

Goals and DRAFT Implementation Actions

July 10, 2014

The following implementation actions are the result of the coordinated planning effort over the past 18 months to develop the first Statewide Transit Plan and nine Regional Coordinated Transit and Human Services Plans. These implementation actions are intended to provide a consistent and transparent guide to CDOT transit investments and actions over the short, mid and long-term. Each action aligns with the goals and objectives developed through the Statewide Transit Plan, and will guide implementation of Colorado's statewide transit vision. Performance measures, also identified in the Statewide Transit Plan, will be used to measure progress towards meeting the goals and objectives. The performance measures will be evaluated and reported on an annual basis and reviewed at the time of the Statewide Transit Plan update in approximately four years.

Six goal categories were developed through a collaborative process to support the vision for transit in Colorado. The Vision is:

Colorado's public transit system will enhance mobility for residents and visitors in an effective, safe, efficient, and sustainable manner; will offer meaningful transportation choices to all segments of the state's population; and will improve access to and connectivity among transportation modes.

For each of these six goals, several implementation actions were identified, based on input through the planning process, to guide the Division as it further develops its role and support in augmenting transit as part of the broader statewide transportation system. Implementation actions will be more fully developed in coordination with planning partners, including transit providers, human service agencies and local agencies.

All of the implementation actions identified below are subject to available state and federal funds. Availability of funds will also guide how much investment can be made into the transit system. A large portion of the funding for local transit systems comes from local sources, which will continue to be a necessary component. At present, with limited funds, maintenance of existing transit service is a priority. If additional funds become available, CDOT will work with transit providers to look at enhancing and expanding service.

Category: System Preservation and Expansion

Goal: Establish public transit as an important element within an integrated multimodal transportation system

Implementation Action 1: Using the existing funding stream, CDOT will allocate state and federal funds that maintain (preserve), maximize (enhance) and expand the statewide transit system by investing in identified local, regional and statewide transit needs.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 2: CDOT will create a statewide transit capital asset inventory comprised of park-and-rides, vehicles and facilities. This inventory will be used as part of CoTRAMS (CDOT's transit grant management system) to guide a capital replacement program to be developed.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 3: CDOT will develop a template to help achieve the Federal requirement of all grant partners having an asset management plan by 2017. CDOT will also provide technical assistance to transit providers in developing the plans.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 4: CDOT will continue to be involved in efforts that preserve and enhance existing and future passenger rail in the state. This includes regular updates to the State Freight and Passenger Rail Plan and related recommendations, and taking the necessary steps to position Colorado to be eligible for federal funding.

Timeframe: ongoing

Category: Mobility and Accessibility

Goal: Improve travel opportunities within and between communities

Implementation Action 1: CDOT will fund and operate Interregional Express (IX) Bus Service beginning in 2015. Subsequent to the initial service, other public and private interregional, regional and essential transit service may be implemented where no service exists and a need has been identified in the Regional or Statewide Transit Plans or Intercity and Regional Bus Network Plan.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 2: CDOT, working with transit providers, will support system improvements through dynamic technology-based enhancements (e.g., paperless ticketing, route matching software, real-time passenger information, one-call/one-click centers, automated stop notification, online transit map, etc.) to improve the passenger experience.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 3: CDOT, in cooperation with local entities, will coordinate and support efforts to implement multimodal transportation infrastructure improvements (e.g., transit stations, bus bike racks, park-and-rides, slip ramps, travel time enhancements, etc.) that meaningfully integrate bicycle, pedestrian, and transit connectivity to the state’s transportation network.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 4: CDOT, working in partnership with transit providers and human service agencies and through the State and Local/Regional Coordinating Councils, will develop and invest in coordination strategies that improve mobility for all Colorado citizens.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 5: When planning and designing future transportation improvements, CDOT will consider the role of transit in meeting the mobility needs of the multimodal transportation system.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 6: CDOT will distribute the results of the Statewide Transit Survey of Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities and work with local human service agencies and transit providers to address the transportation needs and barriers identified in the survey.

