



Community Planning & Permitting

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Boulder County DRCOG Subregional Forum TAC

September 21, 2026, 1 – 2:30 PM

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees:

- Boulder Chamber Transportation Connections: Elaine Erb, Stephany Correa-Diaz
- Boulder County: Alex Hyde-Wright, Danny Herrmann, Paul Kwiatkowski, Akia Pichon, Kelly Leadbetter, Landon Hilliard
- City of Boulder: Jean Sanson, Danny O'Connor, Gerrit Slatter
- City of Lafayette: Jeff Arthur, Casey Carlson
- City of Longmont: Cammie Edson, Alex Donaldson
- City of Louisville: Samma Fox
- Commuting Solutions: Audrey DeBarros
- Consultant Team, Linking Boulder County: Paul Lutey, Andrew Knudtsen
- CU Boulder: Clark Rider
- CDOT: Josie Thomas, Tony Meneghetti
- DRCOG: Alvan-Bidel Sanchez, Todd Cottrell, Josh Schwenk,
- RTD: Chris Quinn
- Town of Nederland: Cass Grady
- Town of Erie: Miguel Aguilar
- Town of Lyons: N/A
- Town of Superior: Brannon Richards
- Members of the Public: Ted Heyd

2. Public Comment

- a. No public comments provided.

3. Action Item: Recommending DRCOG Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) member to the Boulder County Subregional Forum (Alex Hyde-Wright, Boulder County)

- a. Hyde-Wright, Sanchez, and Sanson provided an overview: Boulder County Forum has a three-member delegation to DRCOG TAC with a three-person group of alternates. To appoint a new member, the Forum TAC makes a recommendation, and then the Forum votes to approve. Boulder County has a member vacancy due to departure of Michelle Melonankis, formerly of City of Lafayette. DRCOG TAC meetings are monthly, in person in Denver from 1:30-3:30pm with virtual option, however, must be present to cast a vote. Important way for staff in our area to stay engaged and bring back information to local agencies.
- b. Hyde-Wright opened the floor to nominations. No nominations provided; item tabled until October 2026 Forum TAC Meeting.

4. Linking Boulder County: Revenue Sources Presentation & Discussion

- a. Hyde-Wright provided an overview of the three draft scenarios presented to the Forum TAC in July 2026: Grow Ridership, Cover the County, and Support Daily Life (a hybrid of the first two). Each scenario relies on \$40M in new annual revenue.
- b. Knudtsen presented three revenue sources that could each raise \$40 annually:
 - i. Sales Tax of .45%
 - ii. Property Tax of 1.65 mills (or 2.9 mills with 43% municipal share-back
 - iii. Occupational Privilege Fee of \$25 per month
- c. Knudtsen presented other revenue sources that have been considered: transportation maintenance fee/ transportation utility fee, lodging tax, rental car tax/fee, vehicle registration fee, impact fee/capital expansion fee, and how a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) relates to these options. Seven (7) RTAs in Colorado, for example Eagle Valley, Roaring Fork, and South Platte Valley, have been effective in establishing and collecting tolls, fees, and charges to finance a transportation system.
- d. Discussion:
 - i. Sanson: What is included in existing county sales and property taxes that add up to the totals being shown? Knudtsen: We will include this.
 - ii. Fox: How was the \$40M annually determined? What is true need of service? In light of other taxes, could this amount be reduced and still meet community needs? Hyde-Wright: From the fall 2025 public outreach, project team established vision, goals and key connections. Then project team developed three scenarios, which would deliver meaningful benefits and show how different allocations of service would perform in meeting project goals. \$40M is not

necessarily the correct number, but felt in the right range to use for testing scenarios and the revenue conversation.

- iii. Meneghetti: Have alternatives to raising taxes been considered such as reallocation of resources? How to address concerns about a continuing increase in property taxes? Knudtsen: To realize a robust vision for transit, the use of taxes is the most appropriate and realistic method for identifying \$40M in annual funding.
- iv. DeBarros: How does potential 2028 ballot measure relate to this work? For today, what feedback are you looking for from staff? Hyde-Wright: Next step would be to present revenue options to Subregional Forum in November. Does this timing feel right? What updates or context do we need to add before a conversation with the Forum. Difficult to plan around a 2028 RTD ballot measure when there are no details about this.
- v. O'Connor: Are we also looking at state and federal funding? Knudtsen: Yes, we are looking at local funding, split of operating and capital. State and Federal dollars are competitive, but this is being looked at.
- vi. O'Connor: Are the service scenarios based on local funding, or is there an assumption of a mix of local, state, and federal funds? Knudtsen: Right now all local, but can try to incorporate state and federal despite challenge of this.
- vii. Edson: Given election season, recommend pushing back revenue conversation with the Forum until 2027.
- viii. Sanson: Many recent and current ballot measures have been for social services. Would it make sense to look at bundling a transit measure into a larger social services measure, or perhaps with a larger safety or Vision Zero measure ("transit plus")? Knudtsen: Great suggestion.

5. DRCOG FY29-32 Transportation Improvement Program

a. Regional Share Call for Projects Overview

- i. Regional Share Call for Projects will open on January 4, 2027 to ten subregional forums (Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties are now included).
- ii. DRCOG estimates \$65-\$70 million will be available; Boulder County Forum jurisdictions can submit up to three applications total. Forum decision will be needed by late January 2027; applications will be due in March 2027.

b. Regional Share Call for Projects Brainstorming

- i. Hyde-Wright listed CO 7, CO 119 Extension to I-25, and US 36 North Foothills Bikeway as previously mentioned ideas. Possible CO 7 projects will be informed by a revised Corridor Development Plan with suggestion to coordinate with CO 7 Coalition partners for later period in 2027
- c. Subregional Share Call for Projects Overview
 - i. Estimate of \$25 million for Boulder County Subregion
 - ii. A federal transportation reauthorization bill hasn't been passed yet, so amount could change.

6. RTD CONNECT Workshops (Boulder County Workshop Sept 30, 2026)

- a. Location of Boulder workshop on Sept 30 will be on CU Boulder campus at Williams Village's dining hall. RTD sending out updating calendar invite if you've already registered.

7. Ride Gunbarrel, Ride SouthEast Announcement (Paul Kwiatkowski, Boulder County)

- a. Two new on-demand services coming in the middle of October.
- b. Media kit is being prepared and will be distributed in early October including a new mobile application to book rides. Boulder County and contractor currently waiting on Apple and Google for app store approval.

8. CDOT, RTD, DRCOG Updates

- a. **CDOT:** Thomas: CDOT has two upcoming grant opportunities (Safe Routes to School and Transportation Alternatives Program); CDOT will be using a joint grant application for both of these programs.
- b. **RTD:** Quinn: One final reminder about upcoming RTD CONNECT workshops on Sept 30 (Boulder), Oct 1, and Oct 2.
- c. **DRCOG:** Cottrell: Public comment period currently open for the DRCOG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

9. Municipal Updates

- a. Edson (Longmont): Reminder that new airport route, the AL, will start service on September 27, 2026