



MINUTES

Friday, July 9, 2010

RAQC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andy Spielman, *Chairman, Hogan Lovells*
Debra Baskett, *City and County of Broomfield*
Melissa Chalona, *CTL|Thompson Inc.*
Russell George, *Colorado. Department of Transportation*
Darryl Jones, *Coventry Development*
Elise Jones, *Colorado Environmental Coalition*
Richard Long, *Citizen*
Ben Manvel, *City of Fort Collins*
Bob Murphy, *City of Lakewood*
Paul Natale, *City of Commerce City*
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*
Skip Spensley, *Environmental Consultant*
Will Toor, *Boulder County*
Elena Wilken, *Colorado Association of Transit Agencies*

RAQC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Eric Doering, *Town of Frederick*
Bob Fitzgerald, *City of Aurora*
Rick Garcia, *Department of Urban Housing and Development (advisory)*
Susan Kirkpatrick, *Colorado Department of Local Affairs*
Linda Morton, *Morton Consulting Co.*
Bob Murphy, *City of Lakewood*
John Putnam, *Kaplan, Kirsch, & Rockwell, LLP*
Nancy Sharpe, *City of Greenwood Village*
David Stewart, *EnCana Oil & Gas (USA)*

RAQC ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Kate Fay, *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Liaison to the RAQC*
Andy Hill, *Colorado Department of Local Affairs*

RAQC STAFF PRESENT:

Ken Lloyd; Sarah Anderson; Rebecca Chazin; Jerry Dilley; Misty Howell; Stephanie Lind; Steve McCannon; Tara Moberly; Aneka Patel; Kate Riegler

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Albrechta, *Governor's Office*; Geoff Anderson, *Smart Growth America*; Dennis Creamer;
Kate Fay, *CDPHE Liaison to the RAQC*; Jennifer Finch, *CDOT*; Bill Haas, *Federal Highway Administration*; Karen Hancock, *City of Aurora*; Gail Hoffman, *CDOT*; Peter Jacobsen, *Colorado Stone, Sand and Gravel Association*; Sandy Kohrs, *CDOT*; Catherine Marinelli, *Metro Mayors Caucus*; Jim Shaw, *Wagner Equipment*; Mike Silverstein, *APCD*; Natalia Swalnick, *American Lung Association*; and Stephanie Thomas, *Colorado Env. Coalition*.

The meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by Chair Andy Spielman. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Skip Spensley moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Nancy Severson. Motion passed without objection.

Approval of May and June Minutes

Darryl Jones moved to approve the May and June minutes. Seconded by Elise Jones.

Debra Baskett made a minor correction to page 2, under Informational Items, Chair, paragraph 2 to change County to Parkway and it now reads “Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority”.

Motion passed with the noted change and without objection.

Informational Items

Chair

Andy asked staff for an update on the ozone readings since it is the middle of ozone season. Jerry Dilley provided Council with information on the status of the current year. He said the region is in violation of the 75 ppb standard with readings of 76 ppb at the Rocky Flats and the Chatfield monitors. Ken Lloyd also noted that the region is in compliance with the former standard of 85 ppb, which was the focus of SIP development in 2008. In response to Andy asking for direction, the Council decided staff should provide monthly ozone status updates. Andy also said the community should be proud of the progress made to-date.

Executive Director

None.

Members

Jennifer Schaufele, DRCOG, shared that DRCOG will be receiving an EPA grant of \$100,000 to fund updates to the Integrated Resource Model. She said that \$75,000 is EPA funding and \$25,000 is grant match provided by DOLA. She noted that Kate Fay and Simon Montagu were instrumental in getting these funds. These updates to the model will help the RAQC to evaluate strategies and help to understand what local governments can do.

Martha Rudolph, CDPHE, provided an update on HB1365. She said CDPHE has been working with Xcel to get them to develop a plan. She indicated CDPHE’s job is to evaluate the plan proposed by Xcel to make sure it meets standards, not to develop the plan.

Kate Fay informed Council that the Modeling Meeting is scheduled for August 16 from 9 am – 12 pm. RAQC staff will send a meeting notice out soon.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Agenda

Ken Lloyd provided a brief overview on the RFP process used to select contractors for the diesel retrofit program. He directed Council to the memo in their packet and asked for approval to contract with the selected vendors.

Nancy Severson moved approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Ben Manvel. Motion passed without objection.

Facilitated discussion by Geoff Anderson, Smart Growth America, on opportunities, challenges, and next steps, based on June meeting presentations and discussion

Geoff Anderson, President, Smart Growth America, provided Council with an overview of the information that was presented at the June meeting. He outlined the keys to success in other places, which include:

- broad public outreach;
- planning at the corridor scale;
- incentives;
- solutions tailored to the context;
- what you measure matters;
- government-wide leadership; and
- working with the U.S. EPA and the Sustainable Communities Partnership.

He said it was apparent that a framework that encompasses more than an air quality goal is necessary to get others engaged.

