

CITIZEN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

The Citizen TRANSPORTATION Advisory Board met June 24, 2024.

- I. Tom Called the meeting to the order at 3:08 Pm.
- II. Roll Call – Board members present: Thomas Donkle, James Bailey, Steve Teets, Wendi Young, Bart Smith and Alicia (Ally) Johnson.
Absent: Raymond Amaya, Jim Riesberg, and Jimmy Jones.

City staff included Will Jones, Michelle Johnson, Bhooshan Karnik, Paul Trombino, Nelvis Alvarez, Rosio Ramirez, Hannah Johnson, Benjami Alexander Adam Turk, Ryan Kuznick, Victoria Mckenna, Katie Dawson, and Becca Vacavik.

- III. Approval of minutes – the minutes from April 22nd, 2024, needed adjustments made for approval but May 20th, 2024, were approved by a motion and unanimous vote of the board members presents.
- IV. Public comment: No public comment.
- V. Staff report:
 - A. CIP Update:
 - Merge Project – we have been working with CDOT because of the state policy called 1601 where we have to get approval to change the accurate intersections to interchanges. Working through that process could take a few months and then it would lead us to do a formal presentation.
 - Thomas Donkle asked where we are with the design.
 - Paul Trombino said we are in the process of acquiring more land for the mobility hub.
 - We have a surveyor we have been working with.
 - Bhooshan Karnik announced that we received the Raise Grant for 20.5 million Dollars.
 - Grant will be used for interchanges, but we have also submitted for the MPDG: Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant on May 6th and will probably come back in August and September.
 - Thomas Donkle asked if we are looking at doing a design bill.
 - Paul Trombino said yes, we went through the selection process with Matrix.
 - Final Step from the CDOT process is to do a public meeting about the selection process.
 - Steve Teets had a question about something he read on the paper regarding 8 million dollars.
 - The 8 million dollars will be to improve traffic safety on existing infrastructure.

- 16th St – Public meeting was scheduled for July 8th at John Galt Coffee shop that is where we will have the underground utilities plan and service plan.
- 83rd Avenue & 4th St widening- we are currently doing survey work.
- 59th & O St roundabout Construction – the Right of Way parcel acquisition is done.
- City Attorneys are working on an agreement with Great Western Railway (GWR) because they are charging a rent on letting pipe for connecting cross in this case any water lines.
- Rent is based on the size of the casing that they tell us and not the size of the pipe that we want to put in and that creates a payment in perpetuity.
- 9th & 10th St – we have a consultant team selected WSP, there was a kickoff meeting, and the 1st phase of the project is concept verification.
- We already have a concept that is basically maintaining the one way on both sides, and we will be doing a lot more public outreach.
- US 34 & WCR Project – Received comments from CDOT on the continuous flow intersection.
- Poudre River Restoration initiative – Paul introduced Victoria McKenna the new lead for the planning division. Asset management utilities will be under her, and she will manage the Poudre River Project.
- Negotiations done and contract signed. Kick off meeting with the public is to come.
- 15th Ave Ct Underpass – Survey work and field work is going on in that area.
- Continued coordination with CDOT.
- Pumpkin Ridge Neighborhood connections to Sheep Draw Trail – we are looking towards final design and must submit the national permit to work in the Sheep Draw area.
- Safe Streets for All – Grant that City was awarded \$7.9 million for planning, funding for cameras for the Greeley Police Department and demonstration project in the city of Greeley.
- 23rd Ave & 5th St Roundabout – We had a meeting, and the plan is there are 2 components to this project. One is the grant that we received from CDOT for \$800,000 and \$200,000 match from the city.
- Million dollar grant to replace the 23rd Ave and 5th St intersection over the number 3 ditch bridge.
- That work should be done by January to make sure to open the ditch back by March 15.
- Other work that still needs to be completed will be done working around the ditch after it is opened.
- Next component is the infrastructure improvement that will be locally funded.
- Keep Greeley Moving – Concrete contract is almost completed, and we had the bidding for the main overlay project.
- Martin Marietta was the lowest responsible bidder, and we awarded the contract
- Precon meeting was had with them, and submissions are coming next.
- Neighborhood safety: None

