



MINUTES

Thursday, January 28, 2010

RAQC MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Andy Spielman, *Chairman, Hogan and Hartson, LLP*
Debra Baskett, *City and County of Broomfield*
Melissa Chalona, *CTL|Thompson Inc.*
Eric Doering, *Town of Frederick*
Kate Fay, *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (alternate for Martha Rudolph)*
Bob Fitzgerald, *City of Aurora*
Rick Garcia, *City and County of Denver*
Russell George, *Colorado Department of Transportation*
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*
Paul Natale, *City of Commerce City*
John Putnam, *Kaplan, Kirsch, & Rockwell, LLP*
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/ALTERNATES NOT PRESENT:

Linda Morton, *Morton Consulting Co.*

RAQC STAFF PRESENT:

Ken Lloyd; Sarah Anderson; Misty Howell; Stephanie Lind; Steve McCannon; Trevor Noel; Aneka Patel; Kate Riegle

OTHERS PRESENT:

Renee Allen, Envirotec Systems Products; Jeff Arneson, Denver Department of Aviation; Betsy Bartholomew, Launch Advertising; Brad Beckham, CDOT; Jim Brandon, ESP; Cindy Cody, EPA; Steve Cook, DRCOG; Dennis Creamer; Jim DeLeo, APCD; Abby Gaffney, Davis, Graham & Stubbs; AJ Grant, Environmental Communications; Zac Graves, APCD; Rick Griffith, ERAS, Inc.; Fred Hansen, Tri-Met; Andy Hill, Colorado Dept. of Local Affairs; Gail Hoffman, CDOT; Deb Labow-Aal, EPA; Catherine Marinelli, Metro Mayors Caucus; Jim Martin, Colorado Department of Natural Resources; Pam Milmoie, Boulder County Department of Health; Jeremy Nichols, Wild Earth Guardians; Jordan Rual, CDOT; Jill Schlafer, CDOT; James Shaw, Wagner Equipment; Mike Silverstein, APCD; Natalia Swalnick, American Lung Association; Pat Teegarden, Metro Denver Health and Wellness; Paul Tourangeau, APCD; Callie Videtich, EPA; Larry Volmert, Holland & Hart; Sabrina Williams, Denver Environmental Health; Bob Yuhnke, SW Environmental Efficiency Project; and Robert Zimmer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Andy Spielman. A quorum was present.

Welcome

Andy Spielman welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed Council that due to a scheduling conflict agenda item VI will need to be moved to the beginning of the meeting. This will allow Jim Martin to provide his perspective and leave to attend another function with the Governor.

Perspectives on the RAQC's Upcoming Work, Including Its Current Relevance, Opportunities and Challenges

Andy Spielman explained that while Jim Martin is now the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources he was instrumental in developing this RAQC Board.

Jim Martin, on his behalf and the Governor's behalf, thanked members for their participation on the Council. He indicated that the Governor may not be available to make closing remarks due to changes in his schedule.

Jim said the work of the Council is tremendously important for a host of reasons, which included ozone and its health effects and ancillary benefits for climate change. This Council may be the first example in the country of how to try to find a comprehensive solution to ozone issues. Jim indicated that the State, RAQC and others have been working on ozone for many years and the "low hanging fruit" has been plucked. Now it is time to look at tougher solutions. He said it is going to be an exciting and challenging effort that, at end of day, is going to be a worthwhile endeavor.

Introduction of RAQC Members and Staff

Fred Hansen and Council Members introduced themselves and provided an overview of their experience as it related to contributing to the mission of the RAQC.

Paul Natale mentioned he and Mayor Sharpe are working with National League of Cities and Metro Mayors to bring a group of mayors and businesses from China to Denver in November to discuss the environment.

Russell George, CDOT, informed Council that he just received a message from Washington DC indicating that Colorado will be receiving \$1 million for planning activities and a connectivity study between light rail, high-speed rail and commuter service in Denver and \$400,000 for the new Colorado rail plan.

Andy introduced Ken Lloyd, Executive Director, and Misty Howell, Board Secretary and Office Manager. Ken provided Council with his background. The RAQC staff introduced themselves.

Andy explained to Council that Kate Fay is CDPHE's liaison to the RAQC, as well as Martha Rudolph's alternate. Kate shared with Council that Martha had planned to attend the meeting, but unfortunately she was ill today. Kate then provided Council with her background and introduced Paul Tourangeau, Director of the Air Pollution Control Division. Paul provided some background on how the APCD and the RAQC work together and then introduced the APCD staff present at the meeting.

Callie Videtich, EPA, introduced herself and expressed EPA's commitment to have a positive relationship with the RAQC. She then introduced Region 8 staff that will be working with the Council.

Members of the public introduced themselves.

Chairman's Perspective on the RAQC's Upcoming Work

Andy Spielman provided Council with his background. He shared a portion of the Governor's January 26, 2010 letter, which urged Council "to consider a wide range of cost-effective measures for addressing our air quality challenges and to do so with as much collaboration and creativity as possible." Andy said that he interpreted this to mean that while ozone and air quality standard compliance is the RAQC's greater charge, issues such as sustainability, land use, vehicle and fuel technology, industrial sources and ancillary benefits of these options are how we reach compliance.

Andy briefly reviewed the SIP planning process. He indicated that he views the upcoming ozone work as a tremendous challenge as well as a real opportunity. Environmental protection starts at the community level. The purpose of the Council is to make choices. Andy said that everyone in the room has made choices and learned what worked and what did not work for their city, county, company or agency. He is hoping for spirited debate on issues as the Council begins its discussions.

Keynote Presentation for Discussion – Fred Hansen

Andy Spielman introduced Fred Hansen, General Manager of Tri-Met in Portland, Oregon. Mr. Hansen is recognized as a leader in the transit world. He has carried the message that land use and transportation must be fully integrated in order to address global climate change as well as the mobility needs of citizens.