Timeframe: short and mid-term

Category: Transit System Development and Partnerships

Goal: Increase communication, collaboration and coordination within the statewide transportation network

Implementation Action 1: CDOT will collaborate with public and private transit agencies, state agencies and local human service agencies in an effort to coordinate regional services (planning and operation) for all users as identified in the Regional and Statewide Transit Plans.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 2: CDOT will assist in creating local and/or regional coordinating councils, as requested. CDOT will participate as part of the Organizing Work Group of the Colorado Action Mobility Coalition (CAMC) and continue to support the hiring of mobility managers at the regional level.

Timeframe: short-term, ongoing

Implementation Action 3: CDOT, working with the Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC), will develop recommendations for policies and procedures that support the review and consideration of transit and rail in CDOT projects and activities.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 4: CDOT will continue to work with grant partners to provide meaningful assistance, information, education, and compliance support for the grant application and contracting

processes. CDOT will develop process improvements, provide training, and increase coordination between CDOT, FTA and grant partners around these processes. This includes implementation of CoTRAMS, CDOT's grant management system, and providing clear guidance on the grant application and contracting processes on CDOT's website.

Timeframe: short-term, ongoing

Implementation Action 5: CDOT will continue to provide technical assistance and financial support to CASTA in the development of transit information and services, such as CASTA's Transit Resource Directory, bi-annual conferences, e-newsletters, and reports. CDOT will continue to support CASTA in the management of the Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP).

Timeframe: short-term, ongoing

Implementation Action 6: CDOT will coordinate with federal and state agencies to leverage, access, and coordinate use of the various available transportation funds. This will include coordination with human service agencies and agencies not traditionally viewed as transportation providers. Coordination will primarily occur through the State Coordinating Council and Local/Regional Coordinating Councils. In addition, CDOT will work with other agencies to identify the barriers that exist with coordinating various funding sources and work with congressional delegation to reduce these barriers as opportunities are made available.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 7: CDOT will assist TPRs and local providers to develop and coordinate marketing and education efforts to improve public, elected official, and agency knowledge of the transit services available, including development of resource directories. CDOT also will assist in development of marketing materials as needed and may include brochures, flyers, website updates, an online transit map, etc.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 8: CDOT will update its State Management Plan per FTA regulations, including updating it to be consistent with federal funding requirements in preparation for the next FTA State Management Review.

Timeframe: short-term

Category: Environmental Stewardship

Goal: Develop a framework of a transit system that is environmentally beneficial over time

Implementation Action 1: CDOT will coordinate with state and local agencies and assist agencies with implementation of low emission vehicles and energy conservation practices.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 2: CDOT will assist agencies' activities that encourage and promote transit use.

Timeframe: short-term, ongoing

Implementation Action 3: CDOT will incorporate guidance into the NEPA Manual on environmental clearance procedures for FTA funded transit projects and provide technical assistance to grant partners needing environmental clearance from FTA.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 4: CDOT will implement enhancements to improve transit travel time such as peak-period shoulder lanes, fixed guideways, and intelligent transportation systems, where appropriate, for use by transit to improve mobility while minimizing the impacts of transportation facility expansion into sensitive and/or constrained areas.

Timeframe: ongoing

Category: Economic Vitality

Goal: Create a transit system that will contribute to the economic vitality of the state, its regions, and its communities to reduce transportation costs for residents, businesses, and visitors

Implementation Action 1: CDOT will plan for and position the state for transit and rail investment opportunities.

Timeframe: long-term

Implementation Action 2: CDOT will assist and support local efforts to better connect individuals with job assistance, employment and other vital services.

Timeframe: ongoing

Implementation Action 3: CDOT will partner with the Workforce Transportation Task Force of the State Coordinating Council to develop a template for demonstrating the economic benefits of coordinated transit in providing workers transit access to training and employment.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 4: CDOT will work with the TRAC and planning regions to develop materials that demonstrate the benefits of transit services to the state and local economy.

Timeframe: short-term

Category: Safety and Security

Goal: Create a transit system in which travelers feel safe and secure and in which transit facilities are protected

Implementation Action 1: Pending guidance from FTA, CDOT will provide assistance to all agencies with development of a safety and security plan consistent with FTA requirements.

Timeframe: short-term

Implementation Action 2: CDOT will work with transit providers to implement measures that improve the safety and security of those using public transit.

Timeframe: ongoing

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