

CITIZEN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

The Citizen TRANSPORTATION Advisory Board met July 22, 2024.

- I. Tom Called the meeting to the order at 3:05 Pm.
- II. Roll Call – Board members present: Thomas Donkle, James Bailey, Steve Teets, Wendi Young, Bart Smith, Jim Riesberg, and Jimmy Jones.
Absent: Alicia (Ally) Johnson.

City staff included Will Jones, Michelle Johnson, Bhooshan Karnik, Paul Trombino, Victoria McKenna, Hannah Johnson, Steven Younkin, and Ian Chase.

- III. Approval of minutes – the minutes from April 22nd, 2024 & June 24, 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: CIP Written update
 - **MERGE Project** we got the Raise Grant for 20.5 Million Dollars so we have a kick off meeting with the FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) They sent a draft we have to complete so the funds can be obligated.
 - Discussion continues with CDOT regarding the 1601 process to get the Transportation Commission role for the interchanges.
 - CDOT is trying to figure out their process internally as they have never done a 1601 for interchanges.
 - The TIFIA Ballot initiative part of the Driving Greeley ballot initiative is on schedule for Council action in August.
 - **16th St Enhancement Project** had a public meeting on July 8, 2024 with the business community. The purpose of the meeting was to inform business and property owner along the corridor about the up coming water and sewer improvements to replace the load pipes/meters as well as digging up the roadway.
 - There will be another meeting once contractor is on board and Public Works plans to bid the underground utility work by the end of July 2024 for construction over Fall/Winter 2024.
 - **83rd Avenue Improvement & 4th St Widening** preliminary survey is underway and ordinance was approved by Council on July 16th.
 - **59th Avenue & O St Roundabout Project** Right of Way acquisition is complete.
 - Project may be delayed to next year because of issues facing with Great Western Railroad. They are asking for about \$25,000.00 per crossing across the city in terms of a master agreement.

- **9th Street & 10th Street Beautification and Safety Project** Consultant tea has been selected and in negotiations.
- The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Reconnecting Community Pilot (RCP) grant has been released and PW will be submitting a capital construction grant request under the NOFO.
- **US 34 & WCR 17 Intersection Improvement Project** Discussions continues with CDOT regarding traffic modeling for the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) along US-34. Comments have been favorable, and staff are making final revisions per comments.
- **Poudre River Restoration Initiative** Victoria will be leading that effort and the consultant team has been selected.
- There was a meeting schedule on July 23rd with the internal stakeholders.
- The consultant will be doing the initial survey of the river and different locations along the river and confluence.
- **15th Avenue Court Underpass Project** Survey and fieldwork continues and coordination with CDOT continues as well.
- **Pumpkin Ridge Neighborhood Connection to Sheep Draw Trail** Survey is complete and we are proceeding with final design.
- We got the fee to get the 404 permit and other certain permits done. Plan is still to go under construction and have the project done over winter.
- **Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Master Plan** There was a meeting scheduled with stakeholder and we have to do some community outreach events.
- **Safe Streets for All (SS4A Planning & Demonstration) Grant** 8 Millon Federal Dollar Grant, we had a meeting with FWA and got a draft copy of the agreement.
- **23rd Avenue & 4th St/5th St Improvement Project** 30% design is done and we are going ahead with the design for 5th St bridge replacement & the number 3 ditch.
- Council approved eminent domain ordinance on July 6th.
- **Keep Greeley Moving** Contract with Martin Marietta has been completed and are going through the permitting process to start work.
- We started sidewalk design to start for 2025 overlay bids.
- **US 34 Transit Service Update** PW was able to participate in the North Front Range MPO's 34 Transit Service Planning. They are going to set up a meeting with the original partners.
- We got a 3.5 Millon Dollar Grant that we were not able to make publicly until July 9th.
- This grant provides the dollars to purchase 5 buses that would provide the regional transit service between Greeley and Loveland on US 34.
- **Mobility Development Plant Update** work continues and we are having a second stakeholder meeting in July.
- City Council work session is expected to occur in the early fall to get city's feedback on the project.
- James Bailey asked a question about some apartments going in on 65th Avenue and 13th Street with possibly connection to 10th Street. Bhooshan and Will said there has been on and off interest but no development yet.

- Bart Smith asked about the eminent domain be applied on 83rd avenue. Bhooshan said it is on 83rd Avenue & 4th St south property heading to the west just past 4th St. then along 83rd will be north of the proposed 9th St.
- Steve Teets asked about the 16th St Project if water lines and sewer lines are being replaced. Paul said water lines and sewer lines in that area are part of an upgrade.
- Steve Teets also asked about 59th and O St if the county is on board since its part of the county. Paul said there was 2 projects in conjunction to 59th and O St which first part was 35th and O St.

- Neighborhood safety: None

B. Transportation: Bike to Work Update: we doubled participation from last year which was the first year back since covid in person activities. This year we had over 400 participants, 11 morning stations and 7 afternoon/evening stations. We had 15 participating businesses and 11 government/nonprofit organizations. Jim Riesberg was there at the Lincoln Park station. ALLO did a bicycle give away and UCHealth gave out free helmets.

