



**Transit and Rail Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2022**  
**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**  
**Google Meets**

Member	Organization	Yes	No	Member	Organization	Yes	No
David Averill	SMART	X		Danny Katz	CoPIRG	X	
Craig Blewitt	Mountain Metro Transit	X		Ann Rajewski	CASTA	X	
Sarah Curtis	All Points Transit	X		Vince Rogalski	Gunnison Valley TPR / STAC	X	
Jonathan Flint	Steamboat Springs Transit	X		Jim Souby	ColoRail	X	
Matthew Helfant	DRCOG	X		Bill Van Meter	RTD		
Lauren Isaac	Easy Mile, Inc.			Eva Wilson	Town of Avon	X	
Dave Johnson	RFTA	X					
Will Jones c	City of Greeley	X					

Others Present	CDOT Present
Dana Brosig	Andrew Geleske - CDOT
Lee Cryer	Amber Blake - CDOT
Alex Gordon	Ben Gellman - CDOT
Jamie Grim	Emily Barden - CDOT
Clayton Lake	George Gromke – CDOT / Recorder
Kenneth Mooney	Geoffrey Guthrie - CDOT
Cory Schmitt	Peter Hadley - CDOT
Kaley Zeisel	Andrew Karsian - CDOT
	Kay Kelly - CDOT
	Michael King - CDOT
	Kim Kinnison - CDOT
	Glenn Krause - CDOT
	Shilpa Kulkarni - CDOT
	Qing Lin - CDOT
	Moira Moon - CDOT
	Laura Morales-Garcia - CDOT
	Brandon Najdovski - CDOT
	Jeffrey Prillwitz - CDOT
	Mark Rogers - CDOT
	Jan Rowe - CDOT
	Brian Saller - CDOT
	Natalie Shishido - CDOT
	David Singer - CDOT
	Lisa Streisfeld - CDOT
	Michael Timlin - CDOT
	Bob Wilson - CDOT

### 1. **Introductions/Meeting Overview/Welcome** – Will Jones

- Will Jones called the meeting to order at 1:02pm, welcoming everyone to the meeting, asking for roll call introductions

### 2. **Round Table** – Will Jones

- Ann Rajewski: Shared that CASTA put in a spending request from the budget bill passed last night
  - brought over \$6 million to transit projects around the state
- Clayton Lake: Have their first all-terrain charter, first time it has already happened
  - Train has been sold out both times of operation
- David Averill - 25th Anniversary of the Gondola system
- Vince Rogalski - Gunnison was able to move money from a MMOF project to a transit hub in Montrose (about \$300,000)
- Lee Cryer - Just selected HDR for the NW rail planning and engineering study

### 3. **Federal & State Legislative Update** – Jamie Grim / Andy Karsian

- Andy could not make it
- Jamie:
  - U.S. Senate passed Omnibus Bill
  - LONO Grants are out as well
- Discussion:
  - Craig Blewitt: Are the funding levels consistent with the new Omnibus Bill?
    - Jamie: Yes.

### 4. **Passenger Rail Plan** - David Singer / Peter Hadley

- David introduced Peter and noted that he is the overseeing the State Freight & Passenger Rail Plan for DTR
- Peter:
  - State Freight and Passenger Rail Plan Update
  - 2022 Rail Plan Update
  - Concurrent Rail Projects
  - Upcoming Efforts
  - Accomplishments
- Discussions:
  - Jim Souby: Made a point about how he believes it is a smart move to couple rail systems into a single plan

### 5. **Transit Zero Emission Vehicle Roadmap** - Michael King

- Discussed the State of Colorado's GHG Targets
- 2020 Colorado EV Plan
  - Goals
  - Existing ZEV progress in Colorado
  - Financial modeling - ZEV price comparisons
  - Policy Strategies
- Discussion:
  - Danny Katz: Mentioned that he would love to see CDOT create a map of utility differences among areas to highlight cost differences and potential savings of agencies
    - Michael responded with what is currently happening with progress around utility companies and pointed to better partnership needed among transit agencies and utility companies

