

LARIMER COUNTY | ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.5700, Larimer.gov

The role of the Advisory Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners and appropriate departments on environmental and science-related issues that affect Larimer County.

Environmental and Science Advisory Board.

MINUTES

Date: January 7th, 2025.

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Rm 150 Carter Lake, 200 West Oak St., Fort Collins, Colorado and Virtual by Zoom.

Contact: Shelley Bayard de Volo, sbayard@larimer.org or 970.498.5738.

MEMBERS	-	STAFF	-	GUESTS
Rodger Ames – Vice-Chair	X	John Kefalas *	-	FHU Engineering
Tasha Carr	X	Shelley Bayard de Volo ‡	X	Jenny Young
Anna Cloud - Chair	X	Heidi Pruess [§]	X	-
Jim Gerek	X	Eric Tracy [£]	X	-
Leo Grassens	X	Mark Peterson [£]	X	-
Matthew Haag	X	-	-	-
Michael Lee Jones	X	-	-	-
Zachary Maffeo	X	-	-	-
Jared McGlothlin	X	-	-	-
Andrew Newman	-	-	-	-
Barry Noon	X	-	-	-
Nicole Poncelet-Johnson	-	-	-	-
Timothy Skolds	X	-	-	-
Natalie Walsh	X	-	-	-
Chris Wood	X	-	-	-

X = present; * = Commissioner Liaison; ‡ = Engineering; † = ESAB Liaison; § = Climate and Sustainability Program; α = Larimer County Health and Environment; £ = Engineering.

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

1. **Amendments or additions to the agenda** – For the roundtable Shelley has a quick update for Environmental Stewardship Awards, Matthew will also have an update.





2. **Introduction of members, staff and guests** – Guest speakers and ESAB members introduced themselves.
3. **Public Comment** – None.
4. **Commissioner's Update** – No update.

Discussion Items

- Larimer On the Move – Eric and Jenny presented slides covering the Engineering department's transportation planning project called Larimer on the Move. The project is just finishing Public Engagement Phase 2: Priorities. Members can participate until 1-19-25 by visiting the project [website](#) and using the interactive map to share their feedback. The board offered to provide comments on the draft plan when it is ready to be reviewed. The presentation slides are included with these minutes.
- Annual Report, 2025 Workplan – Shelley showed the members the draft annual report and noted the edits she received from members. Those edits were incorporated, and she will finalize the report and pass it on to the assistant county manager, Laurie Kadrich, who will provide it to the BOCC. Anna called for a motion to approve the annual report as amended. Barry provided a motion and Jim seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Shelley also showed the members the 2024 Workplan, pointing out some of the regular items that the ESAB works on. She noted that Anna and Rodger will meet with Commissioner Kefalas prior to the February meeting to discuss the workplan and what items he wants to prioritize for the year. She will provide a draft 2025 workplan in the Google Drive so members can think about what items they would like to add prior to the February meeting.

- Annual Boards and Commissions Training – Shelley presented a slideshow going over the annual training topics for members. She noted that this training replaces the new member orientation that the Chair, Vice-Chair and Staff Liaison used to do. At the end, there were several slides that were specific to the ESAB.
- Bylaws – Shelley noted there is one small change needed to update the bylaws. Anna said that the ESAB would take that up at the next meeting in February.

5. **Approval of Minutes** – Shelley showed the edits that Jim provided prior to tonight's meeting. Leo motioned to approve the December minutes, as amended by Shelley, and Jim seconded. All were in favor and the December minutes were approved.

6. Updates and Round Table

- Matthew presented a report titled "2024 Statistical Review of World Energy" that can be accessed [here](#). He noted that global energy use is highly tied to the extraction of raw materials used in product manufacture. Large scale product purchasing can impact production/reduction of GHG emissions. Matthew proposed forming a sub-committee to look at how these ideas can be conveyed either through the CSFR initiative or the ICARE work. Shelley suggested that the best path forward is to present the



ideas to Heidi at a meeting and see what she thinks. Jim suggested that it might be helpful to see some example policies. The Board agreed that this was a worthwhile topic to explore at a future meeting.

