



Meeting Notes

Meeting: RMRA Feasibility Study Steering Committee

Date/Time: October 24, 2008/9:30a.m.

Location: Jefferson County Courts

Attendees:

Committee Members

David Averill, North Front Range
MPO

Lisa Streisfeld, CDOT

Tom Reed, DIA

Thad Noll, Summit County (phone)

Greg Hall, I-70 Coalition

Janice Finch, Denver P.W. (phone)

Charles Choi, C.Y. Choi & Assoc.

Tom Mauser, CDOT

Bill Moore, City of Pueblo

Gene Putman, City of Thornton

Greg Schroeder, Eagle County

Diane Mitsch-Bush, Routt County
(phone)

Harry Dale, Clear Creek County

Dave Evans, Bike Jeffco

Kirk Strand, RTD

Elizabeth Kay Marchetti, Douglas
County

George Scheuernstuhl, Consultant to
DRCOG

Peter Morlan, City of Trinidad (phone)

Others

Dave Downing, City of Westminster

Pat Braden, City of Lone Tree

Charlie Quandell, Quandell Assoc.

Mark Boggs, PBS&J

Ann Skinner, Town of Castle Rock

Brad Lehl., Air Train (phone)

Andy Mountain, GBSM

Karla Harding, Town of Timnath

Alex Metcalf, TEMS

Chip Kraft, TEMS

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions & Roll Call
 2. Corrections to Minutes
 3. Chairman's Report
 4. Feasibility Study Report – Alex Metcalf, TEMS team
 - a. Schedule
 - b. Document status
 - c. Public Involvement/Outreach
 - i. Scoping Workshop Results
 - ii. Other outreach activities
 - d. Technology Issues
 - e. Market Analysis –
 - i. Survey results
 - ii. Market data/analysis
 - iii. Model validation
 - f. Alternatives Development and Analysis:
 - i. Workshop
 - ii. Denver Alternatives meeting
 - g. Coordination activities
 5. Peer Panel status
 6. Upcoming Meetings and Presentations
 - a. Alternatives Workshop – Nov. 1, 9:00 – 4:00, Jefferson Co. Admin. Building; lunch provided.
 - b. Peer Panel #1 – Nov. 19-20, PBS&J, Denver Tech Ctr.
 7. Other Business
 - a. Web site
 8. Next Steering Committee Meeting: November 21, **9:30 am**, JeffCo Admin. Bldg.
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1. Introductions & Roll Call

Self-introductions were made. Attendees are noted above.

2. Corrections to minutes

A few minor corrections were noted and the minutes were accepted on condition of the corrections being made.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Dale commented that good progress is being made on the study, with documents being delivered, good coordination with other studies and agencies, and improved understanding of study issues by all involved.

4. Feasibility Study Report

Alex Metcalf led a presentation and discussion on Feasibility Study activities, using a PowerPoint presentation. Copies of the presentation were made available to all FSSC members, both those at the meeting and those calling in remotely.

- a. **Schedule:** Alex Metcalf provided an update of the study schedule, reporting that tasks are tracking on schedule.
- b. **Document Status:** Alex reported that three reports were available for review by the FSSC: Scoping Report, Methodology Report, and Existing Conditions Report. It was requested that comments be provided to Mark Boggs by October 31.
- c. **Public Involvement:** Andy Mountain provided an update of the information received from the three scoping meetings held in September.

Regarding the Community Partnership Program, Andy reported that information flow was beginning. Presentation requests have been received from Grand Junction and Leadership Douglas. Bill Moore suggested that it would be a good idea to provide a RMRA update to the R2C2 study team.

Looking ahead, Andy reported that in November, materials would be revised to reflect discussion during the Nov. 1 Alternatives Development Workshop and media outreach would begin. In December, the second round of Corridor Input Meetings would be held, and additional outreach through the Community Partnership Program would continue.

- d. **Technology Issues:** Chip Kraft reported on technology considerations in developing alternatives, building on his presentation at the September FSSC meeting. He described the operating characteristics of HSST and Transrapid maglev, comparing these technologies to the more traditional rail technologies. He also described safety standards which any technology that might be deployed in Colorado would be required to meet, stressing that these standards go far beyond the FRA crash-worthiness standards that must be met for collocated service with freight railroads. Harry Dale commented that any equipment will be required to meet stringent safety standards.

Chip was asked about the deceleration requirements and capabilities of various technologies. He replied that descending speeds are controlled by regulation, and that as a general rule, descending speeds are generally the same as ascending speeds.

- e. Market Analysis:** Chip reported that stated preference surveys had been completed, with over 2800 surveys completed, exceeding the survey goal. He described survey goals, methods, and locations. Comments and discussion included the following points:
- There was a suggestion that additional surveys could be conducted at the Colorado Snow Sport Expo, being held at the Denver convention center in early November.
 - It was suggested that surveys should also be conducted at ski area airports rather than only at DIA.
 - For winter surveys, it was suggested that surveys should be conducted in at least one resort in each of the three principal ski counties (Summit, Eagle, and Pitkin).

Alex next presented preliminary findings of his market data development activities, noting that the information is also contained in the Existing Conditions report. A question was asked about why the Centennial airport was not included in air travel data; Alex responded that it was because only airports with scheduled passenger service were considered. Regarding the preliminary trip generation data, it was pointed out that the casinos in the vicinity of Colorado Springs had not been included; Alex responded that they would look at this data, as well as adding Winter Park to the listings.

Regarding the population equivalencies, FSSC members requested documentation on how these comparisons were developed. Alex indicated that this data would be provided in the final Methodology or Existing Conditions report. Regarding the forecasting of future travel information, Alex indicated that this analysis was still ongoing. The Existing Conditions report was only intended to report on current data.

Finally, Alex summarized the validation process that will be used in verifying model validity. Responding to a question, he indicated that the validation would include sensitivity analysis of the model.

- f. Alternative Development:** Alex and Mark described the proposed agenda for the Nov. 1 Alternatives Development Workshop. In a show of hands, most of the FSSC members in attendance indicated that they intended to participate in the workshop.

Comments and discussion included the following points:

- Would maps of alternatives under consideration be provided prior to the workshop? The response was that early delivery of the maps would probably not be possible.

5. Peer Panel Status

Mark Boggs reported that the Peer Review Panel had been formed and he showed that members who had accepted the invitation. In addition to the six panelists external to RMRA, Mark indicated that David Averill, Erik Sabina, and Bill Moore would sit on the panel to examine ridership and revenue forecasting methods and results. The initial session is set for Nov. 19 and 20 at PBS&J's office in the Denver Tech Center. Several FSSC members indicated that they intended to attend all or parts of the two day session.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Presentation

Mark Boggs reminded FSSC members of two important upcoming meetings: the Alternatives Workshop set for November 1 in the Jefferson County Admin Building; and the first Peer Review Panel session (see above).

7. Other Business

Mark Boggs reported that the expanded web site was now up and running.

8. Next Steering Committee Meeting

The Committee was reminded that the next meeting would be Nov. 21, at the Jefferson County Admin Building.

Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline/Status
Provide Stated Preference survey to FSSC	Boggs	Prior to Nov. meeting

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Please contact **Mark Boggs** with **PBS&J** at **303-221-7275** if there are any changes or questions with these meeting notes. These notes will be considered final unless comments are received within seven days of distribution. Although comments will be incorporated, as appropriate, only major revisions will be redistributed.