RFTA Planning Department Monthly Update
August 8, 2019

RFTA Vision Statement
RFTA pursues excellence and innovation in providing preferred transportation choices that connect and support vibrant communities.

RFTA Mission
Connecting our region with transit and trails.

RFTA Values
Safe, Accountable, Affordable, Convenient, Dependable, Efficient and Sustainable

Current Planning Projects

Destination 2040 Regional Project List Implementation
The Planning Department is engaged in all three D2040 Staff Working Groups: Capital Improvements, Service Enhancements and Bus Procurement. Recent discussion is centered on recent grant awards from the CCCP process (see Page 4), and how the capital awards fit into the current bus and facility work plans.

RMI Mobility Innovation Lab
The RFTA-Aspen Battery Electric Bus (BEB) Pilot Project was chosen as an accelerator project for the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) Mobility Innovation Lab (MIL); from Aug. 5-8th at the Basalt offices. "RMI's MIL is an invitation-only, four-day working meeting bringing together teams to tackle obstacles to large-scale mobility transformation. By bringing together the stakeholders required to advance specific projects, address gaps, and derive solutions, breakthroughs can be achieved that deliver a replicable real-world foundation for scaling up." More information: https://rmi.org/mil-accelerator/

The RFTA team includes representatives from RFTA, Aspen, Holy Cross, CLEER, New Flyer Buses and ABB Charging. The team facilitator has interviewed each team member to create shared team objectives:

- Identify pathways for scaling beyond RFTA's 8 pilot electric buses considering the expertise of relevant stakeholders from the transit agency, bus manufacturer, charging infrastructure provider, electric utility, and local and state officials.

- Define the challenges and opportunities to scaling, and what needs to be true and validated of the pilot bus performance in the coming months, including in areas such as data collection, integration into existing operations, future technology changes, and financing.
- Clarify approaches to defining RFTA's broader electrification strategy and goals
- Determine next steps and priorities for stakeholders within and beyond the project