- Environmental Stewardship Awards – Shelley reminded members that the nomination period is now open. She asked members to get the word out in their networks.
7. **Issue Index** – will be updated with tonight’s discussion items.
 2. **Agenda Topics for Future Meetings** –In February the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition will present their projects and the March agenda will include an update on air quality monitoring from CSU professors Jeffery Collett and Emily Fischer, as well as an update from LC Environmental Health.
 8. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.



Safety. Mobility. Connections.

Environmental & Science Advisory Board Meeting

January 14, 2025

Agenda



1. Larimer on the Move Overview
2. Draft Vision & Goals
3. Relevant Plans
4. Public Involvement
5. Transportation Needs
6. Discussion & Questions
7. Next Steps

Discussion & Questions Preview



How do you envision the County's transportation system evolving over the next decade in response to growth and changing demographics?

What strategies would you like to see to align with transportation plan with Climate Smart Future Ready and other county initiatives?

Are there specific projects or initiatives you think should be prioritized for funding?

What is Larimer on the Move?



Transportation Plan

- **Purpose:** Develop a prioritized set of projects, programs, and plans that reflect a shared vision for mobility and a roadmap for how the County can efficiently invest funding to improve the system with a focus on unincorporated areas.
- **Goal:** Prioritize projects in a documented plan that reflects community input and leverage outside funding sources to maximize investments.

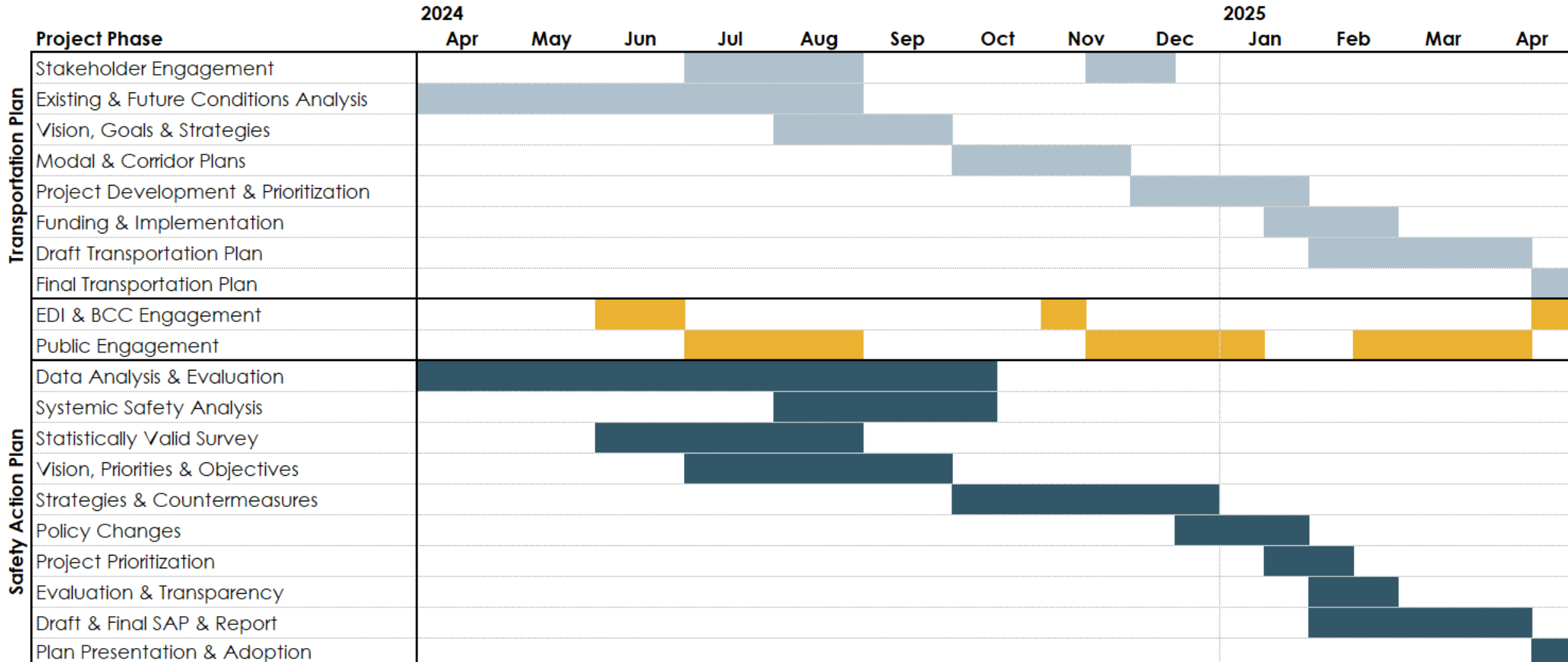
Safety Action Plan (SAP)

