



Community Advisory Committee

(English Language)

Meeting #1: Transit Needs & Opportunities

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 | 5:00–6:30 p.m.

Presentation & Discussion Summary

Meeting Purpose

The initial meeting of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) provided an opportunity for CAC members and the Linking Boulder County project team to establish a shared foundation for the work ahead. The meeting included an overview of Linking Boulder County's background, key objectives, and outreach approach to provide members with an understanding of the project's purpose and direction.

To highlight emerging themes, the team also planned to present early insights from interviews, field observations, and initial analysis. However, due to time constraints, this information was not discussed and is instead available in the meeting slides. The bulk of the meeting was spent hearing from CAC members and discussing transit needs and opportunities in small groups. These activities helped to daylight major opportunities for the plan, as well as important challenges to address.

Welcome & Introductions

Alex Hyde-Wright (Boulder County Project Manager) welcomed the group and gave a brief overview of Linking Boulder County and the past plans and initiatives that have led to this project. He also provided a quick primer about what the County considers "transit," highlighting fixed-route and on-demand services, as well as amenities and connections. Alex thanked CAC members for volunteering their time and initiated a round of introductions. Attendees included the following:

- **Boulder County Project Management Team:** Angel Bond, Mobility for All Program Manager; Paul Kwiatkowski, Transit Program Manager; Akia Pichon, Transit Compliance Specialist
- **Consulting Team:** Jennifer Wieland, Project Manager, Nelson\Nygaard; Paul Lutey, Deputy Project Manager, Nelson\Nygaard; Carly Sieff, Outreach Lead, Fehr & Peers
- **CAC Members:** Twelve members attended the first meeting and introduced themselves by sharing their name, the community or communities they represent, and one reason they wanted to help shape the County's first transit plan.
 - Aaron Johnson, Unincorporated Boulder County
 - Amelia Dickerson, Boulder
 - Charles (Chuck) Brock, Boulder
 - Megill (Gil) Stewart, Boulder
 - Gina Burrows, Longmont
 - Hope Holden, Longmont
 - Hunter Wright, Boulder
 - Iris Sherman-Boemker, Louisville
 - Jabe Hickey, Longmont
 - Jeff Freeland, Broomfield
 - John Barrett, Niwot
 - Samantha (Sammie) Lane, Boulder

Members shared a wide range of lived experiences, mobility needs, and motivations for joining the CAC. Several people are long-time or lifelong Boulder County residents. Others moved to the county from places as diverse as England and Denver, bringing experience with and expectations for high-quality transit. Many CAC members regularly use transit, biking, or walking to get around. Some use transit by choice and others rely on it due to age, disability, or caregiving responsibilities. A few members make most trips by driving, noting a need for better travel options.

Members described their interest in Linking Boulder County by emphasizing environmental concerns, goals to reduce car dependence, and the opportunity to improve safety for all modes, especially for people who cannot or do not want to drive. Others highlighted mobility challenges specific to youth, seniors, unhoused residents, and people with disabilities, noting the importance of including those groups' perspectives.

Some members described the importance of making it faster and easier to use transit for trips within Boulder County, and several people noted the accessibility challenges of last-mile connections. A few members commented that single-occupancy vehicles are important for certain types of trips and expressed an interest in limiting transit improvements to key corridors. However, most others hope to see vastly expanded transit options, safer bike infrastructure, and more equitable, accessible mobility.

Across perspectives, members joined the committee to improve travel choices, reduce barriers, and advocate for a system that works better for all Boulder County residents.

