

Boulder County DRCOG Subregional Forum TAC

Meeting Notes
Aug 8, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Meeting held via Teams

Attendees:

Boulder County: Kathleen Bracke, Alexandra Phillips
DRCOG: Todd Cottrell, Josh Schwenk, Alvan Bidal Sanchez
CDOT: Katrina Klobberdanz, Dan Marcucci
RTD: Chris Quinn
City of Boulder: Jean Sanson, Gerrit Slatter
Town of Erie: David Pasic
City of Lafayette: Jeff Arthur
City of Longmont: Phil Greenwald
City of Louisville: Megan Davis
Town of Lyons: Kim Mitchell
Town of Nederland: Karen Blakemore
Commuting Solutions: Audrey DeBarros

Agenda Items:

TIP Updates from DRCOG:

Todd: Call 3 opens Aug 22, Applications due Oct 11

Todd: will be sending out an email to Kathleen and Alex outlining all the info he is presenting. Please see Todd's email for details.

- Call 3 for years 24- 27 opens Aug. 11. New application for surface transportation block grant (STBG) in only calls 3 and 4.
- CMAQ and Multimodal funds only available in 26 and 27.
- There will be discussion with individual project sponsors to help pick which application to use.

Important dates:

- Aug 22 call 3 opens
- Concurrence forms due a few weeks after that
- Mid Sept- might need project support form. (all this will be in email)
- Oct. 11 applications due (there will be two types of applications)
- Call 4 opens Nov. 28th.

99% of the material for the applications will stay the same. A few additions or deletions. Might not notice the difference.

- Don't need to sort which projects to choose based on the two types of applications
- Last week of Oct. project review panel for call 3 will meet

- DRCOG will review and score. One technical member from each forum
- Panel will put forth a recommendation to the DRCOG board

Todd: If board does not accept GHG amendment or if mitigation action plan not accepted then there would be restrictions on the funds but at this time we think we can meet those funding targets, therefore there will be no funding restrictions but in 4-6 weeks from now we will know for sure.

***TAC voted to recommend to the Forum that Alex Hyde-Wright continue as our Forum's representative on the DRCOG Regional Review Panel.** Phil made the motion for Alex to continue. Gerrit seconded. All yeses. No opposed. No abstained. Vote unanimous for Alex Hyde-Wright to continue as County forum representative on the DRCOG Regional Review Panel.

TIP Call #3 Project Application Discussion:

TAC discussed options for three potential options for submittals in the upcoming TIP Regional Call #3. Suggestions include CO119/Diagonal, CO7 transit operations, local BAT lanes on CO119 within Longmont and Boulder, and Boulder County transit plan.

CO119/Diagonal – details to be determined based on outcome of federal RAISE grant

CO7 transit operations – revise Call #1 application to include Boulder to Brighton and be supported by other Forums (Broomfield and Adams County)

Local BAT Lanes for CO119 in Longmont & Boulder:

Phil asked Todd if Longmont BAT lanes still a viable regional project Todd asked how traffic Boulder County would be impacted. Phil talked about through traffic through Longmont getting to Boulder. All roads come together and then branch back out so the BAT lanes would help regional travel. Todd can't say one way or another without knowing how it fits into the rest of 119 or what other forums may submit. Needs to look at it from a regional network and what it would do in Longmont.

Jean suggested looking at BAT lanes in COB and combine with the Longmont BAT lanes

Todd: a regional project should either be located or have benefits to two or more subregions. Having BAT lanes in two or three locations makes sense but could get very tricky once it is awarded. Needs to keep it all one project.

Phil: Longmont and City of Boulder would be applicants for CO 119 BAT lanes.

Phil: The Longmont and Boulder BAT lanes application would have to be separated into two projects once awarded.

Todd: wants further discussion with the Longmont and COB to figure out if it would work.

Boulder County Transit Plan:

Audrey: Could an entity that does not have a transit plan tag onto the Boulder County transit plan?

Kathleen: Transit plan scope of work can be written to be countywide plus customized pieces for each of the local communities. Todd said transit plan would be a good Call 4 project and Kathleen agreed.

David: Erie wants to be included in Transit Plan in call 4.

Kathleen: are there any communities that do not want to participate in countywide transit plan scoping? No one spoke up.

Move forward with application for countywide transit plan in Call #4 with local communicates helping in scoping over the next few months.

