



**Jefferson County Transportation Action and Advocacy Group (JEFFTAAG), and  
Jefferson County Collaborative Transportation Forum (Jeffco Forum)  
DRAFT - Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting in WebEx

**Regular Agenda Items:**

**Convene**

- Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering Division Director, Steve Durian, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Attendees:**

Arinello, Alex (Superior); Atchison, Herb (Westminster); Baskett, Debra (Westminster); Brown, Casey (Golden); Brown, Kevin (CDOT); Burde, Matthew; Catlin, Peggy (RTD); Clayton, Melodie (Jefferson County); Conklin, Steve (Edgewater); Cottrell, Todd (DRCOG); Dale, Jim (Golden); Davis, Don (Jefferson County); Durian, Steve (Jefferson County); Firouzi, John (Arvada); George, Aaron; George, Julie (CDOT); Girand, Jon (Arvada Transportation Committee); Hart, Joseph (David Evans and Associates); Hartman, Dan (Golden); Heumann, Aaron (Littleton); Inman, Joni (Jeffco Commissioner District 2 Candidate); Jesaitis, Paul (CDOT); Kerns, Will (Ulteig); Mattson, JoAnn (CDOT); Muriby, Rick (Golden); Myers, Charlie (Bike Jeffco); Myklebust, Jessica (CDOT); Nguyen, Steve (Wheat Ridge); Papsdorf, Ron (DRCOG); Quinn, Chris (RTD); Raber, Michael (Bike Jeffco); Richardson, M.L.; Riger, Jacob (DRCOG); Rodriguez, Jeremy (Office of Congressman Ed Perlmutter); Rossillon, Jeanie (Jefferson County); Rowe, Jan; Ruchman, Dave (Local Coordinating Council); Rudel, Jordan (CDOT); Szabo, Libby (Jefferson County); Terlip, Danny (NREL); Tidmore, Jason; Tighe, Casey (Jefferson County); Townsend, Lindsay (Jefferson County); Trujillo, Lisa (RTD); Westberg, Mark (Wheat Ridge); Whiteaker, Mike (Lakewood); Wood, Susan (RTD)

**Libby Szabo, Jefferson County**

- Commissioner Szabo welcomed the group.
- JEFFTAAG and the Jeffco Forum were combined to be more effective at prioritizing transportation investment needs and helping Jefferson County be more competitive obtaining grants for safety improvements. The regular meetings will continue to be quarterly and keep a similar format.

**Steve Durian, Jefferson County**

- This is the first combined meeting of JEFFTAAG and the Jeffco Forum.
- The Jeffco Forum has authority to make recommendations to the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) board. Specific members to the Jefferson County Subregional Forum (Arvada, Edgewater, Golden, Littleton, Superior, Westminster, Wheat Ridge, Jefferson County) will be asked to vote on funding decisions for DRCOG in separate, special meetings. Also, staff of Jeffco Forum jurisdictions will meet periodically for discussion before presenting recommendations to voting members of the Jeffco Forum. All these meetings are open to the public.

**CDOT Update – Kevin Brown, Paul Jesaitis, Jessica Myklebust**

- SH-74 rockfall mitigation at the Red Rocks entrance will go to bid late June. Construction will start in the fall.