Council's discussion with Geoff Anderson is summarized below:

- Recognizing the importance of using a process that provides a community connection which allows participants to reach agreement on outcomes.
- Understanding the need to provide information on multiple levels. Andy Spielman noted that currently the RAQC has a great ozone outreach program and other affective outreach materials that are being used outside the Denver area.
- Adding a social/relationship building component to outreach that would encourage participation.
- Tailoring messaging to priorities of outside groups with the goal of encouraging involvement that will ultimately provide an air quality benefit. Martha Rudolph said it is critical starting point for organizing the process. Geoff Anderson said that money is a predominant common factor and suggested it be used as a unifying theme then other factors, such as air quality and health, could be discussed in context with groups as part of Council's outreach program.
- Determining principles for the regional design that reflect values.
- Using corridor partnerships as a way to wrap thoughts around scenarios to see ramifications for air quality and to engage citizens.

- Linking with the North Front Range decision makers and communities to determine needs and then show mutual benefits.
- Reaching out to groups involved with DRCOG's MetroVision and others to make the air quality connection in the work already being done.
- Recognizing the importance of incentives in determining development patterns and consumer patterns.
- Understanding the importance of focusing on short- and mid- term strategies, but keeping long-term goals in sight.
- Revisiting the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) fee as a strategy.
- Exploring road pricing as a fiscal tool.
- Using the fiscal crisis as a tool to advance programs.
- Determining the fiscal impacts of strategy options.
- Recognizing sales tax competition is a big challenge – communities want retail and commercial, not housing.
- Responding to anticipated demographic shift which can have co-benefits – air quality, housing, VMT, etc.
- Being ready when funding grants and opportunities arise and understanding the role of strategies and when they need to be implemented. Russ George used the US 36 success in receiving grant money to illustrate his point.

Update by Mike Silverstein, CDPHE, on Federal Regional Haze NOx Emission Control Strategy and SIP Development

Mike Silverstein, Air Pollution Control Division, provided an update on the Federal Regional Haze NOx emission control strategies and related SIP development. He provided background on the Regional Haze SIP requirements and information on what is known about NOx. He noted that Regional Haze NOx controls will improve ozone in the Denver Metropolitan Area. He then outlined the ozone benefits of the “what if” scenario for 2020, which assumes control of large NOx sources. He cautioned that dramatic controls can cause other issues. Finally, he reviewed the short-term schedule of activities.

There was discussion on whether the Xcel plan for reductions, through HB1365, will include only plants within the Denver Metro area. Mike indicated that it is up to Xcel to include the detail of which plants will be included in their plan.

In response to a question about his confidence in the model, Mike replied that it is the best we have and so far the model runs have been fairly close to actual monitored data. Council briefly discussed whether additional scenarios could be modeled. Mike indicated that it would not be possible with the current funding. Kate Fay said that more detailed modeling information will be provided at the modeling meeting scheduled for August 16.

Taking Stock on Progress to Date: A Staff and Board discussion on where we are, what we have learned to date and future direction:

Andy Spielman informed Council that staff worked to provide the “DRAFT RAQC Transportation-Related Ozone Management Measures Snapshot” as a starting point for Council discussion. Ken Lloyd provided a brief overview of the Snapshot and said it should be used as a tool for Council to add and subtract items from the list. He noted the baseline analysis refers to modeling done by

DRCOG that captures most transportation and land use infrastructure, policies and strategies. There are some measures that can be pulled out of the list and possibly quantified separately.

Skip Spensley suggested that Council begin by setting goals and value-based criteria for selecting strategies and that the Council should table the discussion on the “Snapshot” until the August meeting.

The following suggestions were made during Council discussion:

- Add a column to the table for “measureable change on SIP”
- Re-organize the list to show, what EPA will accept, what needs additional work to get EPA to accept, and what gets SIP credits
- Prioritize the list for additional analysis
- Outline potential benefit ranges for strategies
 - Ken Lloyd noted that this is a “next step”. Once the list is refined, staff can begin with a literature review to determine what the benefit ranges have been for other areas where the strategies have been implemented.
- List co-benefits of strategies to help with discussion of strategies with EPA and stakeholders
- Identify high priorities from list for further discussion

Council discussed how to approach discussions with EPA regarding SIP credits and how to get them to consider creative options. It was suggested that EPA be part of the strategy discussions.

Skip Spensley clarified that his suggestion is to define goals and targets, not to rank strategies at this point. Skip volunteered to be involved in a subgroup to work on criteria for Council consideration. Other Council members who offered to work as part of the subgroup include Elena Wilken, Will Toor, Jep Seman, Dick Long, and Melissa Chalona. The group will coordinate a time to meet after the meeting.

Ken Lloyd asked Council to provide him with any immediate updates to the chart via email.

Meeting Wrap Up and Overview of Next Meeting

Andy Spielman summarized Council’s discussion of regarding adjustments to the August meeting. The August agenda will include 30 minutes for EPA to talk to Council, 30 minutes for Council discussion of criteria and two hours for Council discussion of the measures outlined on the Snapshot.

It was suggested that the August meeting be moved to the EPA building to better facilitate discussions. Staff will check into the option.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.