Mr. Hansen indicated he would be providing an informal discussion of how Portland has developed its transit communities. The focus of his discussion was on the transportation demand side of transportation. He said transit is not just about moving people, but needs to include transformational infrastructure to allow communities to develop in ways that otherwise would not have occurred.

Mr. Hansen provided Council with information on the types of programs used in Portland. He shared some statistics about ridership, including 82% of transit riders in Portland have a car and choose the transit option and that 5% of the 82% make a conscious decision to take transit.

He explained that Portland has the first modern street car system in the Pearl District, which was put into service in 2001. The project included legally binding agreements for development and the city's commitment to a number of public improvements. He stated that urban design is key to creating transit friendly neighborhoods. There was discussion on what portion of the Pearl District project was market driven rather than incentive driven. The initial commitment was incentive driven, but currently the market is driving development.

Mr. Hansen also spoke on the need for transit flexibility. A major issue with transit is forced transfers, the need to change buses to reach a destination, which adds commute time and often encourages no-transit travel choices. Mr. Hansen stated that Portland has found that providing real-time information to passengers has helped. Portland has partnered with Google to provide a program for cell phones that shows real-time locations of buses. This allows riders to make choices about bus routes and their routines.

Discussion continued on the role of transit in multi-model forms of transportation. Mr. Hansen indicated that Portland is beginning to look at bike connections and does not consider biking

competition to bus/light rail transportation. He emphasized that investments needs to be made to make transit pedestrian friendly.

When asked about differences in Portland and Denver transit systems, Mr. Hansen noted that Oregon, unlike Denver, is not willing to make investments in Park-N-Ride facilities. Most transit riders in Portland walk or bike to a bus, light rail or street car. He indicated that Denver's system encourages riders to drive to a Park-N-Ride to take the bus or light rail. Portland has also committed to use low floor light rail and has heavy service on weekends and evenings to encourage continued use of the system. Mayor Sharpe stated that the metro Denver area does look at connectivity and access to Park-N-Ride facilities as part of the transit planning. Mr. Hansen said that parking demand is insatiable and it is difficult to determine where to draw the line.

Mr. Hansen explained that the greatest enemy to transit is free parking. Portland has increased its parking fees to encourage transit use and is working with large businesses on alternatives to large parking campuses. He said there is an opportunity to provide education on how parking campuses are an asset for the company and should be looked at. They encourage the employers to use car sharing, provide a fleet for use during business hours and encourage community vehicle sharing.

CDPHE Perspectives on the RAQC's Upcoming Work

Andy Spielman asked Kate Fay to share Martha Rudolph's remarks and then guide Council through the discussion on the proposed meeting framework.

Kate provided the Department's perspective on EPA's new ozone standard and its affect on the work of the RAQC. She noted that the importance of the change is that it may be a potential game changer in the way the region thinks about air quality. She said the CDPHE and RAQC will need to figure out with EPA how to loosen the State Implementation Plan (SIP) process to recognize transportation and land use measures that might be included in the Ozone SIP, in addition to the more traditional measures. The Department sees the standard as a very significant challenge because a critical component of SIPs, under the Clean Air Act, is that measures be enforceable and quantifiable. It is important to utilize better information, data and predictive tools to gather information for the Council to consider as it moves forward so Council has an opportunity to understand the benefits, disbenefits and co-benefits of measures under consideration.

Discussion of Proposed 2010 RAQC Board Meeting Framework and Key Questions

Kate Fay reviewed the proposed meeting framework and key questions with Council. The key questions were developed as a starting point for Council discussion. This list will be evolving as the Council moves forward.

The proposed framework reflects no preordained outcomes. She said there may be a need to develop some subcommittees to work on specific issues. Kate indicated the framework is an attempt at giving Council a sense of direction during the first year. The framework involves a balance of conversation and presentation so that staff understands the direction Council wants to take as it moves forward. She stated the second meeting as outlined would provide Council with background on SIP work from the RAQC and CDPHE staff perspectives. The third meeting would provide Council with perspectives from local governments, transportation sector, business and other groups. Kate noted that for the June meeting staff is proposing a special meeting, which would be co-hosted by the RAQC and other organizations, to bring in peers from around the

country to discuss similar issues and how these issues are being addressed around the country. This special meeting would be sponsored and facilitated by the Governor's Institute on Community Design. She encouraged Council to contact her if they know of anyone who should be included as a participant in any of the meetings. She stated that the framework is loosely outlined to allow for adjustments as Council deems necessary.

Andy Spielman reiterated to Council that the document is a "proposed framework" and the Council needs to provide input as to how they want to move forward with the meeting and work schedule. He said that Council would have an opportunity to further discuss the framework at the March meeting.

Council discussed the meeting dates and time. It was determined that the dates outlined would work for the majority of the Council on a regular basis. However, the time was changed to 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Council Comment

Jennifer Schaufele asked if the State plans to comment on EPA's new ozone standard proposal. Paul Tourangeau, Director of the Air Pollution Control Division, explained that EPA proposes the standards based health impacts and cannot consider implementation costs under the Clean Air Act. He said that states typically do not comment on the health based record. However, the APCD will be looking at the proposed standard to determine if there are other technical aspects of the rule, like the secondary standard set for the environment that cause issues or need to be addressed. Currently, the APCD is reviewing the proposal and will make comments as necessary.

Council had a brief discussion on EPA setting standards without regard to implementation costs. Paul Tourangeau indicated that the APCD does cost analysis of strategies under consideration for inclusion in SIPs. This information is used as part of the review of strategies considered by Council. Many Council members expressed concern about the economic impacts of the standard.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.