

**CITY OF BOULDER  
BOULDER, COLORADO  
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING  
MINUTES**

<b>Name of Board/ Commission:</b> Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)	
<b>Date of Meeting:</b> June 10, 2024	
<b>Contact Information Preparing Summary:</b> Meredith Schleske 303.441.3204	
<b>Board Members Present:</b> Tila Duhaime, Chair; Darcy Kitching; Triny Willerton; Michael Mills; Jennifer Ochs	
<b>Staff Present:</b> Valerie Watson, Deputy Director for Transportation and Mobility Gerrit Slatter, Transportation Engineering Senior Manager, Capital Projects Devin Joslin, Transportation Engineering Senior Manager Veronica Son, Transportation Senior Engineer Stephen Rijo, Transportation Planning Manager Daniel Sheeter, Transportation Senior Planner Jean Sanson, Transportation Senior Planner John McFarlane, Transportation Senior Planner Melanie Sloan, Transportation Principal Project Manager Lindsay Merz, Transportation Engineering Manager Brian Wiltshire, Transportation Engineering Manager Roger Cain, Transportation Senior Engineering Project Manager James Smith, Transportation Engineering Manager Karen Stiner, Transportation Senior Budget Analyst John McFarland, Transportation Senior Planner Marni Ratzel, Open Space Principal Planner Karl Guiler, Senior Policy Advisor, Planning and Development Services Meredith Schleske, Board Secretary	
<b>Also Present:</b> Nicole Speer, City Councilmember, Mayor Pro Tem Alexandra Phillips, Bike Planner, Boulder County	
<b>Type of Meeting:</b> Advisory/Regular	
<b>Agenda Item 1: Call to Order</b>	<b>[6:01 p.m.]</b>
<b>Agenda Item 2: Instructions to Virtual Meeting Participants</b> – Veronica Son, technical host reviewed rules and technical operations on the virtual platform.	<b>[6:01 p.m.]</b>
<b>Agenda Item 3: 2024 Fatality</b> Remarks by TAB Chair: Toddler in parking lot hit by driver of a large truck and killed, striving for city with no fatalities, whatever the circumstances.	<b>[6:03 p.m.]</b>
<b>Agenda Item 4: Approval of Minutes</b> A. TAB Meeting May 13, 2024 B. TAB Special Meeting – Retreat May 20, 2024 <b>Motion to approve May 2024 Minutes as presented.</b> <b>Motion:</b> Kitching <b>Second:</b> Duhaime <b>Motion passes 5:0.</b>	<b>[6:04 p.m.]</b>
<b>Agenda Item 5: Public Comment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lynn Segal – want to know details of the crash and what I need to watch out for. I’ll be standing by my bike next to a truck that cannot physically see me. Big monster vehicles all over. Next week you will hear about 2206 Pearl Street. It will be argued that people will not drive cars. Yes, they will, and take an Uber to storage lockers. Growth and developer subsidies are the problem. Want deaths to continue? Your mission has to be with other boards. TAB has to solve impossible problems they create. You are the fall board. It’s an impossible situation, needs to be stopped. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TAB Chair response: appreciation, always food for thought.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Howard Fischer – unmitigated traffic flow through our neighborhood and Majestic Heights. Emailed TAB, talked to City Council. Requested third speed bump for South 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, collected signatures per procedure, nothing happened. It’s now a high-speed thoroughfare through our neighborhood with people cutting through Majestic</li> </ul>	<b>[6:07 p.m.]</b>



Height streets to avoid the Table Mesa and Broadway intersection. These commuters do not care, they go flying over the speed bumps, clearly over 20 m.p.h. Someone is going to get hit. Counted 30-40 cars/hour during rush hour, relentless. Believes google map and others route through our streets. severe situation. Dealt with City Council (council). If nothing is done, buying huge orange traffic diversions filled with water. Chair Duhaime will respond by email outside of meeting.

**Agenda Item 6: Staff Presentation and TAB Feedback regarding Draft Capital Improvement Program (CIP) [6:15 p.m.]**

Gerrit Slatter made the report to the board with support by James Smith and Lindsay Merz, presenting second of three CIP-targeted discussions this year. It is the primary way to make improvements and enhancements, does not reflect operating budget and activities.

**Executive Summary**

This year's time period for the annual departmental Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is 2025 - 2030. TAB's role per Boulder Revised Code (BRC) TITLE 2 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION, Chapter 3 Boards and Commissions, Section 14 - Transportation Advisory Board is to "... to review all city transportation environmental assessments and capital improvements." This agenda item provides background information and analysis, a tentative schedule and key issues for this year. TAB will be asked to make a formal recommendation to City Council at the August TAB meeting. Many factors reduce funding to accomplish projects consistent with the goals and objectives of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). When accounting for inflation, sales tax revenue has been relatively flat in Boulder for nearly 20 years, while construction costs have increased significantly with prices going up 24% for asphalt and concrete between 2021 and 2023, for example. Maintaining current infrastructure plus building future improvements are addressed in the Capital Improvement Program.

