

Central Front Range Transportation Planning Region Meeting Minutes

Date: January 13, 2025

Location: Canon City, CO

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Dwayne McFall.

2. Dwayne McFall Nomination

Nomination Discussion:

Dwayne McFall was nominated for TPR Chair Commissioner.

Action: A motion to nominate Dwayne McFall was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Leo Evans was nominated for TPR Vice-Chair Commissioner.

Action: A motion to nominate Leo Evans was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

3. Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

4. Project Updates and Discussions

A. Highway 24 and Transit Concerns

Woodland Park Transit: Discussion centered around the need for improved transit across boundaries between Teller County and Colorado Springs. There is a growing demand for a shared regional approach to transportation funding and coordination between the Central Front Range TPR and PPACG.

Transit Funding Challenges: The need for better collaboration between counties was identified, as the PPACG transit plan currently does not cover areas west of Colorado Springs.

Recommendation: Clear project boundaries, including mileposts, should be specified in future planning documents to ensure more effective coordination and clarity in funding allocation.

Next Steps: Continued coordination is needed with local and regional transportation agencies. Further conversations are planned to secure joint funding solutions for transit services.

B. Rockfall Mitigation on Highway 96

Status Update: Rockfall mitigation efforts on Highway 96 were discussed. A Type 7 lane closure has been implemented to ensure safety while geohazard risks are managed.

Mitigation Plan: The contractor, Western Rockfall Mitigation, is scheduled to remove additional rock and debris, with work expected to resume when weather conditions allow.

Completion Status: The project is ongoing, and updates will be provided as work progresses.

C. Drainage Issues on Highway 9

Problem Identified: Drainage issues on Highway 9, particularly near the Alta Gas Station, were raised. Overflowing water from ditches often spills onto the highway, creating hazardous driving conditions.

Previous Attempts: An earlier attempt to clean out the ditches was halted, and concerns were raised about ongoing drainage management.

Potential Solutions: It was agreed that further cleaning of drainage ditches is necessary.

Next Steps: A follow-up discussion will be scheduled to address this issue more comprehensively.

5. Maintenance Updates

Snow Plowing

The maintenance team is actively working to manage snow and ice removal, especially during peak traffic times. Challenges were discussed, particularly the high volume of vehicles, including semis, traveling on highways during snowstorms.

Truck Restrictions on Highway 9

The lack of chain-up stations and the diversion of truck traffic from I-70 to Highway 9 during snowstorms was highlighted as an issue. The possibility of restricting truck traffic on Highway 9 was discussed, but legal challenges were noted.

Next Steps: Further consultation with state patrol to enforce proper safety measures and improve traffic flow during snowstorms.

New Gas Station and Traffic Light

The installation of a new traffic light near the Alta Gas Station was discussed as a positive development for traffic management.

Outcome: This new addition will help improve traffic flow and safety, particularly with increased vehicle volume in the area.

6. Transit Planning

DTR Planning Grant: Updates on the Division of Transit and Rail (DTR) planning grant were shared. The grant provides funding for a variety of transit projects, both large and small, including projects focused on zero-emission vehicles.

Coordination: Emphasis was placed on the importance of aligning transit planning efforts across regional boundaries to ensure equitable service delivery.

7. Action Items and Next Steps

Drainage Issue on Highway 9: Follow-up offline discussion to address the drainage issues near the Alta Gas Station and implement necessary repairs.

Transit Coordination: Continued collaboration with PPACG and neighboring transit planning areas to ensure alignment of transit priorities and secure funding for shared services.

Truck Restrictions: Investigate potential restrictions on truck traffic along Highway 9 during winter storms, with further consultation from State Patrol.

Rockfall Mitigation: Continue monitoring the progress of rockfall mitigation efforts on Highway 96. Updates to be provided at the next meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 14, 2025. The agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.