- Signal replacements on Colorado Boulevard and Sheridan Boulevard – The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will upgrade traffic signals and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramps at 10 intersections.
- Segment Two C-470 The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 30% design is underway. CDOT is moving forward with the managed lanes alternative in the Colorado High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE) master plan. The full NEPA will start 2021.
- Kings Valley Interchange on US-285 – Historic impacts were discovered in the Environmental Assessment (EA). CDOT is working to review historic impacts and identify funding for this project. The project is currently on hold.
- Wadsworth Boulevard / Morrison Road Interchange Reconstruction – This is a \$10 million project that will include noise walls. The final design is underway. It is associated with the City of Lakewood Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) multi-use path on Wadsworth Boulevard.
- Wadsworth Boulevard overlay (I-70 to 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue) – Construction expected early 2021
- Operations improvements at I-70 and Ward Road interchange – CDOT will expand capacity at the signalized intersection. The project is scheduled to begin this summer.
- US-6 Wildlife Crossing in Golden – currently under design. Funding has not been identified and the project has been shelved.
- C-470 / Morrison Road bridge widening – Funding Advancement for Surface Transportation Economic Recovery (FASTER) Safety funding has been approved for the project. CDOT will add a third lane in each direction to the Morrison Road bridge. Construction is expected to be late 2021 to early 2022.
- C-470 / Ken Caryl Avenue intersection improvements – The project will go to bid in the fall of 2021.
- Floyd Hill – Construction funding has not been identified. CDOT is moving ahead with the NEPA study. CDOT chose to move ahead with the preferred alternative between the tunnel and canyon divide.
- I-70 and Kipling Parkway North Phase – CDOT will eliminate the traffic signal at 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue to improve traffic flow on Kipling Parkway, upgrade traffic signals at 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue and build ADA ramps.
- US-6 Resurfacing and Safety Improvements (SH-58 to SH-119) – CDOT will repair guardrail, improve signage, and complete shoulder widening. Construction is anticipated early 2021.
- US-40 Resurfacing (SH-93 to Genesee Bike Path) – Construction was anticipated in the summer 2021, but it may be bumped because of the funding shortfall this year.
- I-70 Denver West Runaway Truck Ramp Feasibility – CDOT received funding for the project.
- Clear Creek Crossing (Cabela's) Interchange Improvement – The project is funded by the developer and Wheat Ridge is the applicant. The interchange configuration will be changed to include hook ramps. The project is currently under construction.
- SH-72 Permanent Flood Repairs are underway on Coal Creek Canyon. It is a one-half-million-dollar project. CDOT will construct five major concrete box culverts. Three culverts are complete. The remaining two will be finished by late summer. CDOT is charging the contractor liquidated damages.
- I-70 Eastbound Auxiliary Lane – The project is complete.
- CDOT has been working to determine budget impacts from COVID-19. Projects that can continue will be discussed at the next commission meeting.
- People are driving more now as the state opens. Last weekend, I-70 traffic flows exceeded those from a year earlier. During Stay at Home Orders, work on projects continued and contractors were able to work 24/7.
- Richard Zamora was promoted to Regional Director, CDOT Region 2. Jessica Myklebust accepted the position of Deputy Director to Program Delivery, CDOT Region 1.

- Jessica Myklebust expressed that she looks forward to working with the JEFFTAAG to strategically, with limited funding, to complete exciting projects in the region.

### **DRCOG Update on the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan (MVRTP) – Jacob Riger**

- See Attached Presentation
- Between now and mid-August, this group (Jeffco Forum) will be asked to identify up to 16 major project submittals to submit as candidates for the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan. These are not Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects and the application process for proposals will be simpler than that for the TIP.

### **Steve Durian, Jefferson County**

- Steve Durian will send an appointment request to staff to meet within the next two weeks to discuss the 2050 MVRTP project selection process. Another meeting with the Jeffco Forum will occur mid-August for final recommendation of MVRTP project proposals to the DRCOG board of directors.

### **DRCOG Update on TIP Items and Upcoming Funding Sources - Todd Cottrell**

- The 2023 TIP has been adopted for almost one year. The TIP White Paper will review the process that took place and outline any improvements to development of the next TIP, for years 2024 through 2027. Staff is drafting a plan to bring to the committee for discussion and potential adoption in August / September.
- Three funding calls are out or outcoming. They are:
  - Regional Transportation Operations and Technology (RTOT) – \$13 million has been set aside for 2021 to 2023 RTOT projects. Applications are due today (July 8, 2020) by 5:00 p.m. Approvals will occur later this fall.
  - Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 Human Service Transportation – Applications are due mid-July. DRCOG anticipates board action in September.
  - Safer Main Streets – This is a joint CDOT Region 1 and DRCOG call for multi-modal safety for urban arterials. It will launch Thursday with a virtual event.
- DRCOG identified unallocated TIP funding. Waiting list protocol has been on hold since early-April, near the start of COVID-19 response. DRCOG will reach out to existing sponsors about funding.