- **Purpose:** Develop a safety-focused plan to identify the most significant roadway safety concerns and the projects and strategies needed to address safety issues.
- **Goal:** Make a commitment to significantly reduce and eventually eliminate roadway fatalities and serious injuries – or achieve “Vision Zero” to meet the requirements of USDOT and apply for further grant funding to support implementation efforts.

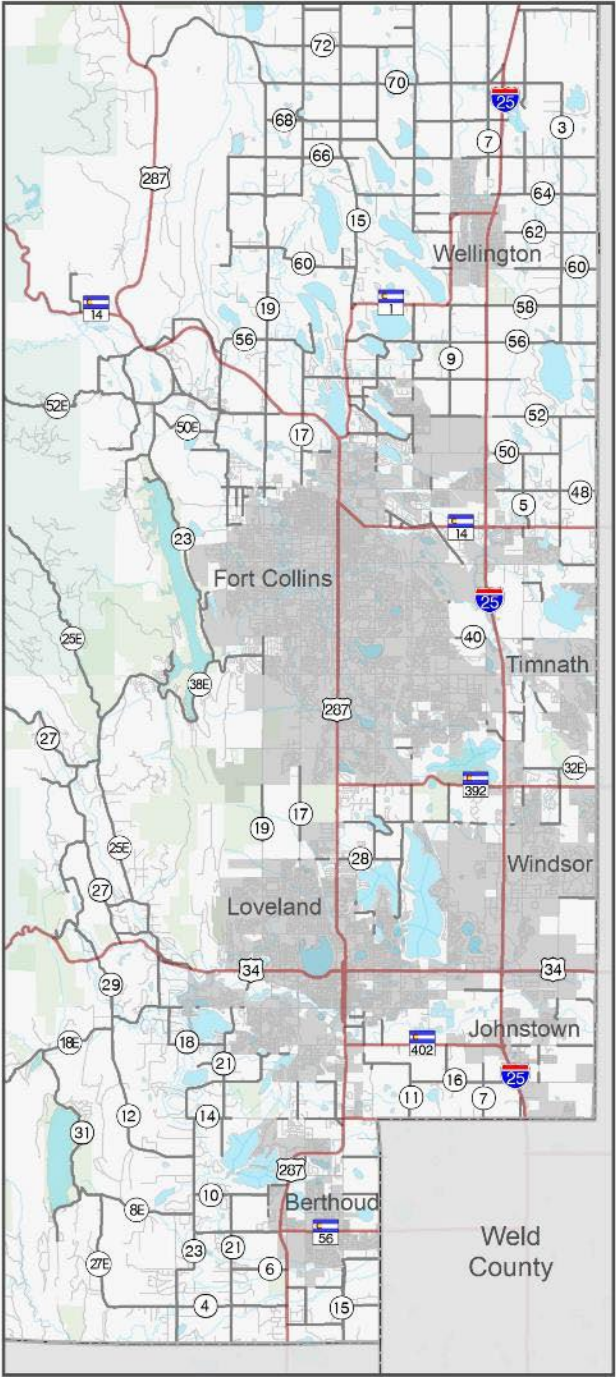
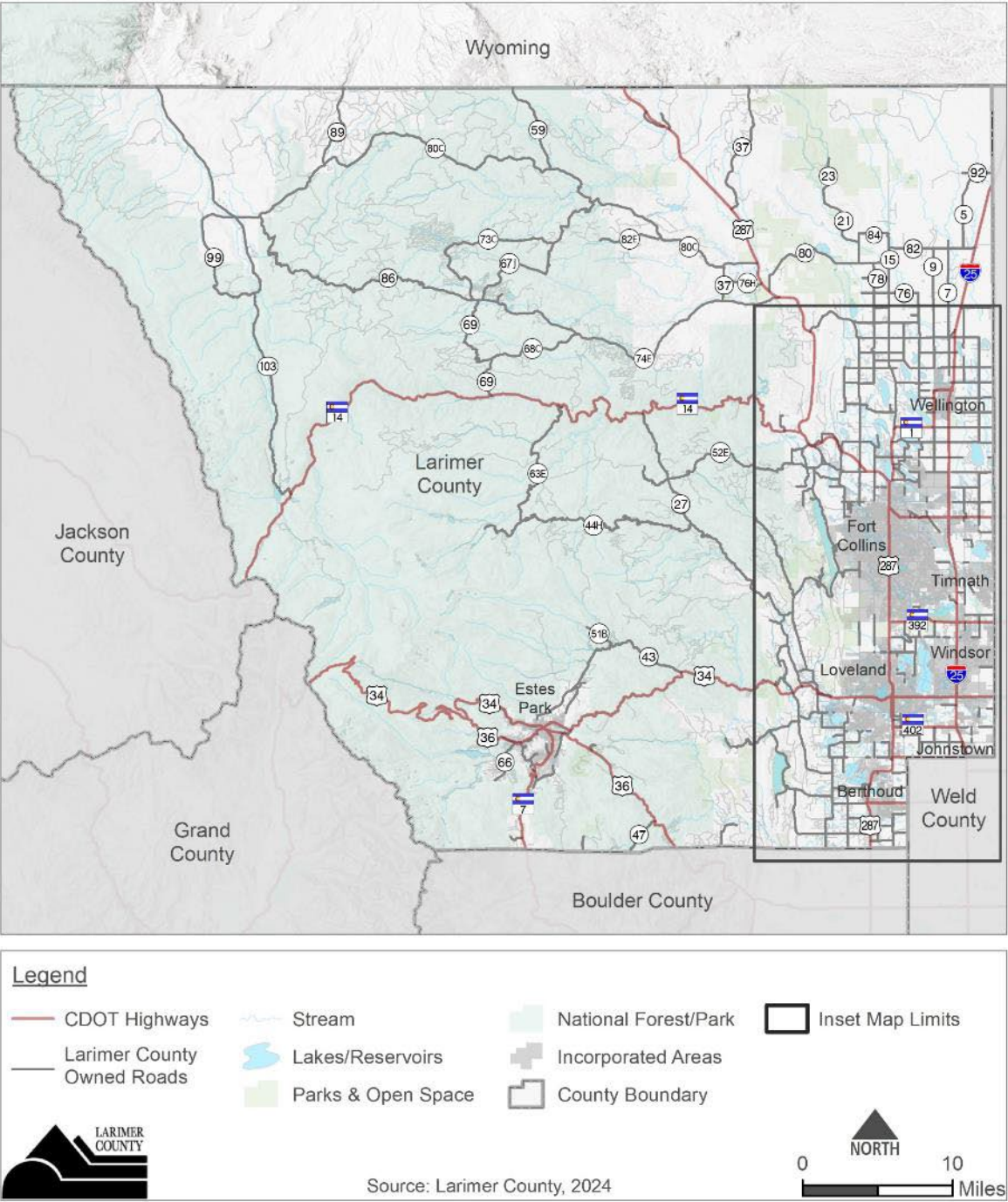
Why are both plans happening at the same time?

