

## **Nederland EcoPass Public Improvement District Advisory Committee (NEPPIDAC) Meeting Oct 5, 2023**

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Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. June 26, 2023 Meeting Notes
4. EcoPass Transition to Account Based System
5. 2023 Ballot Measure & Fair Campaign Practices Act
6. RTD Fare Study
7. 2024 Recommended Budget
8. NEPPIDAC Meeting Schedule

### **Meeting Notes**

#### **Agenda Item 1: Introductions**

Committee: Susie Gallaudet, Gene Smith, Andrew Bliss, Vera Schulte-Pelkum, (Tom Mahowald- not present)

Public: Mikayla Zeitlin

Town of Nederland Staff: Miranda Fisher, Peter Cacek

Boulder County staff: Alex Hyde-Wright, Landon Hilliard

#### **Agenda Item 2: Public Comment**

One member of the public attended but did not wish to speak

#### **Agenda Item 3: Meeting Notes (June 26, 2023)**

- Review of summary notes of second quarter meeting.
- Recruiting of advisory committee members (NEPPIDAC)
- Projected costs and revenue of Nederland EcoPass program

- Ballot measure resolution prepared for vote in November 2024. Nederland Board of Trustees approved the resolution to extend property tax for ten years for the residential program with possibility of starting an employee program, funding permitting.
- Community surveys given to residents, businesses, and property owners. Results posted on Boulder County web site.

#### **Agenda Item 4: EcoPass Transition to Account-Based System**

Presentation from staff:

RTD is implementing a long-term plan to move from a plastic card fare payment system to a cloud-based system known as the RTD MyRide program. Transitional period in fall 2023 from cards to smart phone system with a mobile ticketing app. Town staff is coordinating the transition for program participants. Have issued a few MyRide Cards as a substitute to the smart phone method requiring a visit to an RTD retail outlet in Boulder. There are administrative issues that Town staff are handling. Each participant is tied to the program with an individual email address. Boulder County staff are speaking with RTD about the possibility of providing MyRide card stock in Nederland for more convenient pickup.

Questions from committee members; answers from staff:

- What is the Town doing to communicate the transition? There is a need for community-wide communications such as flyers at PnR and local business, email, Town web site. Agreed that EcoPass district funds may be used for paper materials, card printing, and mailings to program participants.
- What is the Town's approach to reaching the Spanish-speaking population?
  - Typically, there isn't a great need for translation to Spanish and other languages.
- By default, it would make sense to provide dual translation of all materials.
- Is there an effect of the Zero Fare for Youth on cost of the Nederland Community EcoPass contract?
  - RTD determines price by utilization of three tiers of riders (Regular, Discount, and Youth). Because there has been low utilization of Youth tier, the savings should not be substantial for the future contract price.
- Question (from Andrew Bliss) on entity responsible – Nederland EcoPass Program or Boulder County Housing Authority - for providing EcoPasses to residents of Tungsten Village affordable housing?

#### **Agenda Item 5: 2023 Ballot Measure & Fair Campaign Practices Act**

- Ballot measure resolution and prepared for November 2024. Board of County Commissioners approved the resolution.
- Time and resources of county and town employees may not be given to campaign for a ballot measure according to the Boulder County legal memorandum. Private citizens are free to communicate.

#### **Agenda Item 6: RTD Fare Study**

As a result of a fare study as part of the RTD System Optimization Plan, the fare structure will be simplified. Local, Regional, and Airport levels will be rolled into Standard and Airport with distinctions of Regular, Discount, and Youth tiers eliminated.

**Agenda Item 7: 2024 Recommended Budget**

Regardless of the outcome of the November resolution, available fund balance will provide operating revenue and allow for the continuation of program in 2024. Main expenses are the annual EcoPass contract, program administration, and end-of-year audit. Advisory group is asked to recommend approval of proposed budget which in turn will be presented to Boulder County Commissioners for eventual approval. Financial projection assumes that property tax revenue increases by two percent annually bring revenue of approximately \$200,000 annually.

From committee: Can eliminate cost of printing cards from 2024 budget.

Program audit should be easier and quicker for town staff to perform. Backlog of record cleaning was cleared in 2022.

Motion to approve budget (with two amendments: reallocate printing line item to marketing and communications, and correct typo in contribution to fund balance)

First: Susie Gallaudet

Second: Gene Smith

Motion passes 4-0

**Agenda Item 8: NEPPIDAC Meeting Schedule**

Support for a regular scheduled and in person, with awareness of disruptions during winter months. Find a location at Town offices to hold a hybrid in person/virtual meeting.

**Additional Matters**

Replace the previous Chair of the committee.

Motion to nominate Vera Schulte-Pelkum for one-year term

First: Andrew Bliss

Second: Gene Smith

Motion passed 4-0