- Tom asked how our numbers compare to before covid, Hannah said the maximum participation she has seen was about 650 in 2019.
- **US 34 Transit Service Plan Update** Ian Chase with HDR gave a presentation on planning effort for service on highway 34. MPO did some planning efforts broadly and narrowed it down to this specific corridor.
- Ian gave a quick agenda overview, and a map was showed showing Loveland connecting to Greeley with this service plan.
- LinkNoCo Phase 1 was approved in October 2022 and there was 3 recommended corridors. 1. Loveland to Greeley Via US 34, 2. Loveland to Windsor via Kendall Parkway Mobility Hub, and 3. Fort Collins to Greeley – Convert Poudre Express Route to bus rapid transit and eventually commuter rail.
- Phase 2 was the transit plan and elements of this plan were identifying operating scenarios, narrowing in on a corridor, protentional stop locations, and capital improvements.
- A few expectations are fast, reliable and efficient services. The project is scheduled for a year long.
- One thing that Transit did with this study is contact peers in Colorado and the nation to identify lessons learned and best practices.
- There was many take aways from the interviews but main take away is early implementation such as TSP bus lane only. On the cost side take aways are new signals or replacement of signals and construction of at-grade stations.
- Did a full existing conditions evaluation to look at where are the people that would likely use this service. Reviewed the existing transit system, looked at the flex line, the CDOT bus station route. Looked at replica date that is a model software to help identify origins and destinations of travelers along the corridor.
- A map of the existing conditions was showed and it highlighted the areas of population of the residents who are more likely to utilize transit.
- Looked at characteristics to revamping Greeley and putting a plan on what the current routes will look like in the future.

- A map was shown to illustrate the route system, the boardings, and light data received from the COLT system.
- Following that map was another map breaking down zones but main zone was yellow and orange were locations where trips start/end between Loveland and Greeley.
- Peak hours were eastbound in the AM and Westbound in the PM.
- There was 3 options for routes option 1 is US 34, option 2 is US 34, 20th St & 16th St and option 3 is US 34 & 10th St.
- A high level screening was done to determine which of those routes alignments they wanted to focus on. Option one to follow US 34 corridor was selected as it follows future plans such as the MERGE Mobility Hub. Termini was looked at following the option selection.
- More detail screening was done main highlighted items were looking at cost estimates and stakeholders/community support.
- Level screening was done and ranked by green being high, yellow being medium and red being low on criteria such as population density. Option 2B Loveland TC to Greeley Evans Regional TC was selected based on the level screening. Another reason for that it is a good hub, a good end point where buses can stage and the cost element of not having to do any end of line improvements at UNC.
- Public online open house results from May 15-May 31st was 760 users and 84 survey responses. 95% of people use personal vehicles to travel along US 34. 2 out 3 people said maybe/yes they would use this service. 41% of people said they would use this service to run errands and recreation.
- Public engagement that was done was besides the online public open house was stakeholders/management team meetings and one on one meetings with Greeley, Loveland, Johnstown and CTAB.
- Option 2B stops will be 1. COLT Loveland Transit Center, 2. US 34 & Denver Ave (Wal-Mart), 3. UCHealth Medical Center, 4. CDOT's Centerra Loveland Station, 5. Johnstown Plaza (on US 34), 6A. Centerplace Mobility Hub, 6B. Greeley Mall Transfer Center, 7. UNC, 8. GET Transportation Center.
- Concept level design and estimates, develop implementation scenarios, and develop transit operation plan are the next steps.
- Wendi Young has a question if 6B route will be going away once we have the mobility hub? Ian said 6B Greeley Mall doesn't exist in the interim condition. 6B is the mobility hub when it is in place. Wendi Young mentions there's not much service than in West Greeley. Ian said this is a regional service to connect Greeley to Loveland and they want travel time to be minimum to be competitive with just hopping in your car. This is also trying to provide access to those main mobility hubs to then use the local service. Wendi Young recommended access to Scheels and the blue arena. Will mentioned that is local network routes would be use to access those locations.
- Steve Teets recommended on the transit plan for option 3 because it would be better to go down 10th St to pick up more people, but Ian said that would be duplicating other service along that corridor.

- Jim Riesberg asked if MRC is part of the route? Will Jones said Loveland provides service to MCR.
- Steve Teets asked about route to the Greeley UCHealth hospital on 65th. Thomas and Ian mention that is a deferred stop for now.
- Thomas Donkle asked if Johnstown is part of the US 34 coalition. Will Jones said they are part of the coalition. Thomas also mentioned seeing a lot of opportunity for tax dollars to leave Greeley but very limited opportunity for tax dollars to come back into Greeley with the route going to the North bypassing downtown. Ian mentioned the local system can be set up, so they work together to get to all those locations.
- Paul Trombino mentioned that all the routes that were discussed are ran by the city and we are trying to make sure that it functions well with our local connectivity. All transit fees will be kept by the city.
- Our city build out has not come yet but there is hope to have more shopping options in Greeley which is why if we set up the mobility very well it will offer a lot of opportunity for people to move in and around the community to not have to leave the city to do shopping.
- With the anticipated growth of Greeley there is a potential need for another mobility hub out west on US 34.

C. Engineering: None

VI. Director's report: Paul Trombino – **TMP Ballot Initiative**

- Council will have a presentation July 23rd on the ballot initiative to receive recommendations/feedback.
- From that they will find tune language for the ballot and from there they will make a decision as this has to be done by the end of July for it to be on the ballot in November.
- Steve Teets asked if there has been any feedback about these ballot issues. Paul said they have been doing about 25 plus meetings over the last 4 weeks across the community.

VII. New business:

- Jim Riesberg didn't have a new business, but he shared the results of a walk audit that Greeley Walks did in Greeley. They found on the section of 23rd Avenue between Reservoir Road and 20th St along with a lot of other areas in town with speed and lack of sidewalks. The 23rd ave walk study was chosen as there is 2 schools, 2 churches, a library, a park and a swimming pool with no crosswalks for that 5 block area.

VIII. Round table & Proposed agenda items for August 26, 2024:

- Jim Riesberg on the committee he was elected for update
- Evans CIP Presentations
- Huge Development Projects
- Bus Stops clean of snow during winter

- Items the City and District 6 have been working on to alleviate some of the issues on the bus related to schools.

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