**NATA Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 28, 2019**

**7:30-9:00am**

**ACED Offices, 12200 Pecos Street, #100, Westminster, CO 80234**

**Welcome by Chair Chaz Tedesco and introductions.**

**NATA Members (who signed in)**

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| **Chaz Tedesco** | Adams County Comm. | **Brad Harvey** | Metro North Chamber |
| **Melanie Sloan** | Adams County Staff | **Kim McGrigg** | Metro North Chamber |
| **Greg Mills** | Brighton Council | **Joyce Downing** | Northglenn Council |
| **Lynn Baca** | Brighton Council | **Julie Mullica** | Northglenn Council |
| **Michael Woodruff** | Brighton Staff | **Ashley Kaade** | Northglenn Staff |
| **Randy Ahrens** | Broomfield Mayor | **Carson Priest** | SCMN |
| **Kevin Standbridge** | Broomfield Staff | **Catherine Sanders** | SCMN |
| **Nicole Frank** | Commerce City Council | **Karen Stuart** | SCMN |
| **Rick Teter** | Commerce City Council | **Tammy Herreid** | SCMN |
| **Joe Wilson** | Commerce City Staff | **Sam Nizam** | Thornton Council |
| **Daniel Dick** | Federal Heights Mayor | **Kent Moorman** | Thornton Staff |
| **Kevin Ash** | Frederick Staff | **Jon Voelz** | Westminster Council |
| **Joan Peck** | Longmont Council | **Herb Atchison** | Westminster Mayor |
| **Phil Greenwald** | Longmont Staff |

**SCMN Members (who signed in)**

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| **Kevin Maddoux** | FHU | **Wendy Wallach** | HDR |
| **Neal Goffinet** | FHU | **Denny McCloskey** | Smart Commute |
| **Carla Perez** | HDR | **Myron Hora** | WSP |

**Agency Partners (who signed in)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Andy Stratton** | CDOT | **Dave Genova** | RTD |
| **David Krutsinger** | CDOT | **Judy Lubow** | RTD Board |
| **Doug Hermann** | CDOT | **Shelley Cook** | RTD Board |
| **Stephanie Alanis** | CDOT | **Troy Whitmore** | RTD Board |
| **Doug Rex** | DRCOG | **Vince Buzek** | RTD Board |
| **Alex Gordon** | NFRMPO | **Randy Grauberger** | SW Chief & RR Comm. |

**Guests (who signed in)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sam Taylor** | Broomfield Chamber | **Jeremy Rodriguez** | Rep. Ed Perlmutter |
| **Mandy Whorton** | Peak Consulting | **Steven Emmer** | Sen. Gardner |
| **Kevin Vargas** | Rep Jason Crow | **Reza Akhavan** | Yeh and Asso. |

* **Approval of February 28, 2019 NATA Meeting Minutes**

***Approval of February 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes:*** *Motion to approve minutes made by Mayor Atchison?, seconded by Council Member Downing, and approved unanimously.*

* **Smart Commute Metro North Update: Karen Stuart**
* **2019 TransForum**

**Karen Stuart**: We only have one announcement: our big event, TransForum, is coming up on April 26. It will be a luncheon. We’re hosting it at the Amazon DEN3 fulfillment center. We will be inside the building for the luncheon. Inside, there is about 28 miles of track, and 40-50 robots. The corporate offices are sending people to do introductions and welcome for the event. We recently learned that they haven’t had an event like this at any of their fulfillment centers, we will be the first. Jim Doyle will be our keynote speaker, and will present on MobilityNext, looking at all these mobility options in front of us for the future. After the luncheon, from 1-2, there will be tours. Because Amazon has strict requirements for security, all event attendees will need to provide their full name and birth day and month (no year). There are also a few other requirements that we will send out prior to the event. We want to thank people in this room for their sponsorship of this event. We are really looking forward to this, and we hope you will register soon. Registration will cut off on the 19th. We have a cap of 160 people, and already have 130 signed up. You can sign up at smartcommutemetronorth.org.

* **RTD Directors Report- Director Buzek, Director Cook, Director Lubow, Director Whitmore**

**Director Buzek:** A brief N-Line update. My apologies to those that didn’t receive notice about the elected officials briefing last week, the meeting notice went to an old email list, and we have fixed this problem. The line was powered up a few days ago for a brief period. Today is the start of the dead car pull, checking clearances, moving the train along.

