



Community Planning & Permitting

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Boulder County DRCOG Subregional Forum March 9, 2026, 3 – 4:30 PM

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions

Forum Attendance (voting members in bold)

- City of Boulder: **Nicole Speer**, Danny O'Connor
- Boulder County: **Claire Levy**, Danny Herrmann, Alex Hyde-Wright, Angel Bond, Paul Kwiatkowski, Akia Pichon, Landon Hilliard
- Erie: **Emily Baer**, John Firouzi
- Lafayette: Jeff Arthur
- Longmont: n/a
- Louisville: **Judi Kern**
- Lyons: n/a
- Nederland: n/a
- Superior: Brannon Richards

Other Agencies Present:

- Colorado Department of Transportation: Dee McIntosh, Adnana Murtic, Dan Marcucci, Tony Meneghetti
- Commuting Solutions: Audrey DeBarros
- University of Colorado Boulder: Scott McCarey, Clark Rider
- DRCOG: Alvan-Bidal Sanchez: Josh Schwenk
- Linking Boulder County consultant team: Jennifer Wieland, Paul Lutey
- RTD: Chris Quinn, Nataly Handlos

2. Public Comment

- a. No public comment provided.

3. Linking Boulder County – Transit Plan Update

- a. Presentation by Hyde-Wright, Wieland, and Lutey. We are approaching half-way mark of the project.
- b. Highlights from existing conditions: There is growing micromobility and paratransit activity, but overall ridership is below pre-COVID levels. First & last mile connectivity is an important emphasis.
- c. Highlights from public outreach: Public is requesting more frequent service particularly from hubs of Boulder and Longmont. Service patterns should mirror steady demand throughout the day, compared to historic commuting period peaks. For first round of outreach, heard from more than 1,300 individuals. Two community advisory committee meetings will take place this week.
- d. Draft Transit Vision: the vision is meant to Inspire and give direction and will take time to be manifested.
 - i. Draft vision statement: In Boulder County, transit is not just transportation: it is a right. By providing high-quality, equitable, and dignified transit services, we expand access to more destinations, support our community's health and wellbeing, and create a more resilient Boulder County.
 - ii. Draft goals: Four plan goals with broad outcomes and example measurement criteria for each
 - 1. Connected: "dignified, reliable, and affordable transit," and convenient service.
 - 2. Competitive: improved travel time and experience.
 - 3. Sustainable: environmentally and financially.
 - 4. Equitable: responsive to the needs of people who rely on transit, transportation access toward opportunities
 - iii. Developing metrics for evaluation framework for making decisions about investments.
- e. Discussion prompts:
 - i. How well do the goals and desired outcomes capture what you the plan will achieve?
 - ii. What value would you place on different goals. Is there a north star goal?
- f. Discussion:
 - i. Baer: appreciates that the project team is listening to Erie Board members and citizens. In the context of less in-person job participation, there is a desire to move people and meet them where they are. North star is how well communities can be connected by transit, not necessarily for the work commute.
 - ii. Speer: Downtown commercial office space has an approximately 30% vacancy rate. Go to where people are and where they need to go. Transit is essential transportation. Focus on equity of those most vulnerable and give them ability to move about, "freedom to move."

Consider those without alternatives: youth, older adults, mobility for disabled.

- iii. Levy: Gratitude for the work done to date. Appreciates the intention of transportation equity. Want to make progress on most important issues. Asks what transit is supposed to do. Address needs of those with mobility or economic challenges. Less emphasis on choice riders for example those who want access to hiking in Indian Peaks. We'll need to rank goals in order of importance because we can't do everything.
- iv. Baer: Yes. Well said on the equity and accessibility piece. For example: 1 in 26 people will be diagnosed with epilepsy. That is a population that cannot drive, but who contribute in important ways to our community through jobs, economic stimulation, community engagement... as well as need access to health care services, food, recreation etc... When we create a transit system that meets the needs of these folks, everyone will benefit.
- g. Draft guiding principles: How the building blocks reflect the vision and how to make transit more competitive.
 - i. Improve existing services.
 - ii. Expand the network
 - iii. Develop high-capacity transit service
 - iv. Make transit easier to use, make information available
 - v. Improve access, particularly first & final mile
- h. Two maps included in Draft Transit Vision: Baseline Transit Enhancements and new Key Connections that need to be made.
- i. Discussion Prompts:
 - i. What is appetite for a bigger County role in transit delivery?
 - ii. Which populations or geographies need to be prioritized?
- j. Discussion:
 - i. Levy: Connection to mountains shown by #10 between Longmont-Boulder-Nederland is more than just recreation. Older adults, students.
 - ii. Baer: Like to see more connections to heart of Erie community. Need to educate residents on how to use transit. Direct trip to airport could be a "training ground."
 - iii. Speer: See the transit demographics particularly of places of high growth such as Erie. Improving regional network helping people move between municipalities is role of county. Role for cities is localized such as building transit hubs.
 - iv. Kern: Appreciates all the work that has gone into this. County role to add connections between the municipalities, such as Superior to Louisville by Route #228 or Louisville to Longmont is not feasible. Agree to expand information to public about transit routes, maps, and

instructions. Pay attention to grade-school students. Also focus on seniors with easy boarding methods.

- k. The State of Transit Report (existing conditions) is under review by staff. Will publish report to county website alongside summary of outreach activities.

4. CDOT, RTD, DRCOG Updates

- a. CDOT:

- i. Murtic: CO 119 Diagonal Hwy construction project being delivered in three construction packages including overpass at 63rd Street, with CLOMR for Four Mile Canyon Creek on schedule for completion in December 2026. Construction package #2 includes CO 119/Hover Street intersection; travelers should be prepared for major construction activity in fall 2026.
- ii. Meneghetti: US 36 guard rail replacement with concrete caissons for MM 15-16 planned to begin in fall 2026.
- iii. Marcucci: Resurfacing of 28th Street in Boulder expected in 2028-29. Kick off resurfacing in Louisville in 2028-29.

- b. RTD:

- i. Quinn: Bus Stop Infrastructure Accessibility Assessment (BSIAA) to be completed in June 2026. Look forward to coordination with local government to improve bus stops. Comprehensive Operations Analysis will begin soon to develop a service roadmap for the next six years with strong component of public outreach.

5. Municipal Updates

- a. Firouzi: Erie Bee on demand service is set to begin in May 2026 operated by Via Mobility. Local bus stops are being refurbished and added. New traffic signals are being installed that can operate Transit Signal Priority (TSP).
- b. Speer: Draft of Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan is under development. Boulder also working on intersection safety improvements.
- c. DeBarros: Northwest Navigator app has been released with multimodal travel map and trip planning capabilities. Front Range Passenger Rail (FRPR) doing engagement to educate public of joint service operations with up to 30 events including three town hall events in NW Denver metro:
 - i. April 8, 2026 Longmont
 - ii. April 15, 2026 Boulder
 - iii. April 29, 2026 Westminster