



# Community Planning & Permitting

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## **Boulder County DRCOG Subregional Forum TAC**

**May 27, 2025, Noon – 1:30pm**

### **Meeting Summary**

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

##### **a. Attendance:**

- i. Boulder: Jean Sanson, Gerrit Slatter
- ii. Boulder County: Alex Hyde-Wright, Angel Bond, Stacey Proctor, Landon Hilliard
- iii. Erie: Josh Mabis
- iv. Lafayette: Michelle Melonakis
- v. Longmont: Phil Greenwald
- vi. Lyons: Kim Mitchell
- vii. Louisville: Cameron Fowlkes
- viii. Nederland: n/a
- ix. Superior: n/a
- x. Commuting Solutions: Audrey DeBarros
- xi. CU-Boulder: Clark Rider
- xii. DRCOG: Jacob Riger, Todd Cottrell, Alvan Bidal-Sanchez
- xiii. RTD: Chris Quinn

#### **2. Public Comment**

- a. No public comment provided

#### **3. Review of Draft CDOT 10-Year Plan**

Draft project list for FY 2027 and beyond has been shared with Boulder County staff and will be distributed to the group ahead of 06/03/2025 meeting with CDOT Region 4 staff. Funding of CDOT strategic projects for Boulder County and SW Weld County follows time periods through 2026 (in-years) then 2027 and beyond (out-years).

Hyde-Wright described the individual projects and budgets of the draft project list with the following considerations:

- Focus on strategic funding on projects led by CDOT rather than local agencies
- Aim for a balanced budget of \$43M for in-years and \$64M for out-years, but overbudget by \$6M and \$11m respectively.
- Balance the distribution of funds to Boulder and Weld counties with slightly larger amount directed to Weld to rectify past imbalances.

DRCOG is reviewing the draft project list for consistency and alignment with the DRCOG 2050 RTP. Inconsistent project descriptions and staging periods will be flagged and brought to the attention of CDOT staff.

Comments or questions from the group:

- Melonakis: What is the process for the TAC to understand the changes of the 10-year plan and ensure consistency with our expectations for the projects and funding.
- Sanson: City of Boulder staff will discuss funding plans with CDOT R4 staff.
- Hyde-Wright: Boulder County will extend invitation for CDOT R4 meeting (06/03/2025)

#### **4. Status of MMOF-Funded TIP Projects**

- Hyde-Wright: TABOR has constrained the Colorado adopted budget by approximately \$25M that had been awarded in FY 2024-27 TIP. The awards will need to be reduced, delayed, or eliminated by this amount to bring the budget in line with TABOR.
- Cottrell: Essential information regarding the amount of cuts remains unknown. For context, budget cuts at state level of about \$50M for projects of 2020-2029. DRCOG had expected cuts in \$20-30M range. Still learning about requirements for budget reduction.
- The shortage through FY 2029 is expected to be approximately \$5 million
- To balance MMOF budget, likely need to remove a project or two in the amount of \$5M. Shifting current projects to out-years is a strategy to consider. Look at FY 2026-27 projects for shifting funds. Suggestion to have internal discussions and prepare for possible modifications of FY 2026 and 2027 projects.
- MMOF projects are often blended with federal funds making a more complicated situation. A project sponsor might be asked to make up the difference of rescinded MMOF funding. DRCOG will be reviewing the options and will report finding to the project sponsors in Erie, Louisville, Longmont, Nederland, Boulder County.
- Funding security
  - Projects with an executed IGA in place that have spent funds should be secure.
  - Be aware that upcoming projects will be scrutinized for possible funding reductions.

## **5. Transportation Improvement Program: Potential programming year adjustments**

- Focus on FY 2028 projects and allocation of funding of FY 2028 - 2031 projects.
- Proposals for programming adjustments
  - There is a proposal to delay the four-year TIP cycle by a year to allow time for the next edition of the DRCOG RTP to be produced. DRCOG proposes a “gap year” in funding and use waitlisted projects in lieu of an open call for projects in FY 2028.
  - Another option being considered is a modified call for projects with whatever reduced amount of funds are available. Options are being discussed and more will be known in July 2025 when MMOF funding levels will be determined.
  - A third option is to split off FY 2028 projects, allocate the funds to previously awarded projects so as to allow time for the next edition of the RTP to be issued.
    - Reminder to be eligible for funding, a project by federal law must be included in the fiscally-constrained DRCOG Regional Transportation Plan.
  - Estimate of approximately \$6.5m is expected in FY 2028. There are 13 projects ranked on a wait list with a sum of requests that exceed the expected funding for FY 2028.
  - The wait-list selection process is a kind of “first right of refusal” as a result of individual discussions between DRCOG and project sponsors. Hyde-Wright will distribute the waiting list of April 2025 with this meeting summary.

## **6. Countywide Strategic Transit Plan**

- In process of having contract signed with vendor.
- Reminder that the Forum will act as the technical advisory committee with six meetings. In addition, a community advisory committee and Spanish-speaking committee will be assembled.
- Project is expected to start in June 2025.

## **7. RTD, DRCOG Updates**

- RTD: SB25-161 Transit Reform bill will create study, planning, and reporting requirements by RTD. Draft text of the bill will be distributed to the Boulder County Subregional Forum for comments.
- DRCOG: No additional comments

## **8. Municipal Updates**

- No additional comments

**9. Confirm Forum, Forum TAC Members**

- Forum members are asked to email Hyde-Wright with names of representatives.