**Director Cook:** Regarding the G-Line, the PUC approved the remaining 12 crossings. We don’t yet have the order, but we should see it tomorrow. That leaves the FRA approvals needed for constant warning time waivers. Today the safety board is meeting, hopefully we’ll hear something today.

**Director Whitmore:** We’ve been doing our best to be better communicators. I’ve had a few opportunities to speak to elected officials, speaking to Brighton, Thornton, and Commerce City. For any cities interested in a study-session type program, we’re ready, please send us your dates. RTD staff has been great to have the right people in the room at each of these presentations. We are here to be liaisons.

**Director Lubow:** At the upcoming April 2 meeting, the board will vote on a resolution that would express the board’s intent to finish FasTracks as quickly as possible. It also acknowledges that the peak service plan for the northwest corridor is a cost-saving plan. It asks for (RTD staff to come up with cost-saving ideas to get things moving again within two months of the resolution with. All the directors that have unfinished corridors are supporting this resolution. Additionally, we will be sending around this proposed resolution to the cities. If people want to show up to show support, that would be nice. It is a committee meeting, so there isn’t public comment, but the board will recognize the presence of anyone in the room. It will be the first thing on the agenda.

**Director Buzek:** I wanted to mention, in mid-April, the line will be powered up to begin testing (no specific date yet).

**Commissioner Tedesco:** We see a lot of RTD wearing their fancy pins today, does someone want to explain?

**Dave Genova:** In July, we will mark 50 years as an agency. We will be doing lots of things throughout the year featuring RTD’s history, the people who have engaged with RTD, etc. There is a great timeline on the RTD website that will take you through a lot of history, I encourage you to take a look. I have some pins, not enough for everyone here, but enough for a few people to have them.

**Mayor Ahrens:** I wanted to thank RTD. Karen and I were on council years ago together, we’ve been a part of this process. Our governments formed NATA because of our concerns about the N-Line being completed. I think all the citizens in the area appreciate that we are getting closer to something up here.

**Commissioner Tedesco:** Thank you RTD we appreciate the reports, especially from the new board members. We look forward to seeing what this year brings, we are hopeful and anxious. Thank you!

* **DRCOG Sub-regional TIP Process and Projects**
* **ADCOG Forum- Melanie Sloan and Councilmember Lynn Baca**

**Council Member Baca:** *(Presented “ADCOG Sub regional Forum Funding Recommendations,” available on the NATA website – minutes capture content not apparent in slides)*

We hit a major milestone last week. The board for Adams County approved a suite of projects that will move on to the Denver Regional Council of Governments to be considered for funding.

*(Regarding “TIP Process Overview: Subregional Share” slide)* – 80% of all funding passed through to the county level for approval and prioritization in this new process, which is unprecedented.

*(Regarding “ADCOG Subregional Forum IGA” slide)* – I tip my hat to all jurisdictions bringing technical staff to every meeting during the process. All the technical staff did an incredible job in this, and I want to thank them for their work.

*(Regarding “Scoring Outcomes” slide)* – There were more requests for funding than funding available. There were two options for funding projects. One option was allocating based on score. Another option would make sure that every jurisdiction received some project funding, which changed the project order for the City of Brighton Project and City of Northglenn (they received a smaller funding amount than on the original application request). When the City of Brighton worked on this, and I think all the jurisdictions did this, we reached out to our neighbors to partner on projects. We also partnered with neighboring counties, CDOT and RTD. This was far-reaching for us, and the result of a collaborative and successful discussion at ADCOG Forum.

*(Regarding “Ongoing Coordination” slide)* – We are expecting final DRCOG approval in August, after TAC and RTC review applications. We also signed an IGA committing to discussing funding, needs, and projects. Our constituents and businesses don’t recognize what jurisdiction they are in, they only look at the infrastructure. 120th and Highway 85 both have a lot of interest to region, so those corridors are good places for coordination and collaboration.

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Tedesco**: One of the things that came up in SPC is the process itself. Adams County and our jurisdictions received compliments for our collaboration and process. Can you address?

