



MINUTES

Friday, January 7, 2011

RAQC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andy Spielman, *Chairman, Hogan Lovells*
Debra Baskett, *City and County of Broomfield*
Melissa Chalona, *CTL|Thompson Inc.*
Bob Fitzgerald, *City of Aurora*
Darryl Jones, *Coventry Development*
Elise Jones, *Colorado Environmental Coalition*
Susan Kirkpatrick, *Colorado Department of Local Affairs*
Richard Long, *Citizen*
Ben Manvel, *City of Fort Collins*
Bob Murphy, *City of Lakewood*
Paul Natale, *City of Commerce City*
John Putnam, *Kaplan, Kirsch, & Rockwell, LLP*
Martha Rudolph, *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment*
Jennifer Schaufele, *Denver Regional Council of Governments*
Jep Seman, *Corporate Advocates*
Nancy Severson, *Denver Department of Environmental Health*
Nancy Sharpe, *City of Greenwood Village*
Skip Spensley, *Environmental Consultant*
David Stewart, *EnCana Oil & Gas (USA)*
Will Toor, *Boulder County*
Elena Wilken, *Colorado Association of Transit Agencies*

RAQC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Eric Doering, *Town of Frederick*
Rick Garcia, *Department of Urban Housing and Development (advisory)*
Russell George, *Colorado. Department of Transportation*
Linda Morton, *Morton Consulting Co.*

RAQC ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Jennifer Finch, *Colorado. Department of Transportation*
Kate Fay, *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment*

RAQC STAFF PRESENT:

Ken Lloyd; Sarah Anderson; Jerry Dilley; Misty Howell; Stephanie Lind; Steve McCannon; Aneka Patel; Kate Riegle

OTHERS PRESENT:

Allen Best, Comcast; Kris Bohling, Wagner Equipment; Jim Brandon, ESP; Steve Cook, DRCOG; Paul Donegan, Student; Sherman Feher, Arapahoe County; John Fernandez, City of Aurora; Pete Jacobson, CSSGA; Audrea Gelfuso, Citizen; Karen Hancock, City of Aurora; Curt Huber, American Lung Association; Deb Lebow-Aal, EPA; Doug Lempke, Tri-State Generation & Transmission; Jessica Osborne, CDPHE; Jordan Rudel, CDOT; Jeff Sudmeier, CDOT; and Bill Van Meter, RTD;

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Chair Andy Spielman. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Elise Jones moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Jep Seman. Andy Spielman suggested that the presentation by Joe Cortright be moved to before the discussion of the progress report on the agenda. **Motion passed as amended without objection.**

Approval of Minutes

Nancy Severson moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Elise Jones. Motion passed without objection.

Informational Items

Chair

None.

Executive Director

None.

Members

Andy Spielman informed Council that Nancy Sharpe is now an Arapahoe County Commissioner and in that capacity will continue as a member of the RAQC.

Public Comment

Curt Huber, American Lung Association Executive Director, recommended that Council incorporate the Clean Air Clean Jobs Act into the SIP. He also informed Council of ALA's grading system which provides air quality grades for each city. He said the grades are based on data collected 1-2 years prior to the grade being published. Mr. Huber also provided Council with some information on those affected by COPD, asthma, diabetes, and cardio vascular disease. In response to Mr. Huber's comments on incorporating the Clean Air Clean Jobs Act, Martha Rudolph said the AQCC is conducting the third hearing on Regional Haze where discussion includes addressing the House Bill 1365 plan in the Regional Haze SIP.

Report on EPA's Recent Announcement to Postpone the Revised Ozone Standard

Ken Lloyd summarized the status of EPA's announcement of the revised ozone standard. He said, in December, Lisa Jackson, the EPA Administrator, requested the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee provide further guidance on the science behind the recommended levels. EPA is planning to submit questions to the panel for guidance. There will be a hearing on the guidance and then the Administrator will promulgate the standards by the end of July 2011. EPA is planning to issue an Implementation Rule along with announcing the new standard. Ken indicated that the Implementation Rule will be important for the RAQC's schedule for developing the SIP. He also said that the deadlines for the ozone SIP may be delayed based on the announcement delay. He noted that the RAQC has a great deal of work to complete and should continue on its current schedule regardless of any change to the SIP due date. Martha Rudolph echoed Ken's comments that even if EPA delays the date for submitting the SIP, Council should

continue with the current work schedule. Any delay in the schedule will give Council additional time to consider alternatives.

Deb Lebow-Aal, EPA, said that EPA Region 8 has hired Scott Jackson as its Ozone Coordinator.

Facilitated Discussion of Alternative Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee Report-out, Recommendations

Elise Jones gave an overview of the remaining strategies reviewed by the Alternative Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee. She thanked RTD staff for participating in the discussions of RTD-related strategies with the subcommittee. She explained that, as noted in the table, most of these strategies would be included in the baseline modeling.

Council discussion included whether RTD has looked at fare options for those who want an EcoPass type product for winter only. Bill Van Meter, RTD, indicated that the RTD Board has not discussed that specifically at this time. He also said that RTD is trying to make the fare structure more clear for users and operators. It was suggested that RTD should look at employer-based plans to support ridership. Paul Natale noted that often service cuts affect the north side communities, which is creating a territorial issue within the metro area.