Project Overview & Early Findings

Following introductions, Jennifer Wieland (Nelson\Nygaard Project Manager) provided an overview of Linking Boulder County and the role of the CAC. She outlined the purpose of the CAC, expectations for working with other committee members, and the ways CAC input will guide the plan. Jennifer then reviewed the technical and outreach tasks included in the project. She reviewed the team's early work to learn about transit service needs and opportunities in the county and summarized themes from conversations with local and regional partners:

- Transit reliability is vital and builds trust
- Serving non-work trips is increasingly important
- First-/last-mile access is often more than 1 mile
- Equitable transit programs are essential
- Transit is an economic development tool

- Capital investments must pair with service
- Funding remains a challenge
- Regional coordination is non-negotiable

Key Opportunities & Challenges

During the second half of the meeting, CAC members worked in small groups to identify transit opportunities and challenges in Boulder County. The groups used a large map of the county and different colors of tape to identify areas in Boulder County (and beyond) where:

- New transit services are needed
- Service should be faster and more reliable
- Service should come more often
- Service should operate earlier or later

Photos of each group's map are available at the end of this summary. Some of the priority connections and needs the groups identified include the following:

- New service to Weld County, specifically to Firestone and Mead, including east-west connections between CO 119/Niwot and Firestone
- Improved service frequency and direct connections to Denver International Airport from Longmont (removing the need to travel to Boulder or the US 36 corridor)
- Improved service frequency between Longmont and Boulder and between southeast Boulder County communities and Boulder
- Longer service hours and more frequent service between Boulder and mountain communities, specifically Nederland
- More frequent service on US 287 between Longmont and the US 36 corridor

Each small group then shared highlights of their discussion. Overall, CAC members felt that transit service today meets some needs very well. However, they noted that transit must also serve commuters, students, and workers

equally to be a travel mode of choice for Boulder County residents. Additionally, better connecting the cities and towns in the region will increase access to opportunity for everyone. Key themes and opportunities across groups included the following:

- A more efficient, direct, reliable, and frequent transit network is key to our region's success
- Boulder County needs a more inclusive, equitable transit system that reduces dependence on cars (but does not shame drivers or force people to change the ways they travel)
- Making transit a first choice—the default mode for getting around the county and region—requires people seeing it as a real alternative to driving
- Areas of the county are underserved today and need better service to connect communities (Niwot, the Diagonal, north of Broomfield)
- People must have safe options for biking, rolling, and walking to transit
- Creating a more accessible transit system and improving overall access will support all residents, including people with disabilities

