



Statewide MPO Meeting Notes

Hosted by the North Front Range MPO

January 26, 2018

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

CDOT HQ Auditorium

Participants:

- MPOs: Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) - Jacob Riger, Doug Rex, Steve Cook, Beth Doliboa; Grand Valley MPO (GVMPO) - Dean Bressler (via phone); North Front Range MPO (NFRMPO) - Becky Karasko and Alex Gordon; Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) - Ken Prather; and Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) - John Adams.
- CDOT Headquarters: Debra Perkins-Smith, William Johnson, Darius Pakbaz, Lauren Palarino, Toby Manthey, Marissa Gaughan, Kathleen Collins, Gail Hoffman, Miguel Aguilar, Alisa Babler, Lisa Streisfeld, Wes Mauer, Charles Meyer
- CDOT Regions: Stephanie Holden, R1
- FHWA: Bill Haas

Highlights from the Host MPO - Becky Karasko, NFRMPO

- Becky announced that Terri Blackmore is no longer with the NFRMPO.
- Suzette Mallette, with Larimer County, is serving as the interim executive director on a part-time basis.

Performance Measures (Informational)

- Update and Check-In on Safety Performance Measures - Alisa Babler, CDOT
 - Feb. 27 is the deadline for the MPOs to set their safety targets.
 - Colorado had 635 fatalities in 2017. That is a very sobering number, but not too far off the predicted fatality number of 693.
 - The five safety measures are numbers and rates of fatalities and serious injuries, and the number of serious injuries and fatalities of bicyclists and pedestrians.
 - In March 2020, FHWA will notify all state departments of transportations if they have met their safety targets.
 - An analysis of the crash numbers shows that there have been more fatalities in urban areas than in the rural areas, a change from the past.
 - Bill Haas said FHWA is planning a safety summit to discuss various approaches to lowering the fatality rate: infrastructure, enforcement, education, and encouragement.
 - In answer to a question from Debra Perkins-Smith, Alisa said she is not certain about the rate of fatalities increasing in 2017 because current vehicle miles traveled (VMT) figures are not yet available.
 - Traffic fatalities trends and safety targets of the MPOs:
 - DRCOG - Fatalities within Denver County dipped from the previous year, a good trend, because the year before, fatalities in Denver County drove up the statewide fatality numbers.

- NFRMPO - Fatalities are increasing. NFRMPO will adopt CDOT's safety targets at the February Planning Council meeting.
 - PPACG - Fatalities seem to be going up.
 - PACOG - The MPO adopted a resolution on Jan. 25 stating that it would adopt CDOT's safety targets.
 - GVMPO - A recent meeting with Charles and Alisa was very helpful. In February, the MPO will be presenting a resolution to the board adopting CDOT's safety targets.
 - Bill Haas said that FHWA wants the MPOs to use active language in their resolutions that state the MPO will be setting targets or adopting CDOT's. When the MPOs send their resolutions to FHWA and CDOT, they should include a cover letter that states what the targets are, and include a safety memorandum of understanding as an attachment, if available. The agreements should be signed by the end of February, but certainly no later than May 2018.
 - Regarding transit safety targets, Bill Haas said FHWA has not had a lot of discussion with the Federal Transit Administration.
 - Charles Meyer asked if an MPO board resolution could be both a resolution and a safety MOU, but FHWA will need to look into that.
 - If CDOT changes its safety targets, the MPOs that are using CDOT safety targets will have to pass amended resolutions.
 - CDOT will send out NFRMPO's resolution language, and DRCOG's cover letter language for MPO use.
 - MPOs should send their safety target resolutions and letters to Charles Meyer, and copy them to Deb Perkins-Smith of DTD and Bill Haas at FHWA.
 - In a related matter, Adams, Archuleta, El Paso, Garfield, Mesa, Yuma counties will be receiving a federal grant to create their own local road safety plans. DRCOG is getting ready to do a regional Vision Zero/Towards Zero Deaths plan. CDOT should try to coordinate with the counties involved in the grant. Other states participating are California, Florida, Nevada, Ohio, and Wisconsin.
- PM2 and PM3 Update - William Johnson and Darius Pakbaz
 - Staff distributed via email the bridge condition data sets for the MPOs before the meeting (Performance Measure 2): good, fair, and poor.
 - PACOG has 14.7 percent of bridges in poor condition. Three bridges over or under I-25 are being rehabilitated now. Once the work is completed, the percentage of poor bridges is likely to go down.
 - GVMPO asked if the MPO should be contacting CDOT Region staff to consult about performance measures and targets. William Johnson replied that the MPOs could use the PAM Branch as a resource. The PAM Branch coordinates information with the CDOT Regions and other CDOT units, such as Staff Bridges.