- David Averill: Mentioned that his organization found similar cost outcomes among ZEV costs (short and long term)
- Brain Saller: Asked about some of the financial modeling assumptions
  - Michael helped clarify how totals were calculated.
- Kenneth Mooney: Asked about with the recent price inflation of vehicles if there is any talk of maybe extending the deadline to have full EV vehicles?
  - Michael clarified that the numbers are set targets and goals and not actual deadlines for when vehicles need to be replaced with EV vehicles
- Jonathan Flint: Is there any provision for the development of zero emission electricity? What can organizations do to create facility generated power to use for vehicles
  - Michael: Great idea, but not the focus of existing literature and research

## 6. Clean Transit enterprise Board Update - Kay Kelly

- Kay
  - Discussed SB 260 Electrification Investment including creation of the 3 infrastructure enterprises
  - Summarized organization, purpose, and responsibilities of the Clean Transit Enterprise Board
    - 10-Year Plan Development
- Discussion
  - No questions

## 7. 10-year Transit Update - Amber Blake

- Plan opportunities
- Plan's effort to truly integrate transit services into the statewide multimodal system
- Cost considerations and future planning to fund existing and future transit efforts
  - Brought forward options to consider for funding
    - Expanded Bustang trips and increased frequency of trips
    - Outrider service expansions
  - Funding identification
- Discussion
  - Danny Katz: Confused on the funding section and how money will be dedicated moving forward
    - Amber clarified where the eligible dollars will be resourced from to fund expansions
  - Danny Katz: Requested clarification of MMOF funding and if percentages were changing for allocation
    - Amber clarified that the MMOF funding for transit agencies will not change, but some of the state money will be reallocated
  - Craig Blewitt: What is the opportunity cost by taking funding off the top? What is given up my scraping money off the top
    - Amber stated that she could not give an exact answer at this time, but that some state projects may take longer and it is a negotiation effort with regions about project timelines and where money can be taken from
  - Danny Katz: My confusion could be that maybe this is all new money and so it's not a net loss to any local agency but a larger net gain for CDOT for Bustang. Wondering if that's what is happening?
    - Amber - yes
  - Ann Rajewski: Feels comfortable that this is generally "new" money. Also stated this she believes this is a pretty dramatic change in terms of policy and is nervous about the impact of dollars at the local level
  - David Averill: Should the bus plan be completed to know what kind of things need to be funded and how the federal dollars come into play?
    - David stated that he supports the process, but would like more information to further understand where funding will come and go from
  - Matthew Helfant: Asked for clarification about Amber's statement on project timelines and how

funding will be reallocated based on project phases

- Amber provided examples of how phased project plans could potentially delay/provide funding
- Will Jones: Deficit should be prioritized and stated that he agreed with David
- Craig Blewitt: Is postponing an option
  - Amber: postponing is not really an option
    - Working on conversations and further moving things forward
    - Time constraints
    - Really just at the point of a conversation
- Danny Katz: Supports funding and expanding Bustang, but concerned about how this works with the same pot of money (limiting furthering some programs or development in the pursuit of other projects)
- Jonathan Flint: Agrees with pursuing ways to expand Bustang, but wants to see more numbers on what the impact will be (ridership, expansions, frequency)

## **8. TRAC Appointees - Amber Blake**

- Discussion:
  - David Averill: What kind of private sector member would we consider?
    - Amber: Must figure out what the appropriate private sector member would be for the role
  - Craig Blewitt: indicated that he is retiring in June
    - Will Jones: Remarked on how much he enjoyed having Craig on the board

## **9. Information Qrtly Reports**

- a. Bustang - Kyle French / Brandon Najdovski
- b. Outrider - Jeff Prillwitz / Kyle French
- c. Transit Grants - Qing Lin
- d. SB 226 - Brian Saller
- e. SB 267 - Brian Saller

## **10. Roundtable**

- Discussion:
  - Amber Blake: Mentioned that she has been working with the energy office on farebox revenue

## **11. Adjourn – Will Jones**

- Adjourned the meeting at 2:59pm