- Safety is a key component of a Transportation Plan and the SAP effort will provide a deeper dive into the challenges and solutions to allow for alignment in funding and implementation with all recommended projects and policies.
- Opportunity to leverage community engagement for solutions for both plans by sharing ideas and experiences toward developing a unified community vision for safety and mobility improvements.

Project Activities & Milestones



A Focus on Unincorporated Larimer County



Vision



A safe and resilient transportation network achieved by addressing infrastructure maintenance, supporting diverse transportation options, equity, quality of life, and regional connectivity, and securing long-term sustainable funding.

Goals



Safety: Ensure a safe and secure transportation network that prioritizes the prevention of roadway deaths and serious injuries for all road users through a Safe Systems Approach.

Resilience: Maintain and enhance the transportation network to optimize investment in infrastructure, ensuring long-term resilience, reliability, and emergency preparedness.

Travel Options: Develop and promote a diverse and sustainable transportation network by expanding alternative transportation mode choices, reducing carbon emissions, and encouraging a shift towards greener, more efficient travel options.

Efficiency: Upgrade the County roadway network to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, and enhance the overall efficiency of the transportation system.

Equity: Ensure equitable access to transportation and enhance the quality of life for all residents, focusing on underserved and vulnerable communities.

Regional Connections: Enhance and expand regional transportation to improve connectivity and infrastructure between rural and urban centers.

Funding: Secure and sustain long-term funding for transportation infrastructure and leveraging County funds for partnerships and grant opportunities.us injuries for all road users through a Safe Systems Approach.

Relevant Plan Review



County Plans

- **Larimer County Climate Smart Future Ready Initiative (2024)**
- Larimer County Community Health Improvement Plan (2024)
- **An Electric Vehicle Charging Station Action Plan for Larimer County (2023)**
- Larimer County Transportation Master Plan (2017)
- Larimer County Senior Transportation Needs Assessment (2017)

Regional Plans

- NFRMPO 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) (2023)
- NFRMPO Regional Active Transportation Plan (2021)
- NFRMPO Coordinated Public Transit and Human and Services Plan (2021)
- CDOT US 287 Safety Assessment (2023)
- CDOT 2045 Upper Front Range Regional Transportation Plan (2020)
- CDOT 2045 Upper Front Range Coordinated Public Transit & Human Services Transportation Plan (2020)

Local Municipality Plans

- Town of Estes Park 2045 Transportation Plan (In Progress)
- Timnath Transportation Plan Update (2024)
- Connect Loveland Transportation Master Plan (2023)
- Berthoud Transportation Plan (2021)
- Johnstown Area Comprehensive Plan (2021)
- Town of Wellington Comprehensive Plan (2021)
- Windsor Transportation Master Plan (2020)
- Fort Collins Transportation Master Plan (2019)

Climate Smart Future Ready



Actions that are relevant to Larimer on the Move

- *Reduce disaster impacts from and adapt to natural hazards and extreme weather.*
 - Prioritization of evacuation routes in transportation improvements
- *Enhance and expand regional transportation.*
 - Plan goals directly relate to the improvement of regional transportation.
- *Expand infrastructure for walking, biking, non-electric scooters, skates, skateboards, etc.*
 - Multiple plan goals related to this action and there will be recommendations and that expand multimodal infrastructure
- *Accelerate infrastructure and adoption of electric vehicles and e-bikes.*
 - The Plan will incorporate recommendations from the *Electric Vehicle Charging Station Action Plan for Larimer County*

Larimer on the Move Equity Framework

Purpose: Provides a framework to enable Larimer County to integrate Transportation Equity at every stage of the planning process.

