

# Transit and Rail Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes June 8, 2012 1:00 - 4:00 PM CDOT/HQ Auditorium

Members Present	YES	NO	Members Present	YES	NO
Tom Allen			Matthew O'Neill	Х	
Gary Beedy	Х		Ann Rajewski	Х	
Terri A. Binder	Х		Peter J. Rickershauser	Х	
Craig Blewitt	Х		James Souby	Х	
Richard Hartman		Х	Michael E. Timlin	Х	
Todd Hollenbeck		Х	Bill Van Meter		Х
Jonathan Hutchison		Х	Stan Zemler		Х
David Johnson (on phone)	Х		Jacob Riger	Х	

### **Others Present**

Alice de Stigter UP Public Affairs Bob Felsburg, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig Steven Marfitano, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig Lee Cryer, RTD Scott Weeks, David Evans Cliff Davidson, North Front Range MPO Randy Grauberger, PB

### **CDOT Present**

Division of Transit and Rail: Mark Imhoff, Tom Mauser, David Krutsinger John Valerio, Julia Spiker Division of Transportation Development: Debra Perkins-Smith, Mehdi Baziar, Jason Wallis, Tracey MacDonald, Sandi Kohrs

# I. Call to order

Ann Rajewski called to order the regular meeting of the Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC) at 1:10 pm on June 8, 2012, in the CDOT/HQ Auditorium.

# II. Agenda items

## 1. Introductions

Everyone at TRAC introduced themselves. David Krutsinger introduced DTR Intern, Michele Martinson.

## 2. Monthly Updates

Jim Souby shared that on June 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a demonstration car charter to La Junta. The charter cars will try to run before September 15<sup>th</sup> hooked onto Amtrak trains. Jacob Rigger noted the DRCOG Metrovision 2040 kickoff was June 7<sup>th</sup> at History Colorado. Ann Rajewski summarized recent happenings from TBD Colorado. She will forward TBD Colorado materials. Transit is coming up in the

conversations; Twenty meetings were held in May and 4 regional meetings in June. AGS will have an industry webinar Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. The AGS PLT meeting will be held on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The ICS PLT meeting will be held on Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. ICS is having its first round of public meetings July 16-19. Peter Rickershauser said HSR is on the Front Range.

Peter Rickershauser described UPRR maintenance projects. UPRR tie project o Moffat subdivision. California Zephyr flipped from Colo/Moffat to Wyo/Up main line. Denver, to Speer Jct to Laramie, Ogden Salt Lake. No scenic competition in South Wyoming to what Colorado offers.

UP is now doing tie project Denver to Speer, Denver to Cheyenne in 2 hours with an average of 50 MPH and Denver to Salt Lake City in 12 hours; this is with existing infrastructure without the operator really "trying."

## 3. Policy Discussion – Breakout Groups

Last month at TRAC, we divided into 2 groups and discussed Transit policy. Ann Rajewski announced the Commission (T&I) workshop will be held Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, in which TRAC will present its' Transit Policy recommendations. CASTA used performance measures to draft current Transit Policy recommendations suggesting DTR is so new, we need to have some policies put into place. Ann added that in the recommendations we should add state the Transit overview and endorse rail work from SFPRP, along with the importance of transit in the policy backgrounds. She also stressed the importance of each transit document having a standard "make the case" statement, possibly borrowing from the state rail plan and making each document free-standing.

Some general comments from the previous TRAC meeting regarding Transit Policy recommendations where: "transit" needs to be defined for CDOT purposes, there is a need to state both urban/suburban and rural benefits, the document needs to read without interruption, the word "consider" needs to be taken out and replaced with "will do", some policies don't make transit element clear and distinct from general transportation goals, possibly compare to the bike policy for final format, "consider" may be appropriate if no money for implementation and/or if supported with more detailed guidance and the word "consider" be defined, Cite references (state & federal) if it exists and lastly, Transit "considerations" for all major projects that are maintained or given maintenance by CDOT. Other options instead of the Transit Policy Recommendations could be: procedural directives and/or a guidance manual which we rely on DTD staff that have been through this procedure.

The T&I dialogue/input is only at the first theme level. The Bike/Ped policy became strong by working through it and making it practical to implement, taking approximately two years. Other questions that were brought up were: Will end user have confidence in CDOT's commitment to follow-through and should the policies be broader than just guiding the Transit Plan; The Transit Plan or guiding policies for the Transit Plan?

In closing, official policies come through the Transit Plan which will be edited today and will be ready mid-June. All comments will be due July 1<sup>st</sup> and Finalized by July 6<sup>th</sup> (T&I) packet submission.

### 4. FREX Update

### 5. Wrap-Up

July TRAC is cancelled.