



## Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC)

### Agenda

May 22, 2025, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

### Meeting Held Via GoogleMeet

Presentation -  DRAFT May 2025 TRAC Slides

March Minutes -  March 2025 TRAC Agenda and Notes

## May 2025 Meeting Attendance

### TRAC Members

Present: David Averill, Eva Wilson, Michael Davies, Lan Rao, Kenneth Mooney, Jonathan Flint, David Johnson, Chrissy Breit,

Absent: Alex Khalfin, Danny Katz, Dawn Block, Gary Beedy, Ann Rajewski

### CDOT Staff and Public

Present: Jan, Audrey, George Gromke, Michael King, Maux Sullivan, Kay Kelly, Paul DesRocher, Craig Secrest, Ryan Arthur (DougCo), Aaron Hull (NFRMPO), Sara Cassidy

## Proposed Agenda

- ☐ Welcome/Introductions (Ann Rajewski - Chair)
- ☐ CDOT Updates
  - State Legislative Recap (Emily)
  - OIM Staffing (Kay)
  - Clean Transit Enterprise (Craig)
  - Planning and Operations (Jan)
  - Passenger Rail Update (Maux)
  - Transit and Mobility Grant Programs (Paul/Audrey)
  - Agency Updates (Roundtable)

## Notes

- State Legislative Recap (Emily)
  - Support - Increase Transportation Mode Choice Reduce Emissions, Transit Reform, Funding for Motor Vehicle Collision Prevention
  - Oppose - Register & Drive Surplus Military Vehicles, Automated Driving System Commercial Motor Vehicle
  - Next Session Ideas?
- OIM Staffing (Kay)
  - New AD Grant Programs - Julie Howe. Julie coming from USDOE. Experience with formula/discretionary programs
  - Post Award Team Lead - Nicole Harty, Nicole coming from CDPHE. Lots of experience on grant management.

- Other positions will be filled as they are advertised and move through the hiring process.
- Clean Transit Enterprise (Craig)
  - Formula funds approach approved by CTE Board
  - RTD, Large and Small agencies weighted differently to develop fund allocation
  - Developing a “grant cap” at 20% of the agency’s operating budget so the agency isn’t entirely reliant on SB 230
  - In the formula program, starting with a letter of interest to confirm who will be in the program and helps with funding allocation.
  - Also gather info on which agencies will need match relief and how to structure the match relief
  - Rolling evaluation so that agencies are not all being contracted at once.
  - Discretionary grant program - Focused on formation of RTA, support for Multi-modal facility initiatives, etc.
  - Will solicit feedback from agencies at the fall CASTA conference.
  - How should we be prioritizing COA in a way that is as painless as possible.
    - **Michael Davies** - How have other states administered transit grants?
    - **Craig** - Haven’t looked into that yet, but it is a good suggestion
    - **David Johnson** - How will you be able to help agencies get through COAs?
    - **Craig** - The consultant team at CDOT will be assisting agencies
    - **Audrey Dakan** - There are opportunities to align with existing DTR templates for service expansion. Also, strongly advocate for extended period of time for agencies to procure vehicle for
- Planning and Operations (Jan)
  - Statewide Transit Planning Updates
    - CDOT is currently hosting Telephone Town Halls for each TC district
    - Draft RTPs for each rural TPR are out for review and will be finalized at the next TPR meeting (meeting #4 in the RTP/SWP development process)
    - The RTPs will be rolled up into the Statewide Transportation/Transit Plan
    - The statewide survey for older adults and adults with disabilities was released a few weeks ago and is a component of the RTP updates
    - Bustang Business Plan and Bustang Asset Management Plan are being “cleaned up” for inclusion in the final draft of the TCS
  - TCS Update

- Recap of the purpose of TCS- a strategic vision for connected multimodal network
- Gaps and Need Analysis used the following inputs:
  - Travel demand
  - Transit connectivity to other transit services and modes
  - Community access to major activity centers (medical, recreational...)
  - Equity to analyse unmet transportation needs and includes demographic indicators of transit propensity
- The first draft of the Gaps Analysis is being reviewed now
- Front office and regional review in June
- TC presentation in July
- Bustang Update
  - Additional Metrics?
    - **Michael Davies** - Cost per Rider would be helpful to consider, also required for NTD reporting (if Bustang ever federalized the fleet)
    - **David Averill** - Number of Accidents,
- Passenger Rail Update (Maux)
  - Mountain Rail
    - Service Development Plan will be completed this summer
      - Another Open House
    - Station Resolutions: most municipalities and counties have passed station resolutions supporting mountain rail project and station locations to advance station area planning
    - Moffat Tunnel on May 1, 2025 State of Colorado and Union Pacific reached agreement
      - Renew Moffat Tunnel Lease
      - Use agreement for passenger rail
    - Next steps:
      - Complete SDP this summer
      - Kick off station location studies for West Metro and Steamboat Springs
      - Advance project implementation
  - Joint Service
    - Further refining the characteristics of service
    - Developing IGA and working on each board adopting this summer
    - Financial framework and plan informed by future conversations with host railroad
  - Front Range Passenger Rail
    - Alternatives Analysis Online Open House is live through June 15: <http://www.frpropenhouse.com/>
    - Service Development Plan still on track to be completed by the end of the year

- **David A.** - What will keep BNSF at the bargaining table?
- **Maux** - BNSF has been a great partner. They have been more than willing to be at the negotiating table, especially as we have momentum with RTD and Front Range Passenger Rail District.
- Transit and Mobility Grant Programs (Paul/Audrey)
  - Updated Certifications and Assurances from the FTA include Executive Order language (immigration enforcement) that will cause some delays
  - Colorado along with 19 other states have filed a lawsuit against the USDOT over the inclusion of these new terms
  - Any further action on new grant agreements from CDOT is pending the initial results of the lawsuit
  - TRAC and DTR subrecipient agencies will be kept informed as the court case progresses
  - Admin/Op/MM/planning call for projects releases tomorrow for 5311, 5310, and 5304
    - Should 5304 be held until later in the year or even next year's A/O/MM call for projects?
      - **David Averill**- agencies may want to use 5304 to plan for CTE usage so it could be good to release now, but the agencies won't know what to plan for until the CTE NOFA is fully developed? Might make sense to wait until CTE is figured out.
        - DTR will hold 5304 call until CCCP or later
    - Capital call for projects likely to be released in Fall 2025
    - CTE capital NOFA likely in Summer or Fall 2025
- Agency Updates (Roundtable)
  - **Sara Cassidy** - Please ensure materials are loaded onto TRAC website and that they are consistent with the meeting invite.