. Other options they considered were not eligible.
 - Alex HW asked if this money could be used for other service buy-up. The answer is no, its not eligible.
 - Phil asked how we are updating the MMOF match for the new grant. The state match does count.
 - Alex A asked about the charging equipment versus the buses. The latest quote for each bus is \$850,000 each. This is updated grant is just for the buses.
 - There was unanimous support from Subregion TAC for the City of Boulder to change their original scope to allow purchase of electric vehicles. This recommendation will be presented to the PAC who will actually make the decision.

3. Vision Zero Update

- **Update on Boulder County Vision Zero Plan**, Alex Hyde-Wright - 5 minutes
 - AHW presented overview of Boulder County's VZ crash analysis (part 1) and action plan (part 2), next steps. Going to public this Fall.
- **Update from other agencies**- 5 minutes
- Jacob talked about DRCOG's "Slow Speeding" campaign. The notion that speeding just a little bit is just as dangerous as those going 80mph. Would folks be interested in a Regional Crash Data Consortium that would be a mutually benefit to local agencies. Working on Complete Streets Toolkit. Looking to hire a new position to help with safety efforts in the region. Boulder County offered for DRCOG, county, and others to present this topic more fully at the upcoming subregional PAC meeting.
- Kathleen thanked everyone for their work on safety.
- Alex A said that Superior is working on a Vision Zero program. He asked if others on the call could provide him with VZ policies and strategies to not reinvent the wheel and learn from others. AHW mentioned the countywide VZ coalition and that Boulder County is planning the next meeting coming up in November. Jacob offered to present at that re: what DRCOG is doing and offering to help others too.

4. Update on '24-'27 TIP regional call for projects, Josh Schwenk and Alex Hyde-Wright – 20 minutes

- Approx. \$60M will be available for the regional call for projects
- Call for projects likely to open in late Jan. 2022, applications due March 2022.
- Josh/DRCOG said this timing may change, ex. timing of federal infrastructure bill which will likely change amount and types of funding. Also tracking the state MMOF and considering how to bundle that funding with federal or perhaps do as separate calls for projects, with MMOF focusing on air quality projects.

- 20% local match likely
- \$2-3M minimum request for federal funds likely
- Changes to TIP application
 - Addition of a “project readiness” category to scoring; likely focus on RR/ROW/utilities, and status of match. Likely to account for 10% of project score.
 - TIP focus areas to be replaced by six regional priorities: air quality, regional transit, safety, active transportation, multimodal mobility, and freight
- Our subregion will likely be able to submit 3 applications. Potential applications:
 - CO 119- primarily capital improvements
 - CO 7- primarily transit operations
 - ?
- Relationship between Regional and Subregional pools of money
 - In '20-'23 TIP our Subregion used Subregional pool money to match the regional projects.
 - This may be less necessary for the '24-'27 TIP, if the local match for the Regional call for projects is reduced to 20%, but may still be attractive to overmatch to gain a few more points.
- Josh mentioned that DRCOG may forming a new funding pot that would be focused on multimodal and air quality projects. There is also very likely going to be a project readiness. He also mentioned that there may be GHG considerations in the applications and possible Land Use.
- Six regional categories: air quality, regional transit, safety, active transportation, multimodal mobility, and freight
- Kathleen asked about how readiness works for plans. Josh said it might apply most to capital projects
- Gerrit asked if the DRCOG Board or TAC has looked at the strike policy. Josh said it would stay the same. Gerrit also asked the difference between Active Transportation and Multimodal.
 - DRCOG: Active Transportation and the other modal-specific priority areas (Regional Transit, Freight, etc.) are mostly about building out those specific networks (regional BRT network, regional bikeway network, etc.), whereas multimodal mobility is about ensuring specific projects are implemented in most multimodal way possible: how different modes work together to provide complete system with options for travelers. Think bike/ped access to transit station, managed lane project that is also used by transit. Complete Streets toolkit is one method project sponsors can incorporate these connections into projects, but there are also other sources for this.
- Alex A commented that freight is a different animal and shouldn't compete with the other projects but rather have its own funding stream.
- Alex A asked about if 287 should be included. Would like to see that corridor advanced.
- Kathleen asked when subregions need to have our three projects ready. Josh said that hopefully on the 6th would have more clarity. Best thing to use at this point is March 2022.
- Gerrit asked if the County will be preparing these regional applications and that we have enough time to prepare these.

