

**Transit and Rail Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2017
1:00 – 4:00 PM
CDOT/HQ Auditorium**

Member	Organization	Yes	No	Member	Organization	Yes	No
Ann Rajewski	CASTA	X		Rob Eaton	Amtrak	phone	
Sara Cassidy	Union Pacific RR		X	Kurt Ravenschlag	TransFort		X
Bill VanMeter	RTD	X		Larry Worth	Rural Transit	X	
Craig Blewitt	Mountain Metro Transit	X		Mike Ogborn	Omnitrax		X
David Johnson	Roaring Fort Transit		X	Danny Katz	CoPIRG	X	
Jim Souby	Colo Rail		X	Steve Hurlbert	I-70 Coalition / Local jurisdictions	X	
Matthew Helfant	DRCOG	X		Peter Rickershauser	BNSF Railway	X	
Terri Binder	Club 20	X		Will Jones	Greeley Evans Transit / Small urban areas	phone	
Vince Rogalski	STAC	X					

Others Present	CDOT Present
	Mark Imhoff, Director/Division of Transit & Rail David Krutsinger, Deputy Director/DTR Mike Timlin, Bus Operations Manager/DTR Maria Johnson, Bus Operations/DTR Sharon Terranova, Senior Transit & Rail Planner/DTR Jeff Sanders, Transit Planner/DTR Alison Redenz, Transit Planner/DTR Laura Morales-Garcia, Program Asst/DTR Andy Karsian, Intragovernmental Relations Ron Papsdorf, Intragovernmental Relations

1. Introductions/Meeting Overview/Welcome

Ann called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Election of Chair (Mark Imhoff)

Larry Worth moved to re-elect Ann Rajewski to continue in her role as Chair for TRAC if she is willing to continue in this role. Ann indicated she is willing to serve. Craig Blewitt seconded the motion. All committee members present were in agreement, Ann was re-elected as Chair for TRAC.

3. Meeting Dates Discussion - Mark Imhoff (attachment)

The last TRAC meeting Vince Rogalski was not in attendance when it was decided to hold TRAC 2017 quarterly meetings the second Friday into the month before TC. Vince Rogalski is the Chair for STAC and spoke regarding the logistic issues that come into play with the timing of STAC, TRAC, and TC meetings. The noted meeting dates will work as intended and should not interfere with the STAC meeting dates or process. No changes are needed, just a discussion to confirm.

4. Legislative Update (Ron Papsdorf)

a. Federal / USDOT Agencies (Ron Papsdorf)

- Infrastructure Funding – a lot of rumors, no details and issues about timing
 - No answers yet on funding with a lot of different ideas tossed around
 - Signaled regulatory reform – a lot is set in statute, there would have to be legislative changes
- Inquiry on if there was anything specific to transit – nothing specific to transit, very broad at this time and all is pretty much infrastructure
- Tiger and Fastlane questioned for continuance - Fastlane is written into the Fast Act so that is not likely to be going away with dedicated funding, but TIGER is different with congressional appropriation, funding is unknown and we will not know until we get into another spending cycle/appropriation sometime through April
- Any information on water and sewer infrastructure – unsure, roughly half is made for transportation

b. State Legislative Agenda (Andy Karsian)

- Just started this week and lasts 120 days
- Bill on The front range rail out of Pueblo to keep SWC going with no funding associated
- Funding for transportation is key and everyone wants to do something, the good thing is there is discussion
 - Reduce the gas tax and increase the sales tax
 - Proposals for sales bonds
 - Reprioritize general funds – takes away from other state agencies
 - Most conversations involve a new funding strip
- Elimination of gas tax (21 cents/gallon) is equal to 560 million per year
 - This tax does not increase regardless of the cost of gas
- The Metro mayors have put a 30% limit on the floor of what they would like to see for funding for transit, how does that get distributed
- Discussion of the Legislation to educate, via town halls, the internet, contractors, they are ready to do the campaign as they know voters won't approve unless they know where their money will be used. More and more people trying to advocate for specific projects the end result is the projects are ending up being placed into statutes creating an entirely different issue.
- There are different groups trying to mobilize – stakeholders gathering