B. Transportation:

- Mobility Development Plan – Rosio Ramirez presented and is with the consulting team that is going through the Mobility Development.
- This mobility plan is a roadmap to see how transportation can grow alongside with the community growth and be responsive to the community needs.
- Roadmap will link transit micro mobility, first and final mile access, technology, and user education into one mobility network.
- What has been completed this far is inventory, the existing mobility system, look at demographics, meeting patterns and existing data.
- We developed a strategic set of goals and right now we are considering kind of future technology and trends
- Identifying potential solutions and scenarios. From there we will refine that scenario and determine key strategies, actions and performance measures.
- Went over the schedule and we are in the middle of the 1st phase of public engagement. That phase was more online oriented but planning on doing pop up events and face to face interactions in end of July or early August.
- Our approach to community engagement has been divided into 3 major phases. Phase 1 Continue conversations – inform and educate. Phase 2 Mobility Scenarios – consult/involve. Phase 3 sharing overall the framework.
- We have established the Steering Committee with different agencies and organizations locally and regionally. First steering committee was done in April, second one is scheduled in late July and third will occur in November.
- We have the speak up Greeley web page for digital engagement. People can drop a PIN on map and provide feedback for different mobility or transportation barriers they experience.
- We reviewed 23 statewide, regional and local plans, reviewed local policies and design documents, local projects and federal grants.
- 4 major take aways which are to expand transit for local trips and regional connectivity, align with future growth and economic development, enhance efficiency and accessibility through pilot programs and provide a balanced approach between connectivity and mobile options.
- Greeley is expected to grow over 60,000 people by 2050 so transportation needs to grow alongside the community.
- We looked at housing and transportation affordability to look at what a household typically spends on.
- About 20% of people spend on housing, 20% of people spend on transportation and 60% of people spend on both housing and transportation.
- It is deemed unaffordable if it's over 45% but it differs according to households and communities.
- We looked at proximity destinations such as parks, schools bus stops and the kind of modal option that you would see to get to those destinations.

- We looked at origin and destination for commuter trips pre-pandemic and post pandemic, and the numbers have decreased. How are we responsive to these community patterns moving forward.
- We looked at GET the system itself for high level numbers and a route-by-route analysis.
- We looked at operating budget, annual ridership and understanding how transit exists now and how it can be improved moving forward.
- Ally asked if transit has considered utilizing the expansion of the micro mobility as a form of air quality.
- Michelle Johnson said we have applied for a grant expanding micromobility with the Department of Energy.
- Ally mentions the Spanish speaking community tend to carpool because if they work early the buses don't run at that time. She asked if we have considered putting carpool areas or stations or parking pads within the city.
- Michelle said no but she thinks it would be important that at the next stakeholders meeting we engage that opportunity as well.
- Steve mentioned putting e-bikes and e-scooter racks on the bus and we don't have enough bike lane within the city.
- Will Jones mentioned that scooters wouldn't be brought on the bus because the purpose of them is to take it to get to the bus, leave it there, take the bus and grab another when they get off.
- New buses have E-bike racks.

C. Engineering: None

D. Operations: May 28th & May 29th we experienced significant rain and hail where a lot was focused in the lowest point of Greeley.

- Significant water impacts were City Center North, City Hall, Public Works Building, Active Adult Center, Gun Range, Greeley Recreation Center and Union Colony Civic Center.
- Bigger impact was also done close to US 85 where it was nearly 4 inches of rain in less than 2 hours.
- City Center North had about 8-9 inches of water up against the building windows.
- Due to the amount of hail, it clogged up some of the drains and roofs which forced water to find other locations to go. That caused some issues on some ceiling panels.
- Public Work emergency response perspective is part of our training on a semi-regular basis. That training went into play when we received a warning at 9:53 pm on May 28th through the National weather service and DTM which is our city focused weather forecast.
- Public works duty officer reached out to the number 3 ditch about 10 and they diverted the number 3 ditch.
- Water rescue was doing rescues at the Shires Mobile home around 11 pm.
- Facilities have purchased door dams to help during floods by creating air bubbles around them and preventing water around them.