### **RTD Update – Chris Quinn**

- As part of the COVID-19 response in April there were drastic RTD service cuts. Fares were suspended but are being collected again as of July 1.
- Reimagine RTD is a two-year process to answer what is next for RTD. See the [Reimagine RTD website](#) for more information. RTD, with stakeholder groups and board members are looking at four potential service scenarios for the systems optimization plan. The hope is to take one or a combination of scenarios to the board for approval this fall to potentially incorporate them into upcoming service changes. Afterwards, RTD can focus on the mobility plan for the future.

### **Discussion on COVID-19 Impacts to Transportation Funding**

#### **Todd Cottrell, DRCOG**

- In June, DRCOG kicked off discussion on potential options to handle COVID-19 delays in TIP projects. Three options discussed were:
  - moving delay deadlines of affected projects
  - moving project funding to outer years
  - state toll credits – remove the local match from a project and reduce the project scope
 The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) agreed on the first two options. Use of toll credits requires more discussion.

- DRCOG discovered approximately 15-20% of current TIP projects are impacted by COVID-19 for a range of issues.

**Steve Durian, Jefferson County**

- Jefferson County largely relies on gas and property tax. Impacts to transportation funding in Jefferson County by COVID-19 are insignificant so far.

**Around the Horn/ Public Comment**

**Rick Muriby, City of Golden**

- US-6 and Heritage Road design process kicked off. Golden chose Muller Engineering for the consultant and hope to approve the contract on Thursday at City Council.
- W. Colfax Avenue Redesign and Construction Project – Golden just closed out the Request for Proposals (RFP) process and will begin the interview process.

**Steve Durian, Jefferson County**

- The RFP for Jefferson County’s bike plan update is behind schedule. It will be funded by a DRCOG Federal grant.
- Construction on McIntyre Street continues.
- CR-73 from Buffalo Park to SH-74 in Evergreen is under design. This is a federally funded project.
- W. Quincy Avenue between Simms Street and C-470 is under design. It will be a multi-phase reconstruction project.

**Mike Raber, Bike Jeffco**

- Bike Jeffco has suggestions for Heritage Road and US-6. More road rage has been reported by cyclists at this intersection as traffic increased.
  - Rick Muriby – There will be opportunities for input on this project. Please send suggestions to Rick Muriby.
  - Dan Hartman – go to the [Guiding Golden website](#). The city will be requesting public input. There will be a town hall style meeting on July 29. The comment period will remain open on the webpage into August.

**Susan Wood, RTD (from WebEx chat)**

- There is a survey on [Reimagine RTD](#) that requests the public to respond with what they feel is most important to them regarding transit service. It is open until July 24.

**Mike Whiteaker, City of Lakewood (from WebEx chat)**

- With the changing of financial directors, Golden is behind on projects, but the last update came in at about 16% which is better than expected.
- Golden is beginning work on the W-Line multi-purpose path.

**Dave Ruchman, Local Coordinating Council**

- Joe Lamars is the new chair for Jefferson County Local Coordinating Council. Mike Hughes is vice chair.
- An association for envisioning Colfax for 2040 is poised to review Colfax again. Stay tuned.

**Casey Tighe, Jefferson County**

- Commissioner Tighe asked staff to look at rolling stop for Jefferson County and would like to see more conformity in the region.
- In the event more stimulus money becomes available for transportation, are there shovel-ready projects?

**Paul Jesaitis, CDOT**

- CDOT, Region 1 has a list of projects at various levels of development that are shovel ready.
- There are intersections on state highways, like US-6 and Colfax Avenue, that are not safe for rolling stop. More discussions are required before moving forward.

**Mike Raber, Bike Jeffco**

- 75% of collisions between motor vehicles and bicycles happen when the cyclist is stopped at an intersection and then struck by a driver that is not paying attention. Rolling stop has been shown to significantly reduce these types of collisions. Bike Jeffco would like CDOT's support.

**Upcoming Meetings****Steve Durian, Jefferson County**

- The next quarterly JEFFTAAG meeting will be October 14.
- A special meeting to discuss project ideas and proposals for DRCOG will be in August. Look for a special meeting invitation. Steve Durian will coordinate a technical group meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Summary submitted by Lindsay Townsend, Administrative Coordinator  
Transportation and Engineering Division, Jefferson County