
CITY OF BOULDER

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DATE: December 10, 2015

TO: Zane Selvans, Transportation Advisory Board Chair

FROM: Michael Gardner-Sweeney, Interim Director of Public Works for Transportation

CC: Kathleen Bracke, GO Boulder Manager

RE: City Council Retreat Questions for Boards and Commissions for 2015

City Council will be hosting their annual retreat in January 2016 to develop their work program for 2016. To provide city advisory boards and commissions with an opportunity to share input with City Council to help shape their 2016 work program, the following questions have been developed and provided to each of the boards and commissions.

Staff is seeking your feedback on these questions and your guidance to share these questions with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB).

As a starting point, staff has drafted initial responses to these questions for your review and consideration. Please feel free to add/edit these responses. The plan is review and finalize the draft response at the December 14, 2015 TAB meeting. Once you have finalized your responses, staff will forward your information to City Council for their consideration as part of their 2016 Retreat.

For reference, we have attached a copy of TAB's 2014-15 work program as well as a link to the Transportation Master Plan: www.bouldertmp.net and TMP Action Plan: <https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/2014-transportation-action-plan-1-201408071317.pdf>

Retreat Questions for Boards and Commissions for 2016 – Responses from the Transportation Advisory Board (DRAFT):

- **What are your top priorities within the framework of the council work plan adopted at the last city council retreat?**

The TAB is focused on implementation of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), updated and accepted by City Council in August 2014, and the integration of the TMP with Boulder's broad range of sustainability initiatives. Examples of integration were demonstrated through a more ambitious mode shift goal to achieve GHG objectives while supporting overall mobility; making progress on the Access Management and Parking Strategy, and supporting the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) update.

TAB recognizes the top three values identified by respondents of the BVCP survey as in greatest need of attention are diversity of housing types and price ranges, an all-mode transportation system, and compact community surrounded by preserved open space.

Top priorities for the TAB in 2016 are to implement the TMP, particularly focusing TAB's attention where it can help advance the TMP Action Plan and recognizing the results of the 2015 Transportation Report on Progress:

- *Taking next steps on supporting the next phase of Community-wide Eco Pass exploration with Boulder County and RTD;*
- *Advancing the TMP's Renewed Vision for Transit including HOP Refresh, eastside circulator planning with University of Colorado, regional arterial BRT studies, and transit service delivery model analysis for local regional, and inter-regional transit service;*
- *Applying the lesson learned from the 2015 Living Lab program to develop the Bicycle 2.0 Low Stress Network and advance future Complete Streets initiatives such as the East Arapahoe, Canyon, and 30th and Colorado corridor plans.*

- *Supporting transportation funding initiatives such as the Transportation Impact Fee analysis and on-going pursuit of regional, state, and federal funding opportunities to leverage local investment in transportation system improvements.*

TAB would like to highlight the importance of regional collaboration as one of the keys to realizing the goals of the TMP and BVCP. As noted in the TMP Action Plan priorities, Boulder counts on other regional partners such as RTD, CDOT, DRCOG Boulder County, CU Boulder and BVSD to implement quality Bus Rapid Transit, implement the recommendations for the Northwest Area Mobility Study and make policy and investment decisions that expand our regional multi-modal system. TAB encourages Council to remain fully engaged in influencing regional transportation planning, decision-making and investment and reach out to regional partners to express the importance of these quality regional multi-modal connections to the Boulder community.

- **What would you like to see done that would further advance the Council Goals?**

TAB believes that additional progress must occur on in a variety of policy areas for integrated sustainability initiatives to be successful. The board recognizes that these are difficult issues for the community; however, if Boulder is serious about addressing climate change; providing a viable economy for future generations; and supporting a more diverse community, we need to make progress on:

- *land use – mixes of uses, at densities that also support livability/sustainability, 15-minute neighborhoods*
- *parking policies – maximums instead of minimums, expanded geographic applications of shared, unbundled, managed and paid (SUMP) parking, variable priced parking, TDM requirements for new development as well as advancing TDM programs for existing areas of the community, etc.*

- **How can your board specifically help reach the council goals?**

TAB can continue to serve as one of the boards which engages in integrated planning projects such as Access Management and Parking Strategy and Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan update by continuing to participate with members of other city boards and commissions in Joint Board Workshops, and by taking a leadership role in the community to support implementation of the 2014 TMP and Action Plan.

TAB can reinforce Council's messages to regional partners regarding the importance of quality multi-modal solutions on our regional corridors, including preparing for the 2016 launch of the US36 Flatiron Flyer Bus Rapid Transit system and inter-regional FLEX service, along with advancing corridor planning for arterial Bus Rapid Transit on SH119/Diagonal and SH7/East Arapahoe.

- **Are there city policies that need to be addressed that would enable your board to function at a higher level?**

TAB's focus is on advancing multimodal transportation to achieve the city's broad range of sustainability goals. TAB's efforts are supported by the policies in the updated 2014 Transportation Master Plan as well as the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan. The 2016 update to the BVCP will be an opportunity to integrate the updated TMP policies, goals, and measures into the broader comprehensive planning process.

- **Are there other items that council should address in the coming year?**

TAB supports the implementation of the Transportation Master Plan action items, and TAB appreciates City Council including the implementation of the TMP, along with the Access Management and Parking Strategy, and other integrated planning initiatives in their 2016 work program.

- **Are there other priorities outside of the Council Goals that your Board/Commission would like to address in the coming year?**

City Council's goals for 2016 include and address the TAB goals and priorities for 2016.