



**Transit and Rail Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2011
1:00 - 4:00 PM
CDOT/HQ Auditorium**

Members Present	Yes	No	Members Present	Yes	No
Tom Allen	x		Matthew O'Neill	x	
Gary Beedy	x		Ann Rajewski	x	
Terri A. Binder	x		Peter J. Rickershauser	x	
Craig Blewitt	x		James Souby	x	
Richard Hartman		x	Michael E. Timlin	x	
Todd Hollenbeck (phone)	x		Bill VanMeter		x
Jonathan Hutchison (phone)	x		Stan Zemler		x
David Johnson	x				

Others Present

Alice de Stigter, Union Pacific Public Affairs
 Bob Felsburg, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
 Steven Marfitano, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
 David Krutsinger, LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc

CDOT Present

Division of Transit and Rail: Mark Imhoff,
 Tom Mauser, Robin Foote, David Averill
 Division of Transportation Development:
 Debra Perkins-Smith, Tracey MacDonald,
 Jason Wallis
 Office of Policy and Government Relations:
 Mickey Ferrell
 Office of Financial Management and Budget:
 Laurie Freedle
 Region 4 Northeast: Karen Schneiders (phone)
 CDOT Legislative Liaison: Kurt Morrison

I. Call to order

Ann Rajewski called to order the regular meeting of the Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC) at 1:00 pm on December 9, 2011, in the CDOT/HQ Auditorium.

II. Agenda items

1. **Introductions:** Ann welcomed the members and guests and opened the meeting with introductions. The agenda order was revised to accommodate the addition of the Budget Overview presented by Laurie Freedle, Director, Office of Financial Management and Budget.
2. **Monthly Updates:** Jim Souby is working with the Southwest Chief and the communities on the line. Jim is getting with representatives from La Junta, Lamar, and Trinidad with an effort to tie things together with Trinidad's new multimodal transportation center.

Craig Blewitt discussed the new Transit Solutions Team, which is headed by Robert Shonkwiler, a retired business man with a comprehensive understanding of reinvention of customary practices. The team is charged with rethinking Colorado Springs transit system to achieve optimum customer service efficiently. The team members will look at ideas such as creating a transit zone within the city and the feasibility of using smaller buses, ban pools, cab vouchers and other options.

The City of Colorado Springs, Transit Department, is looking for a Transit Facilities Supervisor. The position will oversee and coordinate the organization, staffing, and operation activities of the Facilities Management Team, including program and project management, financial systems, and controls. The position is posted on the city's website at www.springsgov.com.

Mark Imhoff announced the State Rail Plan is due mid-January for review and to be sure to submit comments. The Interregional Connectivity Study was awarded to CH2M Hill. Seven proposals were received for the Advanced Guideway System Study; evaluations are expected to begin next week. Wendy Wallach's position closed on December 5 and interviews will begin in January 2012. Robin Foote is leaving CDOT to care for family members; her last day is December 30.

Jonathan Hutchison announced Amtrak's FY12 appropriation was \$1.481 billion, \$800 million less than requested. No capital funds were received for rail investment.

Mickey Ferrell introduced Kurt Morrison, CDOT's State Liaison. Kurt replaced Melissa at the State Capital. Mickey's last day at CDOT is December 30, 2011.

3. **Towner Line Update:** Mark Imhoff provided a brief update on the Towner Line. CDOT consummated a deal with V&S on October 14, 2011; V&S now owns the line. On December 1, 2012, V&S submitted an abandonment letter. Mark discuss with the Mayor of Ead's that the right-of-way reverts back to CDOT after the rail abandonment. Peter Rickershauser suggested a possible application to the Office of Financial Assistance to take the property over and restore service with no interchange at any junction.
4. **Budget Overview:** Laurie Freedle provided a handout of CDOT's FY 2012-13 Revenue Source Fact Sheet. Laurie explained how CDOT is financed by a variety of fees and taxes paid by the users of the state and notation transportation systems. The Transit and Rail expected revenues for FY 2012-13 include the following:
 - Federal Transit Administration Funding - \$10,567,459
 - Federal Transit Administration Local Match - \$4,891,520
 - Rail and Transit—State Highways - \$5,000,000

The Transit and Rail draft budget for FY 2013 include the following:

- Total Federal Transit - \$15,458,979
- Strategic Projects/Transit - \$0
- Transit and Rail Local Grants - \$5,000,000
- Transit and Rail Statewide Grants - \$6,651,577
- Transit Administration and Operations - 3,348,423
- Total - \$30,458,979

CDOT's budget will be presented to the Governor in April for the period of July 1 to Jun 31,

5. **FASTER Projects (Statewide and Region) Review Process:** Tom Mauser provided a brief background on the FASTER funds marked for Transit; \$10 million for statewide projects and \$5 million for local projects. Of the Statewide funds, \$9 million is marked for projects and \$1 million will be held. Of the Local funds, all \$5 million is allocated for projects.

The FASTER transit applications are all in and have been checked for basic eligibility. There were 78 projects submitted requesting over \$36 million. Submissions reflect the varied needs of Colorado's transit agencies and local governments, from replacement and refurbishment of buses, to software purchases for dispatch and coordination activities, to maintenance facility rehabilitation. There were also several park-and-ride improvement projects submitted by CDOT Regions and some bike connection and car sharing projects. The Transit Section uploaded all of the applications and supporting documents (in .pdf format) to the DTR sharepoint site, and placed them into folders for each of the Regions for their review.

DTR convened a panel made up of staff of DTR, DTD and the Policy Office to review and score the statewide and interregional projects to be funded from Statewide funds. They completed their review after the Thanksgiving holiday and informed the CDOT Regions of their selections. The six Regions will review and score projects to be funded from Local funds in the subsequent four weeks and relay their recommendations and scores back to DTR by December 30, 2011, so that DTR can provide the recommended lists (Statewide and Local) to the Transportation Commission for January 2012 approval.

6. **Performance Measures Discussion:** Bob Felsburg conducted a short discussion reviewing the results of the Performance Measures exercise that was completed during the October TRAC meeting. The discussion gave TRAC an opportunity to review the draft version of the Vision Values, which allowed the consultant team an opportunity to clarify three unresolved topics.
- An additional value had been proposed: Develop passenger rail in or near major interstate corridors.
 - Should expansion be included in a category, maybe as part of System Preservation?
 - Should customer satisfaction be included as a value?

The group also discussed and reviewed the modified version of the Categories and Values for Accessibility, Mobility, Economic Development, Quality of Life, Environmental and Resource Conservation, Safety, Operational Efficiency, and System Preservation and Expansion.

7. **Wrap up:** Ann mentioned Bob Felsburg will return in January and continue the Performance Measures discussion. Other topics for discussion will be the FASTER transit grant recommendations.

III. **Adjournment**

Ann adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Foote

Minutes approved by: Tom Mauser