**Council Member Baca:** This is a new process, and I credit our technical staff, as well as DRCOG. DRCOG convened teleconference meetings, reviewing where we were in the process, making sure that each forum received the support from DRCOG that it needed. That was very collaborative. Everyone wants to say we are “Friendly Competitors” – we really collaborated in this new process and recognized that we want the region to be better. At our forum, the technical staff brainstormed and narrowed down the options for us. Every jurisdiction had an elected official present and a technical staff member present. There were discussions between jurisdictions that were very successful.

**Commissioner Tedesco**: Something I heard is that we were commended for not using the DRCOG support for scoring. That shows the amount of collaboration and confidence in our process. The process moved very smoothly – it only lasted an hour. Great communication with elected officials.

**Debra Basket:**  I want to point out that, although we scored without DRCOG staff, we received a lot of coaching from DRCOG staff. We knew that we didn’t want to do this alone.

**Commissioner Tedesco**: I didn’t want to disparage DRCOG. The way we put this process together, though, everyone commented on how smoothly it went, how timely it went. That is what I wanted to point out.

**Mayor Atchison:** *(Westminster and a few other jurisdictions sit in multiple counties and participate in multiple processes. Note that the outcome wasn’t much different. Reminder that all DRCOG representatives and alternates should be present at the board meetings where the board approves these projects.)*

**Council Member Baca:** The reason that we have this two-tier process is a result of DRCOG’s staff’s hard work. Doug Rex and his staff went out and researched what models for this were available. This new process for TIP is modeled after Seattle, Washington. DRCOG wasn’t at our evaluation meeting, but without their support, the Adams County forum wouldn’t have been possible. DRCOG staff members were at all of our meetings, which were often twice a month. DRCOG is the successful center of this.

**Doug Rex:** Thank you very much. I will say, it didn’t hurt our feelings to not be a part of the scoring process here in Adams County. To reemphasize, the reason for this dual model is a reaction to the post-mortem of the TIP last time. I felt right away that this is a great model for us. This is Seattle on “steroids” – they have three regions, we have eight. Even when we proposed this concept, FHWA was concerned. It took a lot of work for them to allow us to do a pilot. We are committed to doing a white paper on this process. I’ve become a believer in this process. I’m very happy, I’m glad that this is our first time through, and we expect there will be changes to make this better the next time. I want to thank CDOT staff and RTD staff as well, they also staffed these forums.

* **Longmont TIP Projects- Phil Greenwald**

**Phil Greenwald**: *(one slide for Longmont, available on the NATA website)* – Longmont is in two different sub-regional forums. We have great working relationships with both. We are still going through the scoring process in Boulder County (there was a scoring error), so we don’t have a final list of projects. *(Presented Longmont-specific project list).* For Weld, I think every project got a little funding.

* **Broomfield TIP Projects- Kevin Standbridge**

**Kevin Standbridge:** *(no slides)* – I will provide Karen with a slide of the list I’m about to cover, for distribution. The process has been great, working with county neighbors. Lynn, thanks for mentioning Highway 7 – although Broomfield is doing the application, it really is a project for all the communities along the corridor. For our projects, from a regional perspective, they don’t make a big difference, but locally they do.

**Mayor Ahrens:** For Broomfield, it was a great process, because we can just argue among ourselves. We didn’t have a lot of allocation. Regarding Highway 7, we only started this project a few months before this process began, so we’ve seen a lot of progress.

**Kevin Standbridge**: David Beacom was our chair. In the meetings, CDOT, RTD, and DRCOG were all there. We did include DRCOG in the scoring process. We appreciated the outside perspective; as the Mayor mentioned, it was just us. We had $4.8 million to allocate. *(Quickly read list of projects, which will be available on the NATA website).* *(described multi-modal and bike projects throughout Broomfield).* Thank you to DRCOG for putting this process back in local hands.

* **CDOT Department of transit and Rail Presentations- David Krutsinger and Randy Grauberger**
  + **Expanding Colorado’s Multi-Modal Choices**

**David Krutsinger**: CDOT is excited to be a part of these partnerships in mobility. The governor has been rolling out transportation goals, with safety number one. Second priority is planning and implementations, as well as partnering. And third, multimodal options statewide.

*(Presentation available on NATA website).*

*(Re: “Mobility Hubs” slide)* – This is a precursor step to front range rail, to develop mobility hubs. Traditionally, we’ve just done park-n-rides, but we want to do more as a DOT.