**TAB Clarifying Questions and Feedback**

- Frustration expressed with timeframes; for example, Manhattan Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project. Question raised if Living Labs or a similar approach could address urgency in part, not as constrained. Inquiry whether temporary items, such as flex posts, can be repurposed.
  - *Staff response:* We have chosen to pursue grants to be able to do more but have to go through process. SRTS is a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) grant, requires intergovernmental agreement first, series of clearances, 2-4 months just to solicit a contractor. Also limited by staffing. The Vision Zero Innovation Program (VZIP) implemented some recent treatments but State prohibits "pop-ups" on their streets, which are among the busiest corridors. There is also debate about effectiveness of temporary treatments. Parks and Recreation department received a Safe Routes to Parks (SRTP) grant to assess walkability at Violet Park (recently renamed Primos Park) that will test efficacy of interim treatments, seek capital funds through Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). Depending on conditions, temporary materials may be relocated, for example, possibly tall curbs on Baseline.
- Comment that there are a lot of great projects, major concern is revenue. Sales tax is not a great basis for funding transportation projects. Should be users, although hard to implement at this time. Interest expressed in how much City of Boulder (city) gets from highway users tax, where it comes from and share of property taxes from Boulder County (county).
  - *Staff response:* Highway Users Trust Fund is gas tax, calculated by formula, also declining. Property tax goes to county, none to transportation in city. 2018-19 working group developed more sustainable funding recommendations. Council is working on a citywide funding strategy with all departments.
- Comment that taxes (state) are hard, fees are easier. Conjecture if we are setting up another round of creating public expectations that cannot be funded/delivered, what is appropriate message.
  - *Staff response:* Need matching funds to leverage, concerned that we will reach a point where we can only afford one or two grants/projects per year. Recommend reviewing 2018/2019 Working Group range of proposed funding sources presented 2/2020 to council, put on hold by Covid. Viable ideas, must be within context of citywide financial condition, TAB should consider how to discuss with council. Recognize great work and creativity of the capital projects transportation team done in the interim.
- Noted that Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Active Transportation Act HB 1668 proposes removal of matching requirement.
- Annual CIP bike tour will be scheduled for all TAB members to discuss selected existing and proposed transportation capital projects.

**Agenda Item 7: US 36/North Foothills Highway Bikeway Feasibility Study Update [7:15 p.m.]**

Daniel Sheeter and Alexandra Phillips PM made the report to the board.

**Executive Summary**

The memo provides an update on the feasibility study to assess the practicality, considerations and impacts of a bikeway adjacent to North Foothills Highway (US 36) connecting Boulder to Lyons. Transportation and Mobility is



requesting consideration of a motion to formalize the Transportation Advisory Board's support for the bikeway and proceeding to the next phases of evaluation and design.

#### Questions for TAB

1. Are there questions on the preliminary finding of the feasibility study?
2. Does the Board have any questions on the following staff recommendation:  
Staff requests the Transportation Advisory Board make a motion to support:
  1. the North Foothills US 36 bikeway connecting Boulder to Lyons,
  2. and for the department to continue collaborating with Boulder County on the next phase of the project which will include further analysis and design and the selection of a preferred design alternative (i.e. specific trail alignment) with consideration for linkages to the City of Boulder's existing bike network.

#### TAB Discussion

- Ochs – question regarding when funding application is expected to happen.
  - *Staff response:* Not long; will know more after August Board of County Commissioners hearing.
- Duhaime – inquiry about what will be asked of commissioners, if expected to be a difficult conversation, if public participation is solicited.
  - *Staff response:* Request is for commissioners to adopt the study. Public participation is welcome and necessary.
- Willerton – question if it qualifies for Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grants.
- *Staff response:* will look into it and reply. Noted that city Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Board of Trustees is considering a very similar motion 6/12/2024.

Straw poll: Ochs expressed concern, questions spending that amount for that purpose. Quick to spend on bike lanes, suggests improving sidewalks.

Willerton in favor, multi-use path for all users.

Kitching in favor, important to help more people connect to more places, significant project.

Mills in favor, very exciting. Question about ratio of funding - city is smaller than county; contribution will reflect that.

Duhaime in favor, worst section of road in county (unincorporated), cannot happen without grants. Creates “feedback loop” – drivers are more aware when there are more cyclists. As ebikes and other assisted conveyances become more available to more types of users, encourages more people to get out of their cars.