Key Components:



Identifying
Historically
Underserved
Communities



Strategies
to Tailor
Community
Engagement
Efforts



Methodology
for Evaluating &
Prioritizing
Projects

Public Involvement Phases



	We need to know...	How we'll use the input...
Phase 1: Values	What types of improvements are important to you?	Understanding what mobility and safety means to different community members will inform the transportation goals and objectives.
	What problems do you encounter when traveling in Larimer County and what ideas do you have to overcome these problems?	Location specific issues and ideas will be integrated into the modal plan recommendations and project identification.
Phase 2: Priorities	What transportation investments are most critical?	Input on trade-offs will be used as input into the plan and policy recommendations.
	Which transportation goals are most important?	Input on level of importance of each goal will be used during the project prioritization process.
Phase 3: Validation	Did we get it right?	Public comments on the draft plan will be discussed with staff and incorporated as appropriate.

Phase 2 Engagement



What we need to know:

- Which transportation goals are most important?
- What transportation investments are most critical?

Online participation closes January 19

<https://fhu.mysocialpinpoint.com/larimer-on-the-move>

How should the county allocate limited funds for future improvements?

The annual average cost to maintain Larimer County's roads and bridges is approximately \$22 million and comes from several stable funding sources. However, Larimer County only has approximately \$7 million annually for bridge replacement and roadway improvement projects on the county's road system. Review these eight project types and indicate, using points, how you would like the county to prioritize use of limited funds. To modify your selections, hit "reset" at the bottom of each project type.

Your remaining points:

