



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

Wednesday, October 14, 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:

Atchison, Herb (Westminster); Baskett, Debra (Westminster); Catlin, Peggy (RTD); Caulkins, Celeste (Jefferson County); Conklin, Steve (Edgewater); Cottrell, Todd (DRCOG); Cryer, Lee (RTD); Dale, Jim (Golden); Duncan, David (Bowman Consulting); Durian, Steve (Jefferson County); Fifer, Bob (Arvada); Firouzi, John (Arvada); George, Julie (CDOT); Girand, Jon (Arvada Transportation Committee); Herrmann, Danny (CDOT); Heumann, Aaron (Littleton); Kerns, Will (Ulteig); Mattson, JoAnn (CDOT); Menten, Natalie (RTD); Myers, Charlie (Bike Jeffco); Myklebust, Jessica (CDOT); Nguyen, Steve (Wheat Ridge); Raber, Michael (Bike Jeffco); Riger, Jacob (DRCOG); Rollison, Tamara (CDOT); Rossillon, Jeanie (Jefferson County); Rowe, Jan (CDOT); Sanchez, Alvan-Bidal (DRCOG); Spahn, Brent (CDOT); Szabo, Libby (Jefferson County); Townsend, Lindsay (Jefferson County); Weart, Walter (Arvada Gold Line Committee); Westberg, Mark (Wheat Ridge); Whiteaker, Mike (Lakewood); Wood, Susan (RTD)

Approval of Meeting Summary

- The August 12, 2020 JEFFTAAG Special Meeting summary was approved with no changes.

CDOT Update – Mike Keleman

- See attached presentation

Policy Group Discussions – Strategic Focus

First/Last Mile (FLM) Solutions for the G-Line Stations in Arvada – John Firouzi, City of Arvada

- See attached presentation

RTD Update – Natalie Menten, Peggy Catlin

- RTD's new General Manager, Debra Johnson, will start on November 9.
- Upcoming service changes are:
 - Discontinuance of the EV and CV routes that service Evergreen and Conifer
 - Discontinuance of the GS route between Golden and Boulder
 - Shortening the western segment of Route 28 at Wadsworth Boulevard. Route 28 will then interline with Route 32.
 - Service hours change for the W-Line to between 4:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. to accommodate heavier ridership during the morning rush
 - Increased service levels for Route 16
- RTD received \$232 million in federal bailout funds which will be expended by the end of this year. The 2021 budget has a \$150 million shortfall. To address the shortfall, RTD plans to do the following:

- Lay off 484 full-time and part-time employees
- Offer furlough days, reduced compensation, reduced pension contribution, reduced health benefits
- Defer capital projects
- Redirect future FasTracks Internal Savings Account (FISA) contributions to resolve part of the budget gap
- Attendees of public meetings asked service planners to re-evaluate ridership on Evergreen and Conifer buses and requested that RTD keep at least one trip for the EV and CV buses in each direction.
- Ridership has significantly decreased since last year. There are operators sitting idle and getting paid which is not an efficient use of tax dollars, so RTD is laying off employees. Reductions in workforce will also be realized by not filling vacancies.
- Budget swings make it difficult for RTD to plan.
- RTD is looking at possibly working with DRCOG to create van pools in areas where ridership is low.
- Access-A-Ride is provided to eligible riders within ¾ mile of a fixed RTD route. Access-A-Ride routes enforced by the end of 2019 will continue to provide service even if nearby fixed routes will be discontinued.

DRCOG Update - Jacob Riger, Todd Cottrell

- DRCOG worked with committees and the DRCOG board to collect potential options for local governments to respond to delays caused COVID-19. Three options were:
 - Request a project delay extension from DRCOG - If the project sponsor has a three or four-month delay during project development directly related to COVID-19, DRCOG could consider an extension of the project delay process.
 - Reprogram project funding - Sponsors may have issues with the local match, because the local match or staff was lost.
 - Use toll credits – Toll credits could replace part or all of a local match. Toll credits do not add funding to a project. Sponsors must reduce the scope or produce additional funds to keep projects whole. Around March and April of 2020, DRCOG became aware of \$13-14 million that could be reprogrammed into the subregional waiting list. It was placed on hold due to COVID-19. If the toll credit is used, DRCOG could backfill scop reductions with the unprogrammed federal funds.
- Over the summer, DRCOG worked with county subregional forums, CDOT, and RTD to identify candidate projects for the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan (MVRTP). DRCOG took 137 candidate projects. Since then, DRCOG has been evaluating the candidates to create a fiscally constrained list of projects and program investment priorities.
- The Regional Vision Zero Plan was adopted this summer. DRCOG is working to implement the plan. A working group met for the first time last week to start talking about implementation recommendations from the Vision Zero Plan.
- Please feel free to contact Jacob Riger for more information about the Regional Complete Streets Tool Kit.

Around the Horn/ Public Comment

Steve Durian, Jefferson County

- Jefferson County will update its Bicycle Master Plan. Proposals from consultants are under review. There will be many opportunities for public input on the Bicycle Master Plan in the future.

- Jefferson County Open Space is taking the lead on the Peaks to Plains Trail project. One segment of the trail is under construction and funding has been identified for another segment or two. The plan is to build a bike trail up Clear Creek Canyon along the US-6 Corridor.

Upcoming Meetings

Steve Durian, Jefferson County

- The next quarterly JEFFTAAG meeting will be Wednesday, January 13 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

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