***TAC voted to recommend the following list of three regional Call #3 applications to the Forum:**

- **CO 119 /Diagonal– multimodal corridor improvements with the details determined after we know about the status of the federal RAISE grant**
- **CO 7 transit operations “BRT starter service” from Boulder to Brighton, with support from other forums (Broomfield & Adams).**
- **Local CO 119 improvements within City of Longmont and/or City of Boulder, including local BAT lanes.**

Vote: Phil made motion, second by David, unanimous yes, no opposed, no abstain.

Additional Discussion Items:

Regarding the CO7 Transit Operations application, Kathleen passed along a request that came from a staff discussion among local jurisdictions working together on the CO7 corridor planning. With the proposed CO7 transit operation application for Call #3 now spanning from Boulder to Brighton, including the three subregional Forums of Boulder County, City & County of Broomfield, and Adams County, could there be the possibility of each of these forums using a portion of their Call #4 subregional funds to help co-fund the local matching amount for Call #3 regional application because the service operations would span all three subregions? This could include local matching funds from both the local jurisdictions individually as well as from each of the Forums. This is approach to use funds from future subregional pot is similar to what was done in Call #1 with the Broomfield Forum submitting the CO7 design application that included ~\$280K in co-funding from the Boulder County forum’s Call #2 funds.

Jean: There could also be a similar request from the Broomfield Forum in Call #3 for the Boulder County Forum to contribute to the next set of CO7 design segments.

Todd: would suggest not putting in for financial support from different Forums unless they need financial support. Just show support by writing a letter or other means but not by putting in some match with one forum pledging money towards another forum. Two projects giving matches to each other cancels each other out. Ask if that is the best way to get a project funded that is outside of the county boundary then it makes sense, but if you just want to show support, better to write a letter.

Megan: has our Forum developed criteria for if/when we would commit our subregional funds to a regional project? We should have agreed upon criteria to determine whether to do this and why.

Kathleen: we don’t have anything specific, has been handled on a case-by-case basis in the past rounds.

Kathleen: No need for the TAC to take a vote on this today, just want to initiate conversations and we can do more work at the staff level and bring options forward for more discussion at a future TAC meeting. Agree that it gets complicated if doing multiple exchanges among forums, could end up just passing the same dollar bill back and forth. Megan makes a good point about needing to have criteria to help with decision making around this.

RTD updates:

Chris:

- RTD one week into zero fare for better air. Will have better numbers to see if there is an uptick of ridership.
- Trading out fare boxes and ticket validators at rail stations and moving towards account-based ticketing.
- RTD is in the midst of a high level of fare study and equity analysis. Looking at eliminating distance-based fares. Expect to have more public meetings in Sept or early Oct.

Kathleen: How will RTD evaluate the fare free August?

Chris: consultant team doing equity analysis will also do an analysis of the fare free. Would also like to do a survey to determine what customers thought- did it attract new riders and to which routes.

Audrey asked when campaign report would have to be ready. Chris will get back to her with answer.

Vision Zero & General Updates:

- Boulder County is leading US 36 Foothills Hwy feasibility study to look at Bikeway along corridor
- CDOT staff and CPW developed wildlife prioritization study. Could the study give opportunity to address safer cycling and safety for wildlife along US 36 (Lyons to Boulder- most of the wildlife crashes are on the section between Nelson and CO66)
- Boulder County will be restarting Vision Zero Community Partnership meetings this fall
- [Transportation sales tax will be on ballot](#). No increase in sales tax level, though will be on-going if approved by the voters. Commissioner Claire Levy is the point person and can talk more with anyone about this. Commissioner Loachamin also doing presentations on it.

Next Steps & Action Items:

- Need to schedule next forum meeting before Aug. 22nd (when Call #3 opens). Kathleen will send a hold the date for forum meeting with electeds Aug. 11 from 2 pm- 3 pm AND people will check directly with their council members to confirm date. Deadline to get back to Kathleen is tomorrow (Aug. 9th)
- If council members have topics they want to cover at future forum meetings send topics to Kathleen
- Todd Cottrell will email an update this week with more details on TIP Call #3 & #4, Kathleen will forward this to the TAC & Forum

Boulder County DRCOG Subregional Forum website, including meeting information:

<https://www.bouldercounty.org/transportation/plans-and-projects/drcog-subregional-transportation-improvement-program/>