100 pts

MINIMUM SPEND
100 PTS

Sort by ▾



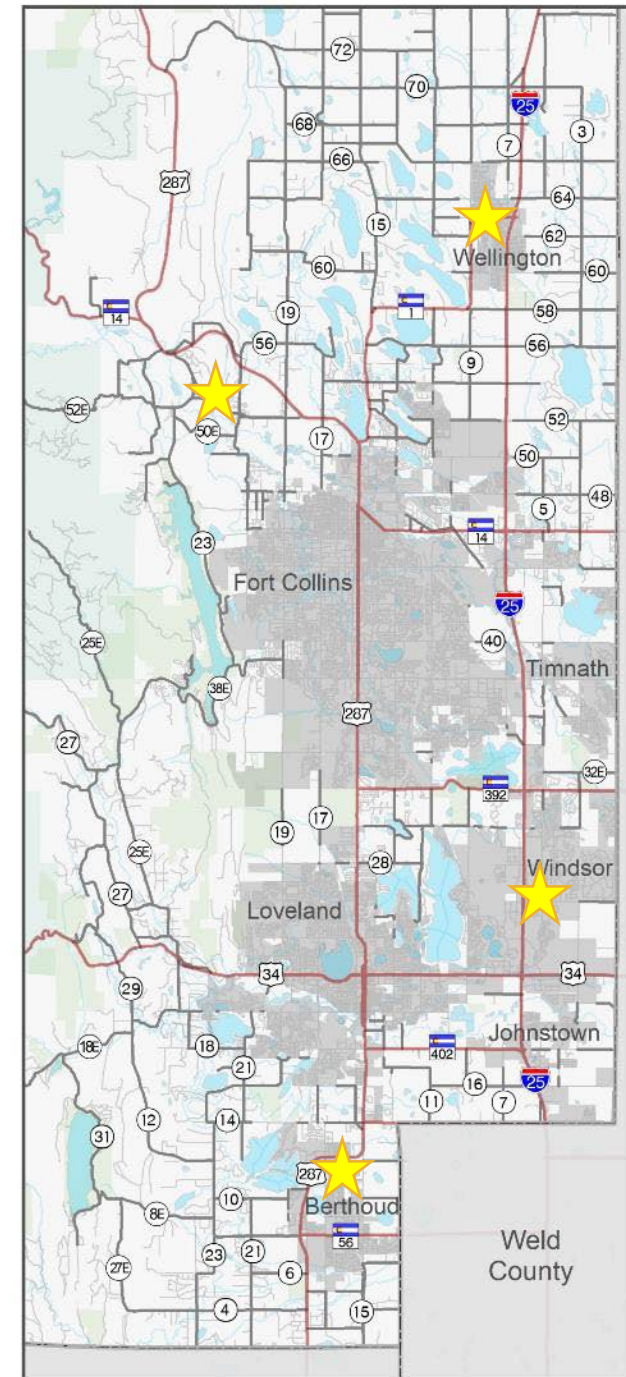
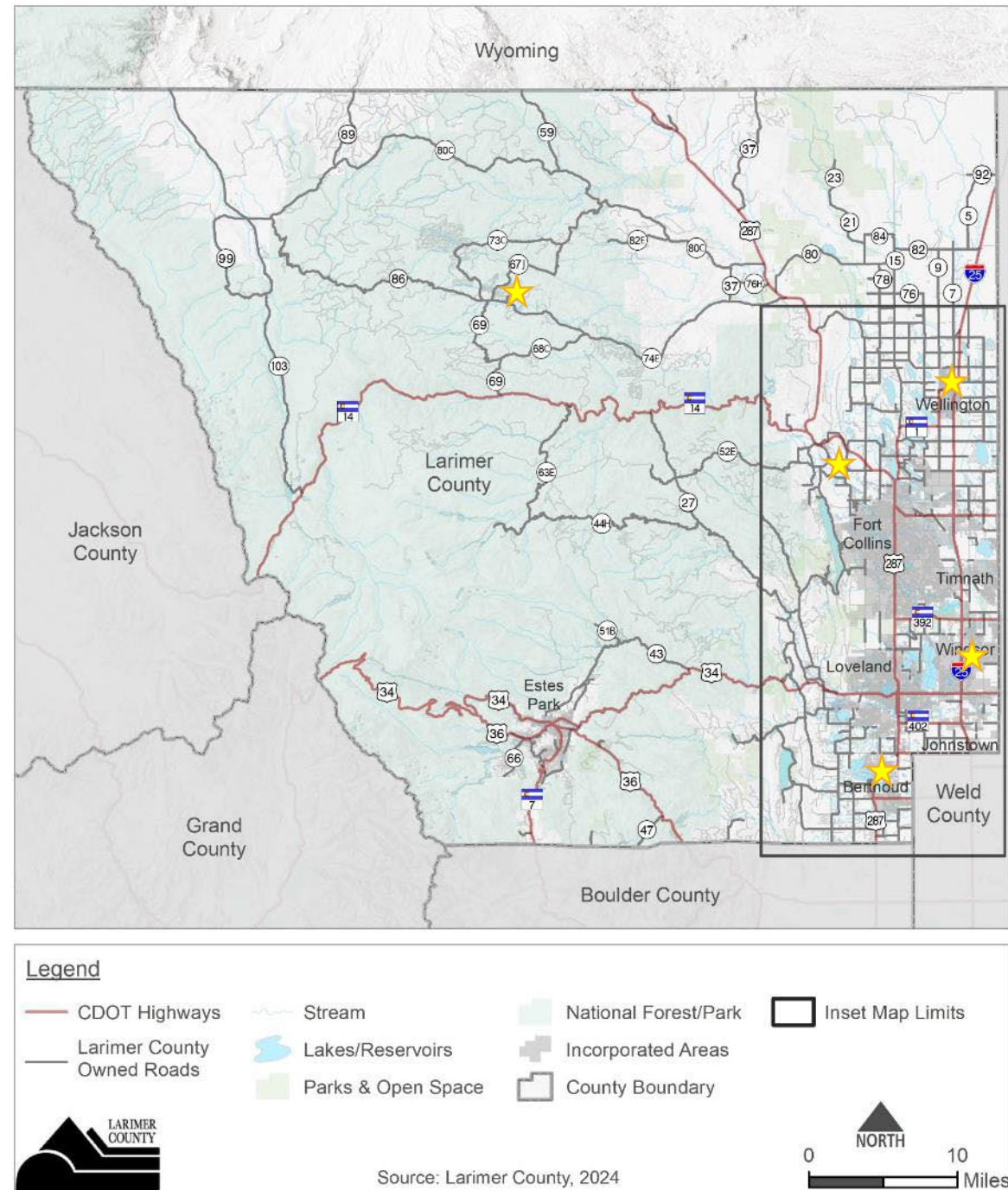
Widen shoulders and add bicycle lanes



