

NATA Meeting Minutes  
September 26, 2013

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Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:35.  
Introductions were made.

Those in attendance:

NATA Board Members/NATA Staff (who signed in)

Erik Hansen, Chair	AdCo Commissioner	Joyce Downing, Mayor	Northglenn
Karen Stuart	SCMN TMO	Jeanne Shreve	AdCo Staff
Denny McCloskey	Broomfield City Council	John Pick	Northglenn Staff
Val Vigil	Thornton City Council	Katie Witt	Longmont City Council
Nancy McNally, Mayor	Westminster	Heidi Williams, Mayor	Thornton
Deb Obermeyer	North Metro Chamber	Jim Hayes	Commerce City Staff
Pat Quinn	Broomfield, Mayor	Joyce Hunt	Thornton Staff
Aric Otzelberger	Westminster Staff	Gene Putman	Thornton Staff
Barry Gore	ACED	Kevin Standbridge	Broomfield Staff
Phil Greenwald	Longmont Staff	Tim Williams	Federal Heights Staff
Maria D'Andrea	Commerce City Staff		

SCMN TMO Members (who signed in)

John Schwab	Jacobs Engineering	Bob Sakagucki	Jacobs Engineering
John West	Herzog	Mark Shotkoski	Northwest Parkway
Reza Akhavan	Jacobs Engineering	Bryan Franis	Collins Engineering
Preston Gibson	Xcel Energy		

Agency Partners and Citizens (who signed in)

Judy Lubow, Director	RTD	Paul Solano, Director	RTD
Steve Cook	DRCOG Staff	Rebecca White	CDOT Staff
Jay Hendrickson	CDOT Staff	Ina Zisman	CDOT Staff
Jim Starling	RTD Staff	Andy Stratton	CDOT Staff
Myron Hora	CDOT Staff	Randy Ahrens	Citizen
Jane Donovan	RTD Staff	Thad Tecza	United North Metro Denver
Larry Hoy, Director	RTD		

RTD Director Judy Lubow asked Chair Hansen about how it's determined who sits at the main NATA table. Chair Hansen responded that currently people can sit wherever they want but that NATA needs to talk about implementing a more official structure in terms of who can vote, which would then help identify a more formal seating arrangement at the main NATA table. Chair Hansen suggested the NATA SPC take a look at the by-laws and come up with a recommendation for the NATA board over the next few months.

There was unanimous approval of the August meeting minutes.

### ***NATA members flood updates:***

**Adams County** – damage in Adams County meets the minimum threshold for FEMA coverage, with most of the damage at the AdCo Regional Park. 450 homeowners have filed for assistance. Commerce City was the hardest hit. Adams County had some road closures, and parks and trails damage.

**Thornton**- There was several million dollars damage to retention ponds, trails and pedestrian bridges. Some people reported flooded basements.

**Broomfield**- Broomfield experienced \$1.1 M in damage to their conveyance system, with some ditches washed out.

**Longmont**- there was \$150M in damage but no injuries or loss of life. People experienced mud and flooding in basements with damage to mobile homes that were located in flood plains. There were lots of road closures. Katie Witt acknowledged Longmont staff for the flood mitigation projects done in the past that saved Longmont from more extensive damage. Katie also acknowledged CDOT staff for their responsiveness to flooding issues and needs of the City.

**Westminster**- Westminster reported they were in good shape; reservoirs were topping over but not breaching. Some trails had water on them but detention measures worked as they were supposed to.

**Commerce City**- A lot of water flowed into Sand Creek, Metro Waste Water had some issues. Fairfax Park sustained a lot of damage; Commerce City had crews working for several days pumping out water. When the Refuge Dam broke, they worked 24-7 and evacuated people and animals to Adams City High School. There was damage to a number of trails. Damage assessment in Commerce City is still being done.

**Northglenn**- Had very minor damage; some sediment flowed into the water plant but was cleared out. Erik Hansen reported

**Firestone and the Tri-towns** had significant damage.

Nancy McNally reported that Urban Drainage and Flood Control has a \$500,000 emergency fund that has never been used but is available.

Preston Gibson reported that Xcel still had 5000 customers without natural gas in Jefferson County in the Coal Creek Canyon area. Crews have been working to bring electric service back but flood waters are just now receding. There were over 20 miles of gas pipe and thousands of meters submerged by the flooding.

Deb Obermeyer reported the Metro North Chamber is working with the Salvation Army requesting backpacks and school supplies for Weld County students.

Barry Gore of ACED noted that the use of UAV helped determine damage in remote areas. ACED is working on promoting the use of UAV for this sort of use.

