

# **Community Planning & Permitting**

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

## Meeting Time (MST):

July 16, 2025, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

# **Meeting Location:**

Nederland Community Library 200 Highway 72 Nederland, Colorado 80466

Meeting begins 4:02pm

#### Agenda:

1. Introductions (5 min.)

NEPPIDAC Members - Tierney Maris, Susie Gallaudet, Gene Smith, Tom Mahowald, Andrew Bliss

Town of Nederland – Jonathan Cain

Eldora Ski – Steve Rountree

Boulder County – Alex Hyde-Wright, Melissa Hunter, Landon Hilliard, Nick Aguilera CSTP Consulting Team - Jennifer Wieland (Nelson-Nygaard); Paul Lutey (Nelson-Nygaard), Carly Sieff (Fehr + Peers),

2. Public Comment (0 min.)

No public comment

- 3. Action Item: Approval of 06-18-2025 Meeting Notes (5 min.) Tom motions to approve; Susie seconds; All in favor (5-0)
- 4. Information Item: Countywide Strategic Transit Plan (45 min.) Introduction

Over an 18-month period, the project will develop a vision for transit, define the audiences it can serve, and produce a coordinated set of recommendations, governance ideas, and investments wrapped into an implementation plan. It'll ask what RTD can and can't do in terms of policy and operations. This is one of many opportunities to collect comments from the Nederland community.

**Project Purpose** 

- 1. **Vision** for transit service that is high-quality, universally accessible, equitable, and "work for the entire community"
- 2. **Strategy** to build on previous planning work to address County's transit needs and opportunities today and in the coming years;

- 3. **Road map** as a clear path for transit service expansion, including specific action items and how they will be funded/implemented;
- 4. **Reflection** of what the community, including nearby counties, hopes to see and is excited to support.

# Discussion Question: What challenges does NEPPIDAC see facing Nederland?

- North-South connections along Peak-to-Peak Highway
- "Last mile to five-mile" connections
- Multimodal transit connecting Gilpin County to Lyons
- Need for jurisdictional support from Boulder and Gilpin counties
- Improving reliability and safety of transit service (including during winter storms) and late-night run of the RTD AB route
- Recreation and trailhead access
- Bicyclist-car driver conflict sharing roadways with little to no shoulders
- Walking connections, pedestrian infrastructure makes foot travel more dangerous
- Limited signage regarding safe pull-over locations in Boulder Canyon and Peak to Peak Hwy
- CDOT Relationship
  - Pedestrian crossings on CDOT roads are not effective in keeping pedestrians safe and drivers aware
- In-town congestion with seasonal influxes of Eldora skiers, summer recreation, and leaf-peeping traffic
- Public transit connections beyond Nederland PnR
- More bike facilities near bus stops and in support of recreational bicycling
- Safe pedestrian pathway on Eldora Rd. (CR 130) from town to Ned MS/HS and Elementary school connection
- Emergency access/egress routes for community members, including Magnolia Road

### What assets and opportunities exist in Nederland?

- Having RTD service in a rural town is a strength to the community and expanding on existing NB connection is an opportunity for greater vitality of Nederland residents, employees, and visitors
- Volunteer driver program can connect people to existing transit system in Nederland
- Strong local partners: Community Center, Library, Eldora, Food Pantry, Trailheads and more!
- Town is compact, walkability and bikeability is an opportunity
- Future mountain rail service with a stop in Rollinsville (and connection to Gilpin County) will be a is an opportunity for community connection

When thinking about a transit plan, who is most important to engage?

- Local schools and community centers
- Mountain communities beyond Nederland (Ward, Jamestown, Rollinsville),
- Youth (Teens Inc, SMBA, Boulder Nordic Team)
- Eldora Guests, Eldora Staff
- Town of Eldora
- Ignite (Eldora Adaptive Sports)
- Business EcoPass Participants
- Downtown Development Authority

HYPOTHETICAL: If this plan can do one thing for the Nederland community, what is one thing you want to see accomplished?

- Protected crosswalks, ADA compliant sidewalks allowing for safe and accessible connections to transit. Funding source to reconstruct First Street
- Creative ideas for collaboration that allow Nederland to partner with others and gain capacity and momentum for transit projects and build flexibility into those funding opportunities
- High concern for funding for second egress bridge in Nederland in the event of an emergency evacuation

# 5. Information Item: NEPPIDAC Fund Balance (5 min.)

- Boulder County Office of Financial Mangement recommended the fund balance reserves should contain at minimum, 5% or 2 months of operating expenditures. However, this is just a recommended amount and can be up for future conversations
  - Anticipated 2025 EOY Fund Balance \$342,716
- Future Discussion/Action Items:
  - Look at early project recommendations from Countywide Strategic Transit Plan, which should be available in ~6 month
  - Collect NEPPIDAC project ideas for NEPPIDAC fund spending
  - Advise Board of County Commissioners (acting as the NEPPIDAC Board of Directors) on future project spending
- Question (Follow-Up needed): Can we confirm project type eligibility for NEPPIDAC funds? Can NEPPIDAC funds be used for local match on grants?

# 6. Information Item: Summer Transit Service Proposal (5 min.)

NEPPIDAC will use \$2,000 in NEPPIDAC funds to contribute to the Colorado Energy Office Ozone Season transit Trant funding secured by Via Mobility to add a Saturday service for Mountain Rides through September 30, 2025.

Susie motions; Tom seconds motion; All in favor (5-0).

7. Action Item: Recurring meeting schedule to the second Wednesday (5 min.)

- Tierney suggest change; Andrew seconds; All in favor (5-0).
- Next meeting will follow new meeting schedule, occurring on August 13, 2025.
- 8. Discussion Item: Public comment of RTD service changes September 2025 (10 min.)
  - Reviewed a preliminary DRAFT schedule for the NB service for fall 2025. Changes
    are on track to return service to 85% of pre-COVID levels as recommended by
    the RTD System Optimization Plan (2022) and meets identified needs of Ned
    community. The committee appreciates the "community responsiveness" of
    RTD.
  - RTD Board of Directors is expected to vote on changes at the July 29, 2025 meeting. There is a virtual and in-person opportunity to attend to express public opinion: See Board of Director Meeting Details
- Matters from Committee Members (10 min.)
   Fun Fact: July 16 is <u>Rural Transit Day</u>

Meeting adjourned 5:29pm