

Nederland EcoPass Public Improvement District Advisory Committee (NEPPIDAC) Meeting

Meeting Time (MST)

January 31, 2024, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Nederland Community Library

200 Highway 72 North

Nederland, Colorado 80466

Online Alternative:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Agenda:

Written Update from Staff:

1. Official 2023 Ballot Results – written update
2. New RTD Fare Structure – written update

Discussion Update:

3. Introductions
4. Public Comment
5. 2023 Q3 Meeting Notes
6. Mobile/ Account-Based Transition Update
7. 2024 Recommended Budget Amendment
8. Potential District Employee EcoPass Program Update
9. NEPPIDAC Meeting Schedule
10. NEPPIDAC Membership
11. Budget Workshop

Excerpt from Resolution 2013-80:

WHEREAS, if funding permits after all the costs of providing an Eco Pass to permanent residents in the district are paid, remaining revenues may pay for additional or expanded transit service hours of existing bus routes, or transit related amenities, including but not limited to: bus stop pads, benches, bicycle racks and shelters, and sidewalk improvements; and

2023 Ballot Measure:

Nederland Eco Pass Public Improvement District Ballot Issue 6A			
CANDIDATE		VOTES	PERCENT
Yes/For		1,249	79.96%
No/Against		313	20.04%
TOTAL VOTES:		1,562	

WITH NO INCREASE IN ANY DISTRICT TAX, SHALL THE DISTRICT’S EXISTING AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED 1.85 MILLS APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT’S VOTERS IN 2013 AND WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE BE EXTENDED FOR TEN YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF PROVIDING A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT ECO PASS TO ALL DISTRICT MEMBERS; SHALL THE REVENUES AND THE EARNINGS ON THE INVESTMENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO FUND AND ADMINISTER AN ECO PASS PROGRAM FOR NON-RESIDENT EMPLOYEES OF EMPLOYERS OPERATING WITHIN THE DISTRICT WITHOUT COLLECTING ADDITIONAL REVENUES FROM DISTRICT RESIDENTS; ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF THE BOULDER COUNTY NEDERLAND ECO PASS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT’S RESOLUTION N2023-1?

District revenues *must* be spent on:

- Providing an EcoPass to all residents of the District

District revenues *may* be spent on:

- Providing an EcoPass for non-resident employees who work in the District
- Additional or expanded transit service hours of existing bus routes
- Transit related amenities, including bus stop pads, benches, bicycle racks and shelters, and sidewalk improvements

2024 RTD Fare Changes

On Jan 1, 2024, RTD eliminated the regional fare, and reduced the standard fare to \$2.75. As a result of this change, all trips that were previously a regional fare (\$5.25 in 2023) are now only \$2.75. RTD also reduced the airport fare to \$10.00 from \$10.50. Details of the fare structure may be found on the [RTD web site](#).

Youth 19 & under continue to be fare-free through Aug 31, 2024 through the [Zero Fare for Youth](#) demonstration project.

2023 FARE STRUCTURE (FULL FARE)				NEW FARE STRUCTURE, EFFECTIVE 2024 (FULL FARE)		
	LOCAL	REGIONAL	AIRPORT		STANDARD (LOCAL/REGIONAL)	AIRPORT (A LINE/SKYRIDE)
3-HOUR	\$3.00	\$5.25	\$10.50	3-HOUR	\$2.75	\$10.00
DAY	\$6.00	\$10.50		DAY	\$5.50	
MONTHLY	\$114.00	\$200.00		MONTHLY	\$88.00	

As a result of the new lower fares being applied to Nederland resident EcoPass program utilization, and the two months of state funded “Zero Fare for Better Air” in July and August 2023, our 2024 resident EcoPass contract with RTD is \$56,093.00, which is \$32,545 less than the 2023 contract price of \$88,638.

As a reminder, while transfers within 3 hours of the first tap are free for EcoPass (unless transferring from a standard fare route to the airport fare zone), the discount for senior/disabled/Medicare/low-income riders and daily or monthly fare capping/accumulators are not included in EcoPass programs. Going forward, this means that going a Standard fare cost of \$2.75 or an Airport fare cost of \$10.00 is tallied for every tap of an EcoPass.

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

Recommended 2024 Budget Amendment

- Revenue:
 - **\$214,331**
- 2023 EOY Fund Balance: \$193,615
- 2024 Expenses:
 - **\$56,093** EcoPass Contract
 - \$10,000 Town of Nederland Admin & EcoPass Portal Audit
 - **\$3,500** Printing/Mailing/Marketing
 - **\$4,809** Election Cost
- Total Expenses: **\$72,902**
- Contribution to Fund Balance:
 - **\$139,992**
- 2024 EOY Fund Balance: **\$333,544**

Yellow highlighting denotes change from previously adopted 2024 budget