### ***Smart Commute Metro North TMO Update:***

Karen Stuart gave an update on the DRCOG TDM Grant that has been approved for the I-25 N Express Lanes Project for Alternative Transportation Options :

- Provides Transportation Demand Management for I-25 construction project in collaboration with CDOT and the Flatirons public information group
- Grant award has been approved by the DRCOG Board for \$200K
- Award is in contract with CDOT- expected to be available in January 2014 for 2014-2015
- It is a reimbursable grant
- Components of the project are subsidized van pools, transit passes and the CDOT Mobile app with real time information in partnership with Smart Commute for congestion avoidance strategies

- Provides some funding for full time TDM Manager position paid by local match

The kick off Open House for the I-25 N Express Lanes Project was held last night in Thornton; approximately 20 people attended.

Karen gave an update on the Bike to Bus interactive map- SCMN intends to apply for Google grant for commercial license to enable interactive map to function more efficiently. Karen also noted that the MNCC Development Council will present a Transportation Breakfast featuring Phil Washington from RTD, Don Hunt from CDOT and Jennifer Schaufel from DRCOG as panelists.

### ***CDOT Flood Recovery Efforts Report:***

Myron Hora (acting Region 4 Director) reported on the CDOT relief efforts. An Incident command Center (ICC) has been established in Loveland; Johnny Olson has been assigned to head up the ICC. CDOT has been working non-stop since the flooding. Crews have been working 24 hours a day removing debris and doing preliminary patching. There were 32 different highways closed. Crews have been assessing bridges for safety concerns and providing connectivity for emergency crews. As of today, there are only 10 highways that remain closed with only 63 miles of closure. (CDOT handed out a graphic showing the impacted roads September 12-16<sup>th</sup> and the status of those roads as of September 24<sup>th</sup>). CDOT employees from other regions are working at the ICC; all CDOT employees have been eager and enthusiastic to provide assistance and support.

Erik Hansen asked how CDOT is working with FEMA for funding assistance. Myron replied CDOT is keeping tight documentation for reimbursement. The reimbursement process is complicated; there are formulas for reimbursement depending on the task. (Debris removal is 100% reimbursable).

Rebecca White noted that the FEMA cap for transportation is \$100M. Colorado is asking the cap be raised to \$500M for this incident.

Val Vigil asked about CDOT cash flow concerning contractors being paid promptly. Myron said they are setting up to do daily billings where CDOT will pay invoices from reserves then get reimbursement from the Feds.

Everyone thanked CDOT for the stellar work they are doing.

### ***RAMP Projects Update:***

There is a link to RAMP on CDOT's website. The Commission will act in October and it is generally expected that they will take the recommendations from staff. There were twice as many applications as money to fund them. The process will take three months for formal approval to get scope, stats and matching funds in place. The decision on flood-related area projects will be delayed until April. There is \$90M requested for I-25 N Managed lanes expansion north of 120<sup>th</sup> to SH66. Convergence lanes are planned north of SH7. Erik Hansen, Kevin Standbridge and Pat Quinn all spoke to the issue that the Commission should approve funding of managed lanes up to SH7 apart from the segments north of there as Weld County should be able to determine their own policy decision and their decision shouldn't impact the segment from 120<sup>th</sup> to SH7. Erik suggested NATA send a letter to CDOT separating the segments as an immediate phase (120<sup>th</sup> to SH7) and a later phase (beyond SH7).

**I-25N Express Lanes project:** Jay Hendricks from CDOT gave a brief overview of the project. Work will begin Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> with restriping and shoulder construction. The 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge work will begin next summer with an expected construction time of 100 days. The project will maintain three lanes of traffic

during construction with night time closures. Rebecca White noted that CDOT will be happy to brief individual councils with project updates.

***RTD Updates:***

Jim Starling gave an update on the North Metro Rail Line. RTD received four proposals in response to their Request for Proposals (RFP). The responding teams were: Bechtel/Herzog; Graham, Balfour Beatty, Hamon Contractors; Kiewit/Stacy and Witbeck (North Metro Transit Solutions); and URS Energy and Construction. There are three groups participating in the evaluation process; the financial, the technical and the stakeholders groups. These groups will make a recommendation to an internal RTD evaluation committee. Scoring criteria includes points for innovation and extensions. A recommendation will go to the FasTracks Monitoring Committee on November 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be a special FasTracks Monitoring Committee meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> for public comment and a full RTD Board decision is expected on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The financial close and notice to proceed, pending board approval, is expected December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**North Metro Local Stakeholders update:** The North Metro Corridor RFP Stakeholders Evaluation Team consists of Chris Cramer of commerce City, Brook Svoboda of Northglenn, Jeanne Shreve of Adams County, Elizabeth Kemp of CDOT, Jennifer Hillhouse of Denver and Gene Putman of Thornton. They have established the following evaluation goals:

- Build the entire North Metro line, DUS north to 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- Ensure approach/design upholds local jurisdictions long range vision for land use, transportation, drainage and water quality
- Meets North Metro EIS commitments
- Upholds local jurisdictions commitments established through IGAs
- Fosters cooperation and integration with regional partners
- Addresses local governments' comments on 31% design
- ATC is a value to local jurisdictions

The next NATA meeting is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> Mike Cheroutes will be invited to talk about conversion lanes segments and managed lanes segments of I-25 N.