Elise noted that the subcommittee thought that strategic management of Park and Ride Facilities, RTD Station Area Planning, and Real Time Traveler Information were good ideas to promote, but recognized that further analysis would be too difficult due to the variability of individual choices. Council discussion on these strategies included the affect of construction defects legislation on how neighborhoods are designed. Darryl Jones said that often builders are discouraged from participating in density build projects because of the construction defects legislation. It was suggested that developers be included in conversations with Council as they move forward.

Council discussed the use of technology to support Real Time Traveler Information and what is currently available. It was noted that it would be difficult to quantify the benefits of such a program, but it should be encouraged. It was suggested that Council advocate for a study to look at the issues and options related to this strategy.

John Putman suggested the Parking Supply Management strategy be pooled with the pricing strategies for further analysis. Council concurred.

Council thought that discussions regarding State Land Board decisions and their affect on air quality, sprawl and regional policies should continue.

It was noted that pursuing employer travel reduction programs as a voluntary program may create an opportunity for the RAQC to work with local governments in their development review process within their jurisdictions.

In conclusion, Elise noted that the subcommittee thought the Linking Personal Behavior and Societal/Environmental Costs strategy is important and should be integrated into current outreach efforts.

Council concurred with the subcommittee's recommendations with the following exceptions:

- Conduct some further analysis for the Real Time Traveler Information strategy, and
- Move the Parking Supply Management strategy to the Pricing Subcommittee.

Presentation by and Discussion with Joe Cortright, Impresa Consulting, on the Economic Analysis of Improving Linkage Between Transportation and Land Use in the Denver Metro Area

Kate Fay explained to Council that Colorado received funding through the National Governors Association Policy Academy for Joe Cortright, a nationally recognized economist, to conduct some specific analysis for the Denver metro area. Mr. Cortright provided Council with his background.

Mr. Cortright presented economic impacts of reducing vehicle miles traveled in metro Denver. His presentation included discussion of transportation and air quality; vehicle miles traveled (VMT); economic effect of VMT reductions; walkability; and accessibility and home values. Mr. Cortright noted that transportation is responsible for much of the air pollution in Denver and that reducing VMT lowers emissions. Using travel modeling from DRCOG and the Center for Neighborhood Technology, Mr. Cortright presented several maps of Denver illustrating VMT by household and per person.

He also provided the distribution of VMT in Denver-Boulder by percentile. He used this information to illustrate that increased growth should be encouraged in the 25th percentile range using development type to reduce VMT. During his presentation, Mr. Cortright provided an example of consumer transportation savings based on reducing VMT. He noted that these savings would help stimulate the local economy because consumers would have more disposable income.

Mr. Cortright explained that walkability is a key characteristic of successful urban places and it is measurable. He also noted that there is a statistically significant connection with walkability and real estate values.

Discussion included how the percentage of travel does not capture the choice to drive less, the affect of the economy on decreased driving, and how to address issues related to walkability in density builds. Bob Fitzgerald asked whether there has been analysis regarding walkability and job centers. Mr. Cortright indicated that is considered in the walk score calculations.

Discussion of Draft 2010 Progress Report to the Governor and Recommended 2011 Meeting Framework

Kate Fay stated that the focus of the 2011 framework is to continue to move forward with the work that started in 2010 and also look at some traditional SIP measures. She asked Council to provide direction. She informed Council that EPA has been asked to provide feedback on the assessments. Kate indicated that it would be ideal to finalize the report by January 31, 2011.

Ken Lloyd asked Council for comments on the development of the report, specifically the Executive Summary and the 2011 Framework document.

Council recommended the following changes to the report:

- Include the reason(s) that EPA changed the standard (public health) and the implications of not meeting the standard
- Include a graphic that depicts where the region currently stands with the standard
- Think about the audience and include language regarding the affect of non-attainment on the local economy; be persuasive with the economic benefits of the solutions
- Within the Overview of Strategies Analyzed tables of the report, change "industry input" to public comment

- Add language to the Executive Summary that outlines why the Council focused its 2010 work on transportation related strategies

Council's discussion of the 2011 Framework included:

- The need to prioritize strategies for additional work so that staff time can be allocated efficiently and effectively
- Schedule time early in the year to hear expert perspectives on strategies
- Make sure to circle back to Joe Cortright's economic work as the strategy analysis moves forward.

Andy Spielman asked Council to provide additional comments on the report to Kate and Ken. The report and Executive Summary will be finalized at the February 4 meeting.

Informational Items

Members

Kate Fay announced that she will be leaving the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at the end of January to take a position as the Energy Advisor with EPA, Region 8.

Martha Rudolph announced that Dr. Chris Urbina has been appointed as Executive Director of CDPHE. She will be going back to her previous position as Director of Environmental Programs. She said at this time, it has not been determined who will be attending the RAQC meetings.

Susan Kirkpatrick announced that she will be opening a business in Fort Collins and that Reeves Brown from Grand Junction has been appointed as the new Executive Director of DOLA.

Martha Rudolph informed Council that Russ George has accepted a position as President of the Northwestern Colorado Community Colleges in Rangely. Jennifer Finch, CDOT, indicated that the announcement of CDOT's new Executive Director is expected later this week.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.