- Pictures were shown of City Hall, CCN, UCCC and the Public Works building the damages from the Storm.
- 12th Street Outfall project is supposed to be helping with flooding but there is still work to be done.
- After flooding an “After action” meeting was held and they came up with a list of 9 action items for what they can improve on.
- James Bailey asked if there is a report of how much damage was done to the businesses in the area.
- Dominic with Office Emergency Management is working on collecting that data.
- Thomas Donkle asked if part of the 9 action items did they go back to prior storms and looked at AI footage to look at the condition of the inlets prior to the storm.
- Will Jones will be getting with Jerry but IS has been out cleaning trash racks at Number 3 ditch, cleaning some inlets and post storm they went out to clean some of them.
- Street sweeping was focused a lot on 23rd avenue to the East following the storm.
- Working on evaluating an AVL system to help track where things have been and where they haven’t been.
- The current work out system is not spatial yet.
- Planning on brining camera images of what road conditions look like before you head out.
- 311 system is also going to be a tool to be able to report issues.
- Ally asked if we have ever considered using our GIS system to track any maintenance in the city and using a widget to put on the website.
- Will said there is some software out there to help with that and an Asset Technician was hired to start collecting data on how much vegetation we had mowed and other things.

VI. Director’s report: Paul Trombino – Presentation on Ballot Initiatives.

- 2024 Ballot Measures overview Greeley is the 4th fastest growing metro area in the country and top 10 largest cities in Colorado.
- To match Greeley’s growth, the city is focused on introducing 3 potential ballot measures in November 2024.
- First and second measure is Driving Greeley: Food Tax Renewal & Driving Greeley: Debt Issuance.
- Third measure is Protecting Greeley: Public Safety
- Driving Greeley are two potential measures to take Greeley into a new generation and to make sure the city can keep up with where the dynamic residents are going.
- The measures together will fund critical transportation infrastructure, safety programs, support services and facilities for kids, seniors and people with disabilities, and fund public safety and security programs.
- No new taxes for the two Driving Greeley measures. It is the extension of existing sales tax that has existed for over 30 years. Approval of a financing mechanism

allows the city to take advantage of a federally subsidized program for transportation infrastructure.

- Since 1990, Greeley residents have renewed sales tax on food more than five times to support funding for Facilities, Parks and Street maintenance.
- Food tax has funded important programs across the city to support seniors' examples include repairs and upgrades at the active adult center and better access to public building for the elderly. Children examples include traffic safety near school zones and funding for after-school centers. People with disabilities examples include upgrading public buildings to ensure wheelchair access.
- The city would like to ask voters to permanently extend the food tax without raising taxes to support the community programs and improve the quality of Greeley residents' present and future.
- Past projects for the 5 years have been \$41 Million – 27% (\$11M) **Well Maintained Roads**, 27% (\$11M) **Recreational Amenities**, 19% (\$8 M) **Inviting Beautiful Parks**, 10% (\$4M) **Safe Accessible Buildings**, and 8% (\$3M) **Traffic Safety & Mobility**.
- Next 5 years \$70 Million is budgeted. 27% (\$19 M) **Inviting Beautiful Parks**, 17% (\$12M) **Safe Accessible Buildings**, 16% (11M) **Recreational Amenities**, 10% (\$7M) **Arts & Culture**, and 9% (6.5M) **Traffic Safety & Mobility**.
- Debit Issuance: City is considering a low-interest, long-term financing mechanism to fund important infrastructure and transportation projects. This is like getting a mortgage for your home.
- Approval of the financing mechanism would allow the City to take advantage of federally subsidized program to make needed improvements to the community.
- Improvements include new Highway 34 interchanges at 35th & 47th Avenue to improve traffic flow, decrease congestion and improve safety.
- Expanding Greeley's regional bus services to Loveland, Severance, Denver and the airport.
- Constructing traffic safety improvements and beautifying major traffic corridors such as downtown 8th Avenue.
- Financing measure is a formality required by state law/TABOR but allows Greeley to take advantage of federal program for low-cost transportation financing without increasing or creating new taxes.
- **Protecting Greeley: Public Safety:** was presented by Adam Turk & Brian Kuznick.
- Both Police & fire have reported robust response time.
- Greeley Fire Department responded to 81% of emergency calls across the city withing 5 minutes and successfully managed 119 fires with zero fire-related fatalities.
- Greeley Police Department responded to over 70,000 calls, with average response time for life-threatening emergencies in just 4.4 minutes.
- One of the challenges that PD & Fire are anticipating and expecting with the growth of the city is that the response time could suffer.