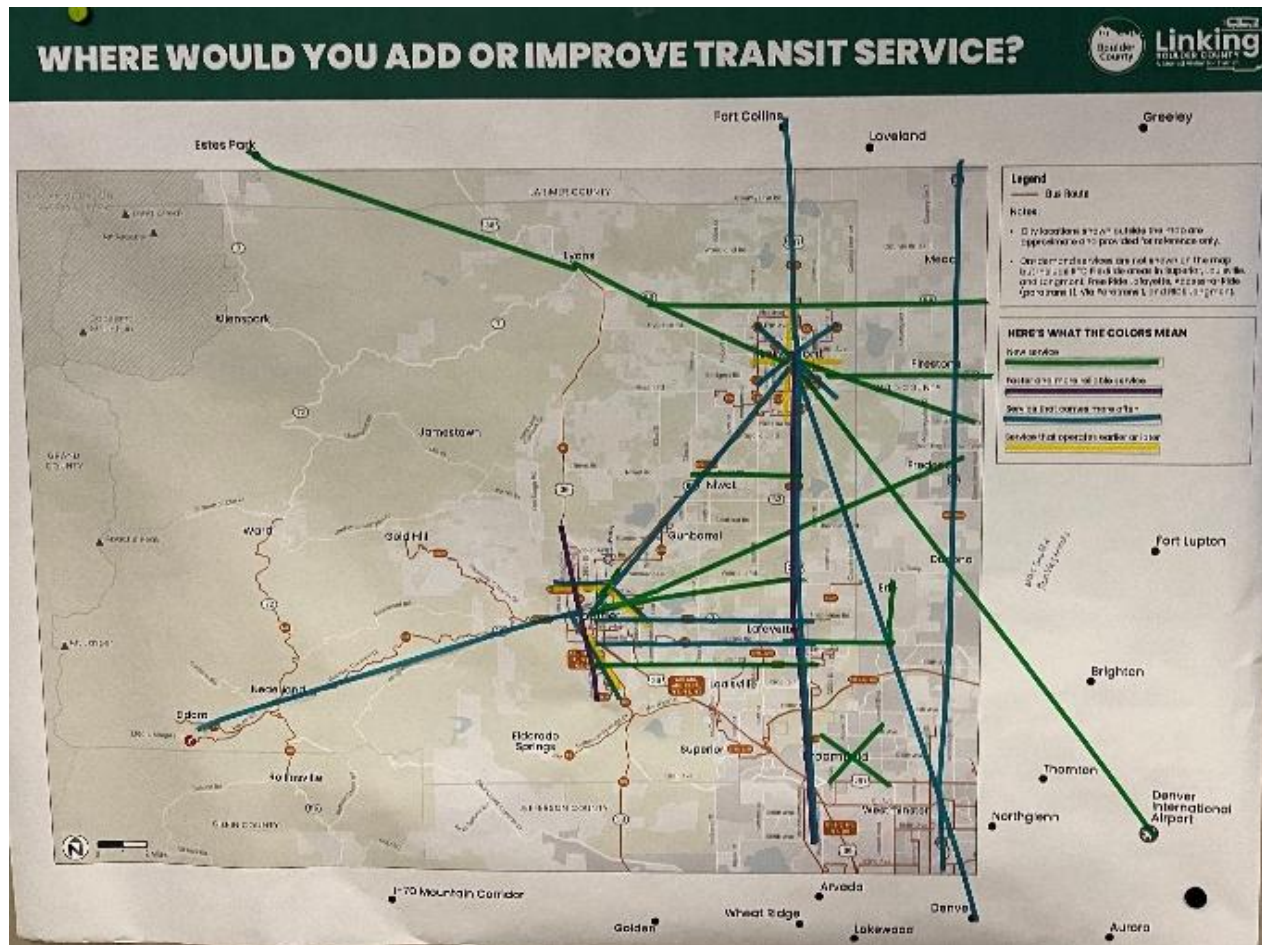
Next Steps & Questions

Jennifer provided an overview of the project team's work plan for November and December, highlighting upcoming outreach activities, next steps for existing conditions analysis, and development of an equity framework. She noted that the second meeting of the CAC would be a virtual meeting in December, and the team would share results from Phase 1 outreach and early findings from the data analyses.

CAC members expressed appreciation for the information and asked questions about opportunities for the group to connect between meetings and expectations for reviewing materials. Alex reminded the group that they have one another's contact information and are welcome to have conversations between meetings. He noted that slides and additional information will be provided to the CAC as it becomes available.

Community Advisory Committee (English Language) | Meeting #1 Summary
Linking Boulder County

Group #1 Map



Legend:

- Green: New transit services are needed
- Purple: Service should be faster and more reliable
- Blue: Service should come more often
- Yellow: Service should operate earlier or later

Linking Boulder County

WHERE WOULD YOU ADD OR IMPROVE TRANSIT SERVICE?

Legend
Dye Route

Notes:

- City centers shown outside the map are approximate and provided for reference only.
- On-call transit services are not shown on the map, but include RTD NextStep service in Superior, Louisville and Montrose, and RTD NextStep service in Arapahoe, Adams, and Douglas counties.