5. Bike Ped & Transit Investment – Danny Katz (attachment)

- DRCOG was a factor
- Better infrastructure - a real impact
- Rural drive a long way / how would that fit – it looks great may not translate in rural areas
- Helping people age in place in rural areas

- Not just sitting at home – providing options

6. Sub-Committees - update

a. Statewide Transit Plan Implementation – David Krutsinger

- HDR contract not yet signed

b. Performance Asset Management – Jeff Sanders (attachment)

Not a lot of information to update, a lot of work still to be done, a good meeting, improving, want to get it right and believe there is a lot of information that needs to be filled into the system.

c. 5310/5311 Distribution Subcommittee – Jeff Sanders (attachment)

- Two meetings will be held in February
- Present on 27th to STAC
- Graph – to demonstrate what we are trying to do
- Next few meetings will give more precise information on how everyone will be impacted
- Getting closer to agreeing to what we are doing should wrap up by April
- TC has final authority on this they could go in different direction
- CASTA conducting a follow up meeting following the subcommittee meeting to assure everyone agrees with what is going on

d. Bustang Expansion/Rural Regional Bus Reconfiguration (Outrider) – Michael Timlin (attachment)

- Idaho Springs will be added
 - Temporary stop until summer bus pull offs
- Fort Collins - additional route may be needed soon
- Two marketing events coming up – coined Snowstang
 - February 2 and 25
 - Utilizing Peak Period Shoulder Lane (PPSL)
- Six bus procurement with two bids received and one way over budget, so working on a rebid with best and final offer on the rebid
- South – line Outrider RFP

7. Multimodal Freight Plan update/State Passenger & Freight Rail Plan – Evan Anderson (attachment)

- Passenger rail option – will be addressed in the plan along with past rail studies
- Will talk about building blocks moving forward and if new funding is received moving forward – we will be looking at building blocks moving forward.
- Want the plan to be living documents – hoping to be building relationships
- Even if no money today, preserve the opportunities for the future
- Information to T & I next week

8. Southwest Chief, TIGER updates – Pete Rickershauser, Rob Eaton

- Ballot Measure being proposed to move forward to keep the SWC in place to finish the work
- BNSF rail in La Junta is all in place
- TIGER VI is completed
- TIGER VII track surfacing and grade crossing left to be done

- Pueblo extension request left to Amtrak
- Approximately a month from now AMTRAK will report back to the commission on this item
- Previous informal discussion of a route between Pueblo and Colorado Springs
- If there is interest, the City of Colorado Springs should reach out with a formal request

9. SB228 Transit Projects update – Jeff Sanders (attachment)

- Approved 20m for this year
- Table of projects is on the memorandum
- Big exception for clearance is Winter Park Project

10. Bustang Quarterly Report – Michael Timlin (attachment)

- Wifi issues presenting
 - On-site tech to work out the issues
- Testing out ticket agent - Masabi
- Ridership is up

11. Transit Grants Quarterly Report – David Krutsinger (attachment)

- Process is getting smoother
- Old projects - 3 years/75, 2 years/50, and this year under 10

12. Capital Awards Status update – Jeff Sanders

- Information on the projects selected and those not selected along with the limiting factors will be made available

13. Transit Town Halls Preparation – David Krutsinger

- Typically held in March
- Face to face meetings / phone conference is also made available
- Requesting input on what the discussion should include
 - 5311
 - State Legislative issues

There was some discussion of meeting with agencies in a different realm. Typically town halls are conducted annually via the Transit & Rail Division. Then there is the State Transit Plan and studies, meetings, surveys, etc are conducted that takes place every 5 years and the last Plan produced unbelievable participation.

14. Questions / Round Table

Craig Blewitt noted El Paso County recorded high winds of 100mph which caused semis to tip over and caution suspending service with damage to the maintenance facility.

PPACG changes with efforts underway for some time regarding the joining call center for the disabled. Thanks to a grant funded via CDOT this will finally be getting done – working out how this will be governed.

15. Adjourn

Ann adjourned the TRAC meeting at 3:53 pm. The next TRAC meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2017.