



Transportation Department

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

TO: CONSORTIUM OF CITIES MEMBERSHIP

FROM: TRANSPORTATION STAFF

RE: **FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BOULDER / BROOMFIELD TRANSIT SERVICE ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

The Consortium of Cities Regional Transit Committee (RTC) Technical Committee is recommending a scope of work for a Countywide Transit Plan and is requesting that the consortium act on the following items.

- 1) Authorize Boulder County to proceed with posting a Request for Qualifications for the Boulder / Broomfield Transit Services Enhancement Plan on behalf of the Consortium,
- 2) Authorize the RTC Technical Committee in consultation with the RTC membership, to select a consultant team from the ones submitting Statement of Qualifications and proceed with the plan prior to the December Consortium meeting.
- 3) Request Consortium members to review the attached preliminary cost allocation sheet and provide Boulder County with a degree-of-willingness to participate as per the preliminary cost allocation by November 1, 2005.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Boulder County Transportation presented the results of the initial transit feasibility studies conducted by the RTC, at the August Consortium meeting. The initial studies indicated that some type of expanded transit service was feasible and recommended that the RTC look at expanding the fixed-route services in one of three potential scenarios. The study also recommended examining the benefit and cost of additional non-fixed route services.

The RTC met again in September and reviewed a draft scope of work that would guide development of a detailed Transit Service Expansion Plan (TSEP). Once completed, the TSEP will provide the Consortium with a detailed set of recommended service expansions along with a phasing plan and costs. The draft scope of work was revised

based on input from the RTC and has been updated for review and approval by the Consortium.

A preliminary cost allocation has also been developed, as per direction from the August Consortium meeting. This allocation does not require formal adoption at this time, but should provide enough information for each community to use for budgeting purposes.

NEXT STEPS

If the draft scope of work is acceptable to the Consortium members, Boulder County will proceed with issuing a Request for Qualifications to all interested consulting firms. It is recommended that the Consortium direct the RTC to make the selection early in November so that the project can get underway in a timely manner. A copy of the preliminary timeline is presented below.

PRELIMINARY TIMELINE

SEPT '05	Memo to Consortium with Proposed Scope and Cost Estimate
SEPT '05	Preliminary funding commitments secured
OCT '05	RFP out
NOV '05	Consultant Selected
DEC '05	Notice to Proceed
FEB '06	Draft Report and Presentation to CC/RTC
MAR '06	Technical Report Complete
APR '06	Public Process & Presentations

Attachment A
SCOPE OF WORK
Transit Service Enhancement Plan for Boulder and Broomfield County
September 27, 2005

I. SUMMARY / OVERVIEW

The Transit Service Enhancement Plan (TSEP) will provide the Boulder and Broomfield Consortium of Cities Regional Transit Committee (CC/RTC) and Regional Transit District (RTD) with a comprehensive plan for improving the delivery of transit services such as fixed-route transit, senior services, vanpools, and TDM programs in Boulder and Broomfield County. The TSEP will present a package of improvements with specific phasing plans and cost information.

The TSEP will be based on previous transit studies completed for the CC/RTC including: *Boulder and Broomfield Transit Study*; the *Summary Memo from Boulder County Transportation (5/24/05)*; *RTD FasTracks Plan*; *US36 EIS*; and *Longmont to Boulder Transit Study*. The refined transit plan will include all the necessary elements of a comprehensive transit package including:

- A. Fixed-route system enhancements**
- B. ADA Para-Transit Plan Needs**
- C. Specialized Transit Services**
- D. Other Transit Services**
- E. TDM Services**

The completed TSEP will present an overview of the benefits and costs of various transit services and present a list of recommended transit services along with a phasing plan that details the funding required over a ten year period from 2007 to 2017. The plan will focus on the area west of East County Line Road in Boulder County and west of Sheridan Boulevard and north of 120th in Broomfield County. In addition, transit services extending beyond these boundaries will be considered for the later phases of the planning horizon (2012-2017).

II. DETAIL ON EACH TRANSIT SERVICE

Because the Transit Enhancement Plan seeks to provide a comprehensive recommendations for improved transit services, the TSEP will need to include all transit services including fixed-route system, associated ADA para-transit system, specialized transit service, other transit services, and TDM services.

While the current assessment of Transit Plan Scenarios includes the prioritization of the fixed-route transit services, additional transit services such as vanpools, Special Transit services, and call-n-ride services to low-population areas will also need to be added to each scenario to maximize the effectiveness of providing area-wide transit enhancements.