HERE'S WHAT THE COLORS MEAN

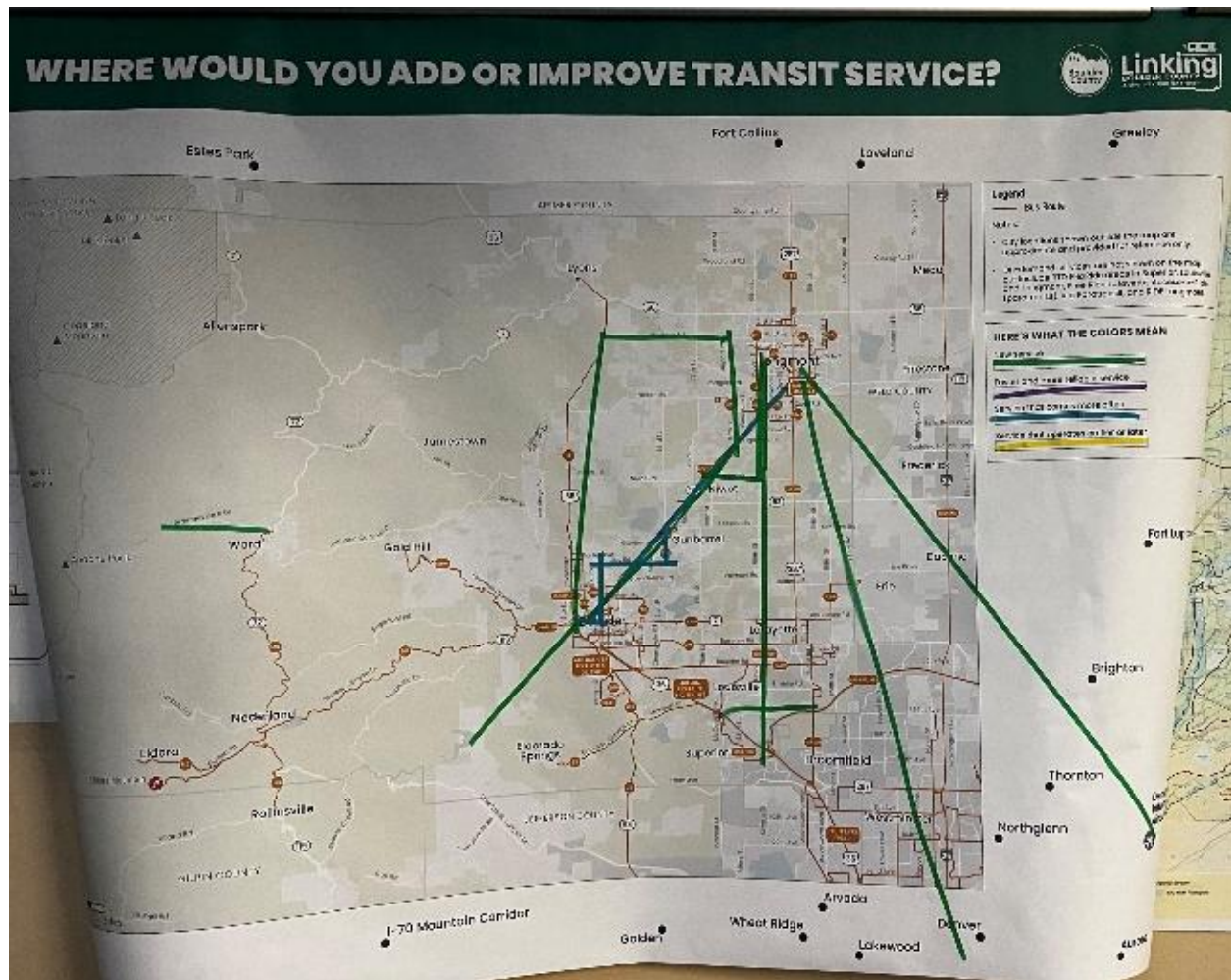
- Blue line: New service
- Green line: Existing service
- Orange line: Service that comes more often
- Yellow line: Service that operates earlier or later

Map Labels: Fort Collins, Loveland, Greeley, Estes Park, Allenspark, Ward, Oak Hill, Nederland, Rollinsville, Eldorado Springs, Superior, Broomfield, Westminster, Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Northglenn, Thornton, Brighton, Fort Lupton, Denver International Airport, I-70 Mountain Corridor, Jefferson County, Boulder County, Adams County, Arapahoe County, Douglas County.

- Green: New transit services are needed
- Green/Orange: Service should be faster and more reliable
- Silver: Service should come more often
- Yellow/Orange: Service should operate earlier or later

Community Advisory Committee (English Language) | Meeting #1 Summary
Linking Boulder County

Group #3 Map



Legend:

- Green: New transit services are needed
- Purple: Service should be faster and more reliable
- Blue: Service should come more often
- Yellow: Service should operate earlier or later