



Community Planning & Permitting

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Nederland EcoPass Public Improvement District Advisory Committee (NEPPIDAC) 2018 Summary

Committee Members

- Scott Ptach – Incoming Board Chair/President (appointed 2018)
- Katrina Harms – Outgoing Board Chair/President
- Vera Schulte-Pelkum
- Michael O’Neill
- Shirin Chahal (joined 2017, active in 2018)

Additional Individuals

- Jared Hall – Boulder County Staff Liaison
- Alex Hyde-Wright (Boulder County Transportation) – Transit program and EcoPass support
- Town of Nederland Staff:
 - Christy — EcoPass Administrator (Portal)
 - Kat — EcoPass Administrator (Portal)
- Town Administrator Karen G. – Provided EcoPass audit updates

2018 Summary of Key Decisions

Throughout 2018, NEPPIDAC prioritized strengthening EcoPass administration, verifying passholder eligibility, planning for significant future contract price changes, and coordinating closely with Boulder County and RTD. Much of the year focused on the need to “reset” or audit the EcoPass database, update youth and discount cards, and manage pass distribution more efficiently. The committee also continued its annual focus on bus stop infrastructure, budgeting, and communication with Nederland residents.

1. EcoPass Eligibility, Database Audit, and “Culling” Process

EcoPass Eligibility & Alumni Issue

- Committee identified large numbers of Nederland “alumni” (former residents) holding active EcoPasses.
- Determined that a complete reset of EcoPass rolls is necessary to ensure only current residents hold passes.
- Considered verification methods such as:
 - Requiring proof of residency.
 - Sending postcards with renewal codes.
 - Deactivating passes unless updated documents are provided.

Culling Implementation (Town of Nederland)

- Town staff, led by Christy, will conduct the active-pass audit.
- Non-property-owner passholders will be flagged; passes deactivated unless current leases are provided.
- Youth passes aging out and adult discount eligibility will be tracked moving forward.
- Approximately 1,700 active passes were identified in the database.
- Audit milestones:
 - Half completed by end of 2018
 - Full completion expected by end of Q1 2019

Communication to Passholders

- Need to notify residents about:
 - Updated youth and discount cards
 - Proper use of work-issued passes
 - Eligibility reminders
- Consideration of a postcard mailing to all EcoPass holders.

2. Discount, Youth, and Senior Card Management

- New youth discount categories mean all youth will require new smart cards.
- Ensuring all discount-eligible riders receive the correct pass type is critical, as this directly reduces EcoPass contract pricing.
- Tracking of age-based transitions:
 - Youth → Adult
 - Adult → Senior Discount

3. EcoPass Administration Structure and Staffing

- Discussion of transitioning EcoPass administration away from the Town of Nederland if more efficiency is needed.

- Town currently receives payment to administer the program; additional staffing costs noted:
 - \$26/hr for Christy's time
 - Additional \$1,500 in 2018 and \$3,500 projected for 2019
 - Committee agreed this work should continue with Town staff for now.

4. Budget, Contract Pricing, and Financial Planning

- NEPPIDAC reviewed EcoPass pricing projections for 2019–2021.
- Committee determined they can absorb up to a 20% EcoPass contract increase.
- Alex Hyde-Wright provided the committee with an updated pricing spreadsheet.
- \$2,850 allocated for concrete improvements at a local bus stop—with Town performing the work and the PID reimbursing costs.

5. Bus Stop Infrastructure and Transit Improvements

- Boulder County to coordinate with the Town to pick up and install a new bus shelter.
- Funding approved for concrete improvements to be completed in 2019.
- Committee to continue supporting infrastructure upgrades and accessibility improvements across the Nederland service area.

6. RTD Coordination and Ridership Data Needs

- NEPPIDAC requested ridership data to identify trips taken on passes held by inactive or former residents.
- RTD expected to provide neighborhood-level pass activity reports by late October 2019.
- Committee also discussed challenges with RTD correctly charging local vs. regional trips on the N Route.

7. Committee Membership Planning

- Vera expressed interest in eventually stepping down.
- Committee discussed whether two vacancies should be advertised.
- Emphasis on identifying new candidates for upcoming terms.

Conclusion

Across 2018, NEPPIDAC focused heavily on restoring the accuracy and integrity of the EcoPass database, ensuring that residents receive properly categorized passes, and preparing for substantial future EcoPass contract pricing changes. The committee continued to improve program administration through Town coordination, strengthen communication to Nederland residents, support bus stop infrastructure work, and increase reliance on accurate ridership and eligibility data. These efforts positioned the

district for more precise budgeting, improved access for eligible residents, and a more sustainable EcoPass program moving into 2019.