Improve intersection safety and operations

Phase 1 Engagement Strategies

- **Online:** allows people to participate in their own time.
- **In-person pop-ups:** meet people where they are.
- **Mailed surveys:** people had a choice to complete the paper survey or go online.
- **Text message links to surveys:** reach people who use their phones as their primary internet connection.
- **Outreach to community-based organizations** to spread the word.



Phase 1 Level of Participation



- 746 website visits
- 473 location-based comments and 462 interactions
 - 106 new map comments (plus 367 comments added from transportation funding survey)
 - 78 up votes
 - 384 down votes
- 135 participants at pop-up events
 - 62 at Red Feather Lakes
 - 29 at Larimer County Fair
 - 12 at LaPorte Community Conversations
 - 32 at Berthoud Market
- 1,122 statistically valid survey responses



Phase 1 Feedback Key Takeaways



- Improving the **comfort and safety of biking** on county roads was a top comment from the community.
- **Speeding and aggressive driving are major concerns** for the public, with many calling for lower speed limits and more enforcement.
- Yield signs, traffic lights, and road signage improvements were highlighted, reflecting **concerns over the adequacy of traffic control measures** in preventing accidents and improving traffic flow.
- Comments highlight the need for **improved maintenance of rural roads**, with a particular focus on paving and upkeep, alongside a divide in opinion between paving for accessibility and preserving unpaved roads to maintain rural character.
- While less dominant than issues regarding roads and bike lanes, there is a **request for expanded public transportation options**, particularly in suburban and rural areas. In-person engagement efforts in LaPorte and Wellington highlighted this issue as a top concern.

Transportation Needs



The anticipated 70% increase in daily vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 2050, along with the projection that 30% of roads will be at or over capacity, indicates a need for **infrastructure improvements to better accommodate future traffic demands.**



With 2,229 total crashes recorded in unincorporated Larimer County between 2019 and 2023, including 23% resulting in injury or fatality and 28 total fatalities, there is a clear need for **enhanced safety measures and road improvements.**



The tendency for higher levels of speeding on long and straight stretches of roads suggests a need for **speeding mitigation strategies** such as engineering, education, and enforcement tactics to promote safer driving conditions.

Transportation Needs



While many roads near urban areas feature paved shoulders suitable for bicyclists, existing gaps in the bicycle network—such as connections to regional trails and wider shoulders—highlight the need for **improvements to enhance comfort and safety for a wider range of cyclists.**



The limited pedestrian infrastructure in unincorporated areas, including sidewalks, multi-use paths, and regional trails, points to a need for **increased safety measures and crossing enhancements in areas with high pedestrian activity.**



The current limitations of transit services in unincorporated areas suggest a need **to explore opportunities for improvement, enabling the aging population to "age in place" and providing greater mobility choices** for an improved quality of life.

Discussion & Questions



How do you envision the County's transportation system evolving over the next decade in response to growth and changing demographics?

What strategies would you like to see to align with transportation plan with Climate Smart Future Ready and other county initiatives?

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Next Steps



- Public Involvement Phase 2 (Nov-Jan)
 - Closing Jan 19: <https://fhu.mysocialpinpoint.com/larimer-on-the-move>
- Development of “Modal Plans”
- Project development and prioritization
- Implementation and funding strategy
- Draft plans (Spring 2025)