#### Motion to support:

1. **the North Foothills US 36 bikeway connecting Boulder to Lyons,**
2. **and for the department to continue collaborating with Boulder County on the next phase of the project which will include further analysis and design and the selection of a preferred design alternative (i.e. specific trail alignment) with consideration for linkages to the City of Boulder's existing bike network.**

**Motion: Mills Second: Kitching**

**Motion passes 5:0.**

#### Agenda Item 8: Matters

[7:58 p.m.]

##### A. Matters from Staff/Non-Agenda

1. State Legislative Update – Sanson (focus on policy and regional long range transportation projects), Guiler (connecting transportation to land use.) Very busy legislative year, lots to track, complex, working with Chief Policy Advisor Carl Castillo to understand impact on city.
  - SB24-065 – prohibits using mobile e device while driving unless using hands-free accessory – opposition due to profiling persons of color. Comment that bill almost died the night before passed, Colorado is 31<sup>st</sup> state to adopt. Lot of room for improvement but huge accomplishment. Primary offense, even just holding. Effective 1/1/25.
  - SB24-195 – protect vulnerable road users – directs portion of current fees to road safety projects.
  - SB23-032 – Methods to increase use of transit – Zero Fare Transit Grant program, create committee to study statewide transit pass program.
  - SB24-184 – Support Surface Transportation Infrastructure Development, including an extension of Northwest Rail to Fort Collins as a first phase of the Front Range passenger rail service.
  - SB24-230 – Oil & Gas Production Fees – transit operations.
  - HB24-Housing in Transit-oriented Communities (HOC) – require communities to remove barriers to transit. Must designate transit centers. Requires rezoning by year-end 2027, report plan to state by 6/2025. Comments and questions about difference between transit center and transit corridor (number of units per acre), transportation other than single occupancy vehicle (raised the issue but it didn't make it into the bill), how to compel RTD to service routes. Doubt exists that RTD has ability to accomplish system optimization plan to return service by 2027. Bill to reform RTD board died; governor signed

transit service funding bill, confidence that it will work, City will be at the table. County TIP grant will fund developing regional transportation authorities. Comment that low income neighbors moved to Boulder Junction specifically for transit; RTD remains reticent to consider reopening.

- HB23-1304 – Minimum Parking Requirements – Transit Service Area – no minimum parking requirements allowed in residential projects or mixed use. Can require one parking space/unit, can have maximum, ADA, bike parking requirements. Nothing overrules any kind of parking required for housing projects relative to their funding or any agreements, can still have unbundling and transportation demand management (TDM) requirements. Request to clarify zoning map and where new bill applies.

**B. Matters from the Board**

**[8:42 p.m.]**

1. Debrief TAB Retreat – Chair was pleased; it was useful, more simple and attainable. TAB members can use various advocacy opportunities to support staff efforts and reach sections of the community we haven't be able to previously.
2. Iris Avenue – how can TAB listen and communicate with interested and impacted community members. TAB members are encouraged to attend the June 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Study Session. Open House tentatively in July. Question if staff is open to options other than the four presented. Study Session will help provide context. Impetus was Core Area Network (CAN)/High Risk Network (HRN) addressing crashes – looked at full range of options. Support expressed for four options; any road should be safe for all modes. Asking cyclists to take alternate routes is not reasonable. Hope expressed that city can address speed mitigation, prevent cutting through neighborhoods. Question about who responds to public comments sent to TAB. Duhaime replied to Judy Nogg. Individual TAB members may acknowledge email, state not speaking on behalf of TAB, appropriate to blind copy to TAB group. Kitching supports option A; Mills, Duhaime, Willerton support A, B secondarily. Ochs no input.
3. Vision Zero Community Partnership (VZCP) – confirm TAB representation: Willerton primary, Kitching alternate.
4. Open Board Comment
  - a. Ochs – access to board materials.
  - b. Willerton – free advocacy ride for Magnus, also walk and run 8/11/24.

**Agenda Item 6: Future Agenda Items**

**[9:21 p.m.]**

**Agenda Item 7: Adjournment**

**[9:24 p.m.]**

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, by motion regularly adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

**Motion: Moved to adjourn: Mills Second: Kitching**

**Motion passes 5:0**

**Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be a regular virtual meeting on Monday August 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise decided by staff and the Board.

APPROVED BY:

Tila M Duhaime

Tila M Duhaime (Aug 13, 2024 00:10 MDT)

Board Chair

Aug 13, 2024

Date

ATTESTED:

Meredith Schleske

Board Secretary

8/12/2024

Date

An audio recording of the full meeting for which these minutes are a summary is available on the Transportation Advisory Board web page.