*(Re: “Rural Mobility Hub Concept” slide)* – We have partnerships with private sector, to have developments around mobility hubs, to be more than a bus shelter with bike racks. We want development, flexible shuttles, taxi, uber, etc. (Frisco is an example of what is happening rurally).

*(Re: “Urban Mobility Hub Concept” slide)* – Same elements as in rural, parking moves off the street, and bike lane moves to the adjacent corridor. It is a “place,” not a “bus stop” where you can get food, business done.

*(Re: “Highway Mobility Hub Concept” slides)* – We are putting mobility hubs in place. We’re building first CDOT mobility hub at CO-34/I-25 in Loveland. There are covered paths allowing pedestrians to cross under the highway. We’re expecting development to follow on both sides of the highway. We’re doing bus shelters, sound walls, managed lanes (toll lanes). There is a station in the middle of the highway, making it quicker for the bus. Part of the cost is coming from private and local partners.

*(Re: “Strategic Transit Project Evaluation Criteria” slide)* – As we just discussed during the TIP process presentations, we have processes in place to evaluate project readiness and due diligence. We didn’t receive funding in November, we are looking at funding we have, and allocation.

* + **Bus to Rail Planning**

**Randy Grauberger**: *(Presented Southwest Chief and Passenger Rail Commission slides, a part of previous presentation on NATA website).*

**David Krutsinger**: *(Re: “CDOT Availability to Leverage and Plan” slide)* – thank you to the MPOs along the front range. We’ve built a model that uses all the existing travel models from these MPOs to evaluate how managed lanes, rail, all works together. We have the knowledge and resources at CDOT to offer the front range rail commission. Additionally, we are eligible for a great deal of federal funding on this project.

**Discussion:**

**Mayor Atchison:** In the photo of the center-loading bus station, how are you handling ADA?

**David Krutsinger**: Ramps are all done at ADA specifications. They are all done at grades a person in an elevator can manage, no elevators.

**Director Lubow:** I was wondering, regarding “intermediate” plan and pricetag *(Re: “Transit and Rail Options” slide)*, what does that entail?

**David Krutsinger**: The middle option includes single track, conventional speeds – the one on the right is double track and higher speeds. We want to have travel times that are better than what we have right now. We can also offer reliability.

**Director Lubow**: Commuter rail and RTD, can you explain?

**David Krutsinger**: We’d love the opportunity to collaborate with RTD on the N-Line. We know there is the segment from 124th to Highway 7, we’d love to collaborate on that in extending track to the North Front Range.

**Director Cook:** We just returned from DC. We had two asks – one, to urge the criteria that defines BRT to include managed lanes, and second, (didn’t catch).

**Kevin Standbridge:** On your Bustang estimates, did the timing include managed lanes?

**David Krutsinger**: The timing is based on what is in place today. At the time, we hadn’t finished analysis for the Gap project.

* **CDOT –I-25 TEL Segment 3 Update- Stephanie Alanis**

**Stephanie Alanis:** *(Presentation available on NATA website).*

*(Re: “Segment 3” slides)* – Segment 3, under the old project, is complete, and now we are starting a new project for Segment 3. The project was behind. We took the option to end the current contract, re-advertise, and brought Graham on board to complete the project. We just re-started the project, rather than worry about acceleration, and we were on the same timeline for completion.

*(Re: “Key Dates” slide)* – These completion dates are based on the tolling, with testing, that we need to see. A lot of this work should be completed this year.

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Tedesco:** Thanks for re-striping. Some of it was pretty bad.

**Stephanie Alanis**: There were bad potholes too that we are fixing.

**Karen Stuart:** Tammy is making sure that any information that CDOT gives us on this project is being tweeted and put on the website. We are trying to coordinate on up-to-date information for this project.

* **Legislative Update- Andy Karsian**

**Andy Karsian**: *(no presentation).* Yesterday, the legislature worked efficiently discussing the budget. There will be an additional $106M in funding for transportation projects. As you all know, this is only one chamber, it will go to the House next week. We don’t know what will happen in the House, but we’ve heard there will be a lot of political pressure. $106M for roads means it is coming from someplace else. Stay tuned.