A. Fixed-Route System

The section on the fixed-route system will use the results of *Boulder and Broomfield Transit Study*; the *Transit Finance Study*; updated cost information from RTD; and the *Summary Memo from Boulder County Transportation (5/24/05)* to refine the benefits and costs of three different funding scenarios and to develop phasing plans for each scenario based on population and employment forecasts provided by

the Consortium of Cities. Capital costs should be identified along with a general alignment and phasing plan; major stops; and transfer points to existing routes.

In addition to operating costs of fixed route service, each service scenario will need to provide estimates of one-time capital costs for vehicle acquisition, route marketing and stop improvements that will maximize the return on the operating investment.

B. ADA Para-Transit System

The ADA Para-Transit plan will include the development of cost estimates for providing Federally-mandated para-transit services to compliment any expansion of the fixed-route system. RTD currently provides the “access-a-Ride” service to all locations within ¾-mile of their fixed-route service, as required by federal ADA standards.

Cost estimates should include capital and operating costs for any service increase incurred by the expansion of the fixed-route service.

C. Specialized Transit Service

The growth of senior populations within Boulder and Broomfield counties is expected to increase demand for specialized transit services over the next two decades. This section of the TSEP will include plans to expand Special Transit to meet this expected increase in demand. The plan will include a summary of current specialized transit services and cost estimates for expanding service to serve the growing population of seniors and people with disabilities whose transportation needs are not met by the ADA para-transit service. The report should focus on transportation patterns and needs of these population groups within Boulder and Broomfield Counties, including those portions of communities that extend beyond county boundaries.

Recommendations for specialized transit services should be based on demographic projections and growth scenarios developed by RRC Associates for Special Transit, the private non-profit agency serving Boulder County and its constituent communities. Special Transit provides door-through-door, driver-assisted, wheelchair-accessible transportation services to seniors, people with disabilities and low income populations.

D. Other Transit Services

In addition to fixed-route and other traditional transit services that provide cost-effective service to population and job centers, the TSEP will identify options for providing transit services to other areas and for supplementing the school districts’ transportation needs with off-peak transit vehicles and resources.

This section of the TSEP should include conversations with school district transportation staff, providers of special transit services and other service agencies and jurisdictions to identify opportunities to provide commuter and school transportation to areas not served by the traditional transit services. These options should be identified along with benefits and costs of each potential service.

At a minimum the report should address options for services to Monarch HS in Superior and to St. Vrain schools in Longmont.

E. TDM Plan

The TDM section of the TSEP will include options for expanding existing TDM programs into larger geographic areas; creating additional opportunities for outreach and participation to individual employers; and increasing awareness and participation in both existing and new TDM programs.

The TDM plan will do the following:

- Provide a comprehensive list of existing TDM programs in the study area including TMOs, Eco Pass subsidy programs, carpool and vanpool programs, alt modes marketing efforts, and other subsidy/incentive programs.
- Provide an analysis of major opportunities through the County for employee, school or neighborhood-based TDM programs.
- Develop list of potential TDM programs along with projected benefits and costs and assess need for a regional or bi-county TDM coordinator position.

III. DELIVERABLES

A. Brief report with executive summary and easy to read graphics

- 12 bound copies of full report
- 100 bound copies of executive summary
- 20 cds containing reports and power point presentations.

B. PowerPoint presentation to the following groups:

- Boulder County Regional Transit Committee (x2, February & March)
- Boulder County Consortium of Cities
- RTD Board

C. Implementation / Action Plan

- Comprehensive list of recommended transit services to include in a Transit Service Enhancement Plan
- Phasing plan that identifies funding needs on a bi-annual basis from 2007– 2017.

IV. PRELIMINARY TIMELINE

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Boulder/Broomfield Counties
 Consortium of Cities
 Regional Transit Committee
 Regional Transit Plan Cost Allocation

City/Town	2005 Population	Percent of Total	Rounded Share
Boulder	95,809	31.7%	20,000
Longmont	71,946	23.8%	17,000
Unincorporated Boulder Co.	50,010	16.6%	15,000
Lafayette	23,475	7.8%	4,000
Broomfield	21,732	7.2%	4,000
Louisville	19,164	6.3%	4,000
Superior	9,949	3.3%	3,000
Erie in Boulder County	6,366	2.1%	2,000
Lyons	1,604	0.5%	500
Nederland	1,411	0.5%	500
Jamestown	207	0.1%	0
Ward	187	0.1%	0
Sub Total	301,861	100.0%	\$70,000
RTD Share			\$10,000
TOTAL			\$80,000