5. Subregional Funding Formula, Alex Hyde-Wright – 15 minutes

- Current formula allocates subregional funding to subregions based on population, employment, and VMT (with equal weight given to each). Currently, subregions are somewhat financially incentivized to not reduce VMT.
- Any desire to recommend to our DRCOG Board reps to revisit this formula, and incentivize reducing VMT and/or incorporate progress on vision zero into this formula?
 - Kathleen asked if DRCOG staff if they could run new formula metrics. Josh asked what would the county want? Support for seeing formula with just removing VMT.
 - Alex A commented that COVID will complicated things.
 - Jean said that there is enough shifting of funds is premature for this cycle but maybe for next cycle.
 - After the meeting, DRCOG staff provided the following table:

DRAFT - Example Factors for Sub-Region (County) Distributions
(Sept 2021)

Revenue Factors	Adams	Arapahoe	Boulder	Broomfield	Denver	Douglas	Jefferson	SW Weld	Total
Population (2019 DOLA)	512,830	650,534	327,164	70,763	729,237	351,526	583,050	79,151	3,304,256
% of Regional Total	15.52%	19.69%	9.90%	2.14%	22.07%	10.64%	17.65%	2.40%	100%
Employment (2019 DOLA)	276,779	415,963	245,156	48,736	630,953	173,404	315,947	27,524	2,134,463
% of Regional Total	12.97%	19.49%	11.49%	2.28%	29.56%	8.12%	14.80%	1.29%	100%
VMT (2020, RTP-2020 and Focus 2.3)	14,745,591	13,772,317	6,851,516	2,332,995	17,808,355	10,199,783	14,060,456	3,133,901	82,904,914
% of Regional Total	17.79%	16.61%	8.26%	2.81%	21.48%	12.30%	16.96%	3.78%	100%
Average of Factors with VMT	15.42%	18.60%	9.88%	2.41%	24.37%	10.36%	16.47%	2.49%	100%
Average of Factors without VMT	14.24%	19.59%	10.69%	2.21%	25.81%	9.38%	16.22%	1.84%	100%
Change in Regional Percentage by Removing VMT	-1.18%	0.99%	0.81%	-0.20%	1.44%	-0.97%	-0.25%	-0.65%	

Change in Each Subregion's Percentage of Funds by Removing VMT

-7.7% 5.3% 8.2% -8.3% 5.9% -9.4% -1.5% -26.0%

6. Weight of the six regional priorities in the TIP application, Alex Hyde-Wright – 10 minutes

- DRCOG proposing to replace *TIP Focus Areas* (address transportation-focused Metro Vision objectives (and indirectly the 2040 MVRTP) with *Regional Priorities* for the '24-'27 TIP Application

- Regional Priorities: air quality, regional transit, safety, active transportation, multimodal mobility, and freight
- Previously, TIP Focus Areas was worth 30% of a project's score. Any desire to push for increasing the weight of this section in the '24-'27 TIP application?
 - Did not get to this topic

7. 2022 Boulder County Sales Tax Update, Kathleen Bracke – 5 minutes

- Did not get to this topic

8. Next Steps and Adjourn, Kathleen Bracke – 5 minutes

- Kathleen suggested that given the time we have another meeting among this group before having a PAC meeting. Possible meeting with TAC in 2 weeks. Meet with PAC in early November.
- There was a question about whether the PAC could take action via email rather than through a live meeting. Kathleen asked if Josh could check on that.
- Plan A – reconvene the subregional TAC in October to finish discussing the remaining topics, then schedule PAC after that.
- Regarding City of Boulder's action item, DRCOG staff asking if this can be done via email.
- Plan B – if can't do PAC action via email, then schedule a "mini subregional PAC" asap to take care of the City of Boulder's request and schedule 2nd TAC in mid/late Oct and PAC in Nov.