TIP Adoption (Informational) - MPO Roundtable

- The MPOs discussed what sort of TIPs they are planning, and if they will be on the same time schedule as the CDOT STIP.
- Bill Haas said if the TIPs and STIP are on different schedules, the MPOs and CDOT may have trouble switching their projects around.

Smart Mobility Plan (Informational) - Bob Fifer, Wes Maurer, and Lisa Streisfeld, CDOT TSMO

- The Smart Mobility Plan will be a three-phase planning effort. Kick-off will be in the next three months.
- The Smart Mobility Plan will be a 5-year strategic plan to identify technology to improve mobility. A Smart Mobility Committee will guide efforts after plan publication.
- Bob Fifer, the project manager, will come in March to give a more complete presentation.

Program Distribution for the 2045 RTPs (Informational) - Tim Kirby, CDOT DTD

- Program distribution for the 2045 Regional Transportation Plans began with revenue projections. The STAC revenue projection subcommittee was encouraged to go with a high revenue scenario in case CDOT receives additional money.
- The high revenue projection will inform program distribution.
- Program distribution probably will begin in February, and will likely be a 3-5 month process.
- CDOT hopes to have program distribution numbers for the MPOs by fall 2018.

MPO and FHWA Updates (Discussion) - MPO and FHWA Staff

- DRCOG - On Jan. 17, the DRCOG board adopted safety targets. DRCOG is working on an Active Transportation Plan. The MPO also is in the middle of developing its 2020-2023 TIP. The annual congestion report is complete. Several corridor studies are going on. In the next few months, DRCOG will be moving to 1001 17th Street.
- GVMPO - The MPO is on schedule for submitting its safety targets to CDOT by Feb. 27. An alternatives analysis is under way for the First and Grand intersection.
- NFRMPO - The three transit agencies have approved and signed the Memorandum of Agreement with CDOT. The MOA will go to the Planning Council in March.
- PPACG - Andy Gunning, former acting director of planning and development services for Rockville, MD, is the new executive director of PPACG.
- PACOG - Pueblo passed a street district tax to repair city streets.
- FHWA -Larry Squires, formerly a community planner for the FTA in the Denver office, has left to become a planner for the Marine Corps in North Carolina. FHWA also has an employee on rotational assignment from FHWA headquarters.

CDOT Updates (Discussion)

- CPG Contracts and Mid-Year Review Schedule - Marissa Gaughan
 - The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) timeline included in the packet has several dates leading to execution of CPG contracts by Oct. 1, 2018. CDOT has moved the mid-year reviews to February-April rather than in the summer.
 - CDOT has processed the old CPG billings, and will move any balances into the new contracts.

Other Business

- Repurpose February Statewide MPO meeting to a Data Consortium meeting - Kathleen Collins
 - Kathleen Collins reviewed the results of the Jan. 4 CDOT survey on the usefulness of the CDOT dataset to the MPOs for the 2040 plan. Four of the five MPOs responded by the Jan. 12 deadline. Census data, followed by data on crashes, projects, structures, and traffic were the data used the most.

- The base year that four out of five MPOs plan to use for their data is 2015. One of the four would like to move the base year up to 2018.
 - New data MPOs would like to have are freight and rail; road conditions, positive train control, and rail conditions; outputs from the Statewide Travel Model; and results of the Travel Survey
 - The MPOs are willing to share geocoded crash locations (two MPOs), Strava data, and outputs of MPO travel models and UrbanSim model results.
 - The data could be on a thumb drive, flash drive, CDs or shared drive for those areas with slow download speeds. CDOT staff could place all the data on the OTIS website with good dataset reference to facilitate easy retrieval.
 - All were in favor of a data consortium, and suggested these topics: how datasets help with performance/target reporting, incorporating Statewide Travel Model results into MPO travel models, benefit of understanding CDOT assets, and the potential of the dataset to serve as a point source location to retrieve CDOT data.
 - Those present agreed that the next Statewide MPO meeting on Feb. 23 would be a good time for the MPO Data Consortium. CDOT will host that meeting. The group will discuss performance measures, and then have the data consortium.
- Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission - Jacob Riger
 - The Commission is currently staffed by CDOT, which cannot continue to do that forever. The Commission is seeking \$8.7 million over the next three years from the Colorado Legislature. The Commission is seeking resolutions of support from the MPOs, CDOT, RTD, and other Commission member agencies.
 - The Commission is also exploring asking its member agencies for a small financial contribution (\$290,000 total) as local match to the legislative budget request.