



Community Planning & Permitting

Courthouse Annex • 2045 13th Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306
303-441-3930 • www.BoulderCounty.gov

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

Meeting Time (MST):

September 24, 2025, 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Virtual – Microsoft Teams

Agenda:

1. Action Item: Approval of 2026 Proposed Budget (20 min.)

County Commissioners, acting as Board of Directors, will hear the staff-recommended NEPPIDAC budget on September 30, 2025. Approval of overall 2026 County budget will happen in December 2025.

At previous meeting there was motion to approve budget as presented, with amended fund balance to \$90,000 and follow up final approval for County administration funding approval via email

Motion made by Andrew, seconded by Tom; motion passes unanimously.

This meeting was for seeking approval for updated budget

The not to exceed amount for Boulder County admin would be \$12,000. This was estimated hours to be 100-150/year and cover facilitation of NEPPIDAC meetings, budget management, recruitment and appointment of AC members when they turn over, developing procedures for administering the residential and business EcoPass programs, and auditing the Town of Nederland. The exact bill rate wouldn't be approved until later on, so this is just an estimate for now.

Gene, Tierney, Tom, Susie – approve \$12,000 NTE for BOCO time

2. Matters from Committee Members (10 min.)

Questions from AC

Q: The contract with the Town of Nederland hasn't been finalized yet. Should we hold off on the budget until that is final?

A: We can present the budget as is without this final item approved to the BOCC and push this budget item down into the future, so we have time for further discussion. But we do need a budget recommendation for the September 30th meeting.

Q: Did a lawyer review whether it is possible for your agency to be paid from the NEPPIDAC funds?

A: Yes, a lawyer did review the NEPPDAC bylaws, contract terms, and PID legal content and didn't see any prohibitions, but ultimately this is a concept that will be further explored before any of this budget was actually spent.

Q: Are Boulder County staff salaries are paid through Boulder County property taxes? If so, then don't the residents in the EcoPass District already pay salaries through our taxes, and could paying your hourly rate from the NEPPIDAC funds be considered a double payment?

A: While many BoCo employees are paid with property taxes, the transportation planning division is not paid with property taxes, but Transportation and Sustainability Sales Tax dollars.

Q: What would happen if we decided not to approve this line item for paying Boulder County staff?

A: If motion to approve does not happen today, that is okay. We realize we are still in the early stages of this exploration and if the AC wants to wait we can get a formal number from OFM but we estimated the \$12,000 was as conservative estimate based on the number of hours I contributed last year, with an estimated hourly rate from other projects Melissa has charged too hourly.

Q: Can you remind us of the history of NEPPIDAC and why we're an advisory board to the Boulder County Commissioners instead of the Town of Nederland? Also, how did the Boulder County Transportation Division become the coordinators of NEPPIDAC? I'm wondering about all of this, since we discussed last time how we'd likely be looping in town staff to implement the projects, and I want to make sure we all understand these relationships and roles.

A: 10-15 years ago, boosting transit ridership through EcoPass participation was a pretty big part of the county's transit program. Part of it was that if ridership wasn't good, RTD would (threaten to) cut service, further reducing ridership and leading to transit death spirals. Nederland is a good natural transit market (the NB is very competitive with driving), and it was decided to boost ridership, having an EcoPass program would be good.

However, the NB doesn't just serve the Town of Nederland; its natural catchment basin is greater Nederland. When the County was looking for an established boundary that would encompass the amorphous greater Nederland, the existing Nederland Library District was a handy boundary to clone for EcoPass purposes.

Since the Library District, and the potential new EcoPass District going to the voters, was much bigger than just the town, the county took the lead (unlikely the Town would take on something that went so far beyond their jurisdiction). Also from a staff capacity perspective and experience of the Boulder County

team to launch a EcoPass programs and the County had a Transit Planner whose job duties included setting up more EcoPass programs around the county (this is also how the Lyons EcoPass program got its start, along with Ride Free Longmont, and pre-covid other business EcoPass programs we used to subsidize).

Therefore, the county took the lead on setting up the district, the first ballot measure, and decided it would be good to have an advisory committee, and to give the town some voice, it was decided the town would have one BOT member on the advisory committee.

What is important to know is that District is a separate legal entity from the County (that's why the BOCC adjourns as the BOCC and sits as the Board of Directors for the NEPPID when they make decisions for this district), but since the District doesn't have any staff of its own, the County manages the District. So, perfectly fine for the District to pay the Town to implement certain projects (lots of governments have agreements with other governments to pay them to do things), and this is maybe the most efficient way to do some things, but the District could also have the county do projects, or could contract out for things. Just a matter of figuring out the most efficient way.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