- New funding would help first responders to be safe by ensuring adequate staffing levels, time and resources for training. Support equipment is important to officers and firefighter's safety.
- There is an existing 0.16 public safety tax and by increasing 0.25% in total that would be 41 cents on every \$100 you spend that would go into public safety.
- Collectively are seeing a challenge with recruitment and retention across both police and fire department.
- The cost of equipment has skyrocketed to put into perspective a fire truck today costs about a million dollars. 10 to 30% increase in the last 2-3 years since covid.
- Police Chief Adam Turk is preparing for the growth of Greeley as their response time is under 6 minutes but wants to know what is going to change when Police have to go out to Promontory, County RD 17 and Highway 34 up North to 392.
- Main hub is on 10th St in the 2800 block and are looking to add more facilities, police cars and the people.
- Steve Teets had a question for PD & Fire about roundabouts slowing emergency vehicles down.
- The International Association of Fire Chiefs has done multiple studies on roundabouts and impact on emergency response. The likelihood of an accident is much less than it is at an intersection. Turning radius on Fire trucks is not an issue and the fact that traffic can continue to move throughout the roundabout.
- Steve Teets also mentioned that he doesn't think people will vote for the tax increase.
- Will Jones talked about the city staff is working with a 3rd party to do a randomized polling across the community to evaluate people's interest on all 2 of the tax initiatives.
- In July staff will meet with City Council and city council will make the final decision on if they will move forward based on the data gathered.
- James Baily asked what the safety implications are if the increase does not pass.
- Fire chief Brian Kuznick said they did an organizational assessment to evaluate everything from staffing to facilities. They have 3 facilities that need to be rebuilt and build a new fire station on the west side of town. Brings concerns about how they are going to operate.
- When evaluating staffing in comparing with other size departments not only in Colorado but across the country our staffing relief factor is below an acceptable standard. Meaning they have to utilize off people duty to come in and fill shifts which leads to burnout or people leaving to work somewhere else.
- Steve Teets asked if there was a volunteer program and they do not have one.
- Ally Johnson asked how the outreach looks like as far as disseminating the information to ensure that this ballot initiative passes.
- Nelvis with C&E said we are providing these type of presentation across the city, every community group they hear from they try to insert themselves in the meetings, and tabling events across the city.

VII. New business:

- Bike Day was on June 26th at Lincon Park
- Next meeting Steve Teets will bring up new business he wanted to go over but there wasn't enough time.

VIII. Round table & Proposed agenda items for July 22nd, 2024:

- E-bikes.
- Bus tracker app & how it works.
- Update on earlier presentation on if the City Council said yes or no on the ballot initiatives.
- Jim – Walking groups
- Scooter regulations such as Business license.

IX. The meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Jimmy Jones
~~Thomas Donkle~~

Date

8/26/24

Vice
Chairman

Lesley Fuentes

Recording Secretary

Date

8/26/24