Overall, 267 funds are moving forward this year. CDOT will receive the first transfer in the next fiscal year, sometime in July. It is split 90/10, 90 to highways, 10 to transit. The next pot is SB1. The next transfer is $150M, all indications show that will be protected. The $150M is $100M to CDOT, $50M to local governments and multimodal. The multimodal passthrough funds come through CDOT. 15% stays at CDOT, rest goes to local governments.

Part of the original SB1 also added a $50M general fund transfer to CDOT if a ballot measures failed in 2019. The financing we’d get from bonding really isn’t the best deal for the state for finding funding for transportation. After the budget is passed, maybe even conversation on de-Brucing, there will be another bill to amend SB1 to get rid of ballot measure requirement that was a part of SB-1. Part of the $50M add was that it would be a part of moving the conversation forward. Getting rid of the ballot measure requirement won’t get rid of the $50 M.

There is a $30M general fund transfer that just came out of the revenues for next year.

The SB1 funds, plus $50M, plus $30M general fund, plus $160M from this year’s budget. A lot of different funds cobbled together, which is how we do things in CO.

**Discussion:**

**Mayor Atchison:** The $160M is for “roadways,” can you define what that means?

**Andy Karsian**: No

**Mayor Atchison:** I would like to call attention to HB-1257 and 1258 regarding a statewide de-Brucing benefitting K-12, higher education, and transportation. These are going to reading in first committee on Monday. I would like the group to take a position in support of these bills today. 1257 is to de-Bruce, 1258 is to decide how to spend it. I would like to ask the Chair to poll voting members today. This is not a new tax, just keeping money that’s already there. Andy, who is going to carry SB1’s change?

**Andy Karsian**: We don’t know. We only know it needs to be done. We think this will change when the budget is finalized. No one wants to stand up and do a SB 1 appeal without something in place.

**Andy Karsian**: Regarding what you said about 1258, it allocates education and transportation funding based on the 267 formula.

**Other Business:**

**Mayor Atchison:** I request NATA to take a position of support on the moving forward of HB 1257, de-Brucing, and 1258, allocation of funds from de-Brucing. This does not fix the problem, but it is one way to keep funding in transportation and education.

**Commissioner Tedesco:** Is there a procedure for this?

**Karen Stuart:** If there is a request for a Letter of Support, we can poll to see if there is support for such a letter. It would be helpful to me to know what the language of that letter should be. We can move this quickly, if we get support from the group.

**Commissioner Tedesco**: Is there support? *(A few hands raised).* I think this is money that would be well-spent, but I think we need to know what the language of a letter will be before putting out to our members.

**Mayor Atchison**: We will have something before the end of the day tomorrow.

**Karen Stuart:** We will send an email and say that we anticipate support unless we hear back that someone doesn’t support.

**Mayor Ahrens:** Next Tuesday is our next study session, so that is the earliest we could support this. Without seeing legislation, however, I’m not sure if we can support, even if given a few more days.

**Kevin Standbridge:** Can we ask for abstention?

**Karen Stuart:** You are proposing that you wouldn’t need to support or not, you could abstain?

(cross talk about process)

**Director Lubow:** Can NATA support the resolution that is coming before the RTD board on Tuesday, agreeing to complete FasTracks?

**Commissioner Tedesco**: That is a separate ask from what we were talking about, so I would ask you to send a letter to Karen, and we can send it out to see if there is support from members, the same as we were just discussing.

**Director Lubow**: I’m happy to draft a Letter of Support.

**Karen Stuart**: As a reminder, any jurisdiction is free to send letters on their own. For NATA, we have a process and rely on consensus.

**Commissioner Tedesco**: Looking at April agenda items. I wanted to point out that I’ve been designated as the point person for the 2020 Census. If you have a designated person in your agency for the 2020 Census, I’d appreciate knowing that and having contact information. In Adams County, we are hiring a full-time three-year employee for the 2020 Census. On April 2, we are doing the one-year kick-off in celebration of the 2020 Census (at 9:30 a.m. at Sable building). This is very important, especially when it comes to funding. In April, I’d request an additional agenda item for the 2020 Census folks. I would like to bring them in and give a presentation to this group. Anything else?

**Karen Stuart:** Nothing comes to mind, but legislation is swift-moving, so we might want to have another presentation on the legislature. Any other suggestions can come to me, for SPC to review.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.**