

MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

August 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
281 North College Ave, Fort Collins, CO

FOR REFERENCE:

Chair:	Eric Shenk	
Vice Chair:	Annabelle Berklund	
Council Liaison:	Ross Cunniff	
Staff Liaison:	Paul Sizemore	970.224.6140

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shenk called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Eric Shenk, Chair
Nathalie Rachline
York
Indy Hart
Valerie Arnold
Andrew Bondi
Karl Ayers
Cari Brown

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Annabelle Berklund, Vice Chair

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Lauren Nagle
Aaron Iverson
Tessa Gregor
Dean Klingner
Drew Brooks
Chad Crager
Joe Olson

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

3. AGENDA REVIEW

Sizemore stated there were no changes to the published agenda.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 2018

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

York requested a change indicating which staff members attended the Big Jump Netherlands trip in the Bicycle Advisory Committee report section.

Hart made a motion, seconded by Bondi to adopt the July 2018 minutes as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Upcoming Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts – Lauren Nagle

Nagle stated the 2018 bicycle and pedestrian counts will occur September 11th, 13th, and 15th. She stated the counts occur in order to better understand traveler behavior, to document trends in bicycling and walking, to justify the investments made in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and to generate data to support the planning and prioritization of future improvements. The counts include the mode of travel, number of travelers, traveler direction, helmet usage, gender, and E-bike use.

Nagle stated there will be 44 count locations. The 13 trail locations will include counts for both bicyclists and pedestrians and the 31 intersections will include only bicycle counts due to a lack of human power. Safe Routes to School counts will also occur.

Rachline asked if completed data will be made public. Nagle replied in the affirmative. Sizemore noted Nagle will return before the Board with that information as well.

b. Montava/Mountain Vista Master Street Plan Amendment – Aaron Iverson

Iverson detailed the location of the Montava development, which is within the Mountain Vista subarea. The development proposes 4,500 residential units, a commercial area at the Timberline and Mountain Vista intersection, potential school sites, and a City park.

Iverson discussed the proposed amendments to the Master Street Plan: extending Turnberry to Suniga, straightening Timberline to Mountain Vista, straightening Mountain Vista to create a T intersection, extending Giddings Road further south curving into Suniga Drive, which would be realigned, changing the Vine connection, extending Conifer to Giddings, realigning the extension of Country Club Road, extending Bar Harbor Drive, changing the road type in the park site, and extending Maple Hill Drive to the east, among other changes.

Iverson stated the project will go through development review and any proposed Master Street Plan amendments will come back to the Board to provide a recommendation to Council.

Brown noted Country Club Road is currently holding more traffic than it was designed to hold.

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

York asked about the location of potential schools related to the roads. Angie Milewski, BHA Design, showed the planned high school/middle school site and elementary school site.

Arnold asked if any concerns have been expressed about the proposal to this point. Iverson replied one of the property owners, Tom Moore, who is present, has concerns about certain alignments and their effects on his property. Some Adriel Hills residents and Country Club Road residents have also expressed concern around potential impacts.

Rachline asked about public transportation and the extension of bus routes and bicycle trails in the area. Iverson replied this segment is Master Street Plan focused; however, Park Planning has been working with Montava regarding regional trail build out and Transfort is involved in the development review process.

Rachline requested an update on that issue in the future.

A representative of the Montava development stated his group has been working with Parks on regional trail connections to downtown and the development is focused on being a walkable and bike-friendly community.

Iverson noted Country Club Road is a county road.

Sizemore noted the transit and connectivity issues are being addressed as part of the development review process; however, the Board's eventual action item will be solely related to changes in the Master Street Plan.

York requested information as to the amenities associated with each street type as well as how this associates with the low-stress bicycle network. Iverson replied he will return with that information.

c. Budgeting for Outcomes – Board and City Staff

Sizemore stated staff members are present to answer Board questions and outlined the upcoming budget-related processes.

Boardmembers agreed to limit questions to one per member per budget offer and to discuss the offers in order.

The first offer discussed was the City Bridge Program. York asked why two bridges were listed over a two-year budget when the goal is two bridges per year. Chad Creger replied the two bridges are on Drake west of College and on Vine between Lemay and Timberline. Additionally, design is being completed on two bridges on Laporte and inspections and maintenance costs are also included.

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

The next offer discussed was the enhancement offer for the Harmony Power Trail Grade Separated Crossing and Trail Extension. Arnold asked about Power Trail user counts. York replied this will allow motorists to not have to stop to allow bicyclists or pedestrians to cross Harmony. Creger stated the Power Trail actually crosses at-grade at the signal to the west and this crossing came up as number one in an at-grade prioritization study.

The next offers discussed were related to Transfort. Drew Brooks, Transfort and Parking Services Director, first discussed the On-going Local Fixed Network offer, which retains the status quo.

The next Transfort offers discussed involved the continuation and expansion of 365-day service. The expansion offer would include additional fixed-route service on Sundays and holidays and an expansion of Dial-a-Ride to be more consistent.

A boardmember asked if the expansion of the Horn service is also supported by CSU. Klingner replied CSU's priorities vary from those of the cities as they do not see a great deal of campus traffic on Sundays. The Sunday Horn service would connect the CSU Transit Center to MAX.

Klingner stated 365-day service costs about \$800,000 per year and acknowledged Transfort budget numbers can be confusing as ramping up new routes is a lengthy process.

York asked if most routes are added or changed in August. Staff replied there is also a service-change process at the beginning of the spring semester.

The next offer discussed was a proposed fixed route in southeast Fort Collins. Klingner discussed the route, which he noted is quite expensive as it adds a fair amount of Dial-a-Ride as well, at an average cost of \$35 per ride. He stated the Transfort route would operate every 30 minutes Monday through Saturday.

The next offer discussed involved micro-transit, which would include some type of app-based service contracted in a public agency type of a way to serve areas more difficult to serve on a fixed route basis. Klingner stated this offer would be for a pilot program. York asked if this offer figures in a reduced need in Dial-a-Ride. Klingner replied that would be part of the pilot program. Rachline stated this would seem to be a complimentary service to Dial-a-Ride as the micro-transit would not be accessible.

The next offer discussed was related to Dial-a-Taxi vouchers. Brown asked if this offer would impact the share of vouchers received by Fort Collins. Staff replied in the negative and stated this offer would double the Dial-a-Taxi vouchers.

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

The next offer discussed was related to electric buses. This offer would involve a pilot project to replace existing buses in the fleet. Brooks discussed the maintenance advantages of electric buses.

The next offer discussed involved public-private partnership opportunities for transit. The offer, if funded, would be contingent on public-private agreements with potential partners such as CSU, the brewery district, Woodward, and student housing projects.

Hart asked if any of the transit budget offers return frequently. Klingner replied North College Avenue and West Elizabeth are frequently mentioned, as well as electric buses and a regional transit partnership with Greeley.

The next offers discussed were related to parking. Staff discussed an offer related to address the over-parked lot at the old K-Mart site by constructing a parking garage at the site. There are partnership opportunities in the area and the offer is meant to at least start a conversation. Arnold asked if CSU has been consulted. Klingner replied meetings are held with CSU weekly regarding transit and parking. He stated CSU is aware of the issues and conversations around solutions are occurring.

d. E-bikes Pilot Program Proposal – Tessa Gregor

Tessa Gregor, FC Bikes, provided Boardmembers with a handout on the draft structure of the proposed E-bike pilot program, trail maps, and Pace promo codes. She discussed the impetus for the program and detailed what has led the Board and staff to this point in the process.

Brown asked if the E-bike manufacturing label requirements are universal across the country. Gregor replied she believes the requirements are unique to Colorado.

Brown asked if there are any enforcement teeth for the regulatory agency in terms of labeling. Gregor replied she was unsure of that from a federal perspective. Sizemore stated any states that have adopted the model legislation would have similar labeling requirements; however, that is not a federal requirement.

Gregor discussed the process for developing the proposed pilot program and stated the scope of the project is for all paved trails in Fort Collins for Class 1 and 2 E-bikes, a one-year pilot, and an educational component. Gregor discussed the proposed reporting aspect of the project and stated key partners are various City departments, local bicycle organizations and retailers, and regional partners. The cost of the project is estimated at \$7-10,000, which does not include staff time.

Bondi suggested moving forward with a positive recommendation for Council.

Gregor outlined current ordinances regarding E-bikes.

Hart reiterated his opinion this is a behavior issue; therefore, he does not support time

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

spent trying to regulate a specific technology as opposed to overall trail education and etiquette. Rachline stated this program would allow E-bikes to participate in the same way to determine if they do not need to be differentiated. Hart agreed and stated he now understands why this would be beneficial.

Sizemore noted the legal aspects of necessary code language would be crafted following moving forward with this step.

Bondi made a motion, seconded by Arnold, that the Transportation Board move forward with a recommendation to begin the pilot study.

Brown stated she understood not all Boards and Commissions who reviewed the pilot proposal held a vote; therefore, Greigor's presentation is inaccurate when stating all Boards and Commissions supported it. Additionally, she stated some Boards and Commissions members have very serious concerns with the pilot and allowing E-bikes on trails. Greigor acknowledged the clarification that boards did not generally hold votes.

Chair Shenk requested an amendment to the motion to include the Bicycle Advisory Committee's white paper in conjunction with the recommendation. Hart and Arnold accepted the amendment.

The motion was adopted with Shenk, Rachline, Hart, York, Arnold, Ayers, and Bondi in support and Brown dissenting.

Brown stated she would like additional details on enforcement options. Hart, a volunteer ranger, briefly discussed the types of enforcement techniques he uses.

8. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Brown reported the Disability Advisory Commission took up the issue of downtown parking and the number of available handicapped spaces. She stated she is taking a mini-class from the NADTC, a transportation group that advocates nationally for accessibility, transit, and transportation.

Hart reported on the recent Parking Advisory Board meeting during which triggers for on-street paid parking were discussed.

Ayers stated he has not noticed serious congestion around the Mulberry pilot project. York noted that project is also a pilot.

Bondi reported he may be moving to Castle Rock permanently and this may be his last Transportation Board meeting.

York reported on the August 19th Planning and Zoning Board hearing during which the Board adopted revisions to Articles III and IV of the Land Use Code. Part of the general provisions discuss transportation impact studies as they relate to the adequate public facilities standards for transportation levels of service. The changes will make the

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

TYPE OF MEETING – REGULAR

standards current and consistent and provide for alternative mitigation strategies in cases where typical improvements are not feasible, not proportional to impact, or are not desired by the City.

York also reported on the City volunteer thank-you picnic and the Planning and Zoning Board work session where the Country Club Reserve and its trail connections were discussed. He stated it does not appear the Board has the power to insist trail connections occur.

York stated the Planning and Zoning Board also discussed designating the west side of College on either side of Drake as an urban renewal plan area.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Bicycle Advisory Committee Report

Ayers reported the BAC received a presentation from the Overland Mountain Bike Club, which is focused on getting funding to improve single-track and off-road trails in the area. Their overarching plan is to have fewer people driving to recreational areas.

Ayers stated an employee travel survey is forthcoming and a yield-as-stop conversation was eventually tabled to allow members to gather more information. York stated he would like the BAC to develop a recommendation on the yield-as-stop issue. Brown agreed.

b. City Council 6-Month Calendar Review

Sizemore reported he has asked Noah Beals to report to the Board on Sign Code updates. Council will be looking at multiple budget items, Arts in Public Places revisions, the Montava pre-application hearing, and City Plan in the upcoming months.

c. Staff Liaison Report

Sizemore reported the Long View Trail is open with the official ribbon cutting Saturday. He stated the Board has been invited to appoint a member to attend the Northern Colorado Leaders bike ride on October 12th. Hart volunteered to participate.

Sizemore stated it is time for the Board to begin its 2019 Work Plan and outlined other items for the September and upcoming agendas, including Safe Routes to School and E-scooter sharing programs. He stated staff has been working on a white paper outlining E-scooter issues.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. by unanimous consent.