

Nederland EcoPass Public Improvement District Advisory Committee (NEPPIDAC) Meeting Notes

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 Meeting Alternative:

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Agenda:

Written Update from Staff:

- Official 2023 Ballot Results – written update
- New RTD Fare Structure – written update

Discussion Update:

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

Meeting Summary

Call to order at 3:12 PM

Written Update from Staff:

- Official 2023 Ballot Results – written update
- New RTD Fare Structure – written update

Discussion Update:

Agenda Item 1: Introductions

Public: no one of the public was in attendance.

Committee members: Vera Schulte-Pelkum, Susie Gallaudet, Andrew Bliss, Eugene Smith (online), (Tom Mahowald – not present)

Town of Nederland staff: Miranda Fisher, Corrina McLeod, Peter Cacek

Boulder County staff: Alex Hyde-Wright, Landon Hilliard

Agenda Item 2: Public Comment

n/a

Agenda Item 3: 2023 Q3 Meeting Notes

- Meeting materials are posted on the Boulder County web site and will be posted on the Town of Nederland calendar.
- Review of summary meeting notes of October 5, 2023
 - Motion to approve meeting summary by Susie Gallaudet; Second by Gene Smith.
 - Motion passed, 3-0.

Agenda Item 4: Mobile/ Account-Based Transition Update

- “So far, so good” but with challenges. Many residents are not comfortable with new mobile EcoPass app. Interest of residents in physical MyRide cards is about 30 percent compared to 70 percent for mobile EcoPass.
- Enrollment event Community Center at from 6-8PM on January 31, 2024 assisted by Boulder County staff
- Difficulties with the transition are related to communications, consistent information, and reliable technical support
 - Inconsistent communication, lack of card stock, difficult to reach RTD staff.
 - Different or inaccurate information from RTD. Need accurate answers from RTD. Town staff looking for support to open communications with RTD. Must identify RTD contact.
 - Town staff appreciate technical and organizational support of Boulder County staff.
 - Henceforth, aim for a smooth transition.
- Much time given by staff to get through the “growing pains” of transition which may warrant comments to RTD Board of Directors.
- Action items
 - Establish a reliable source of information and support with RTD.

- Create a FAQ information from RTD and flier for library
- Boulder County can arrange meeting with RTD staff to talk through issues
 - Residents without access to smart phone, need to have an email address
- RTD drivers have been lenient with accepting fare

Agenda Item 5: 2024 Recommended Budget Amendment

- Explanation of the budget proposed for 2024
 - This was done in comparison to the budget forecast that had been outlined at the Q3 committee meeting.
 - With passing of ballot measure, property tax revenue will be \$214,331 for 2024. Contract price of \$56,093 is about \$30,000 less than 2023. Printing and mailing line item is raised by \$1,500 to \$3,500. This leaves a projected end-of-year balance of \$333,544.
- Expected expenditures in 2024
- Two rounds of mailing activity for EcoPass transition used about \$3,500. Additional funds will be needed for outreach and mailing of an employee program to be introduced in 2024. Funding from Boulder County Mobility for All has not been allocated. Expect budget amendment at start-up time of employee EcoPass program.
- Recommend \$1,500 increase in budget for printing expenses
 - First motion by Susie Gallaudet, Second by Vera Schulte-Pelkum.
 - Motion passed, 3-0.

Agenda Item 6: Potential District Employee EcoPass Program Update

- At the time of ballot measure vote in 2023, information was unknown of revenue and costs.
- In view of employees of Eldora Mountain Ski Resort, there has been a “hang up” with start of employee EcoPass program. Town and Boulder County staff have informed Eldora administrative staff of the false start of an employee program.
- Eldora is eligible to begin its own employee EcoPass program before the start of a Nederland EcoPass District employee EcoPass program.
- An estimate of cost of employee EcoPass program for the Nederland EcoPass District is calculated by number of employees with a per person multiplier of \$30 (rate for 2024 and 2025). Current estimate is of 2,000 employees.
 - A neighborhood EcoPass program’s contract price is determined by that neighborhood’s previous utilization; employee EcoPass program per employee pricing is determined by pooling all employees’ pass utilization by all companies in the same service level area.
 - All businesses including Eldora have been paying the EcoPass property tax since 2014.
 - There is support from the Committee for a special contribution by large employers for a District employee EcoPass program.
- Residents are concerned about traffic congestion caused by activity generated by Eldora.
 - Frustration with limited service of RTD NB and parking overdemand of Nederland Park-n-Ride, particularly on weekends. RTD lacks staff capacity and is not capable of increasing NB bus service to solve problem of access to Eldora for Nederland area residents.

- Question of whether Eldora Employee Shuttle or Eldora Boulder Shuttle should stop in RTD Park-n-Ride and allow Nederland area residents to ride to the ski mountain.
- Committee members want to support transit as an alternative mode to decrease automobile traffic.
- Need to outline an district employee program and do outreach to gather count of employers and number of employees.

Agenda Item 7: NEPPIDAC Meeting Schedule

- Move meeting time to evenings to be more inclusive of the people’s working hours.
- Look at third Wednesday of the month starting with February 21, 2024 in a series of meetings through the first half of the year. In June, evaluate need for monthly meetings.

Agenda Item 8: NEPPIDAC Membership

- Vera Schulte-Pelkum has served on the committee since its inception in 2014. Vera is thanked for her long service and historical knowledge.
- Staff will open a recruitment process and accept applications to find a new committee member. The Board of County Commissioners as the governing body of the NEPPIDAC will make the appointment of a recommended candidate.

Agenda Item 9: Budget Workshop

- Surplus funds are available for additional bus service and improvements to bus stops to sidewalk connections
 - For example, an allowable expense for 2024 is to buy NB service. One round trip of the NB for 365 days may cost about \$70,000.
 - Committee will establish budget priorities in future meetings

Adjournment

Move to adjourn Susie Gallaudet, Second by Vera Schulte-Pelkum.

Motion passed, 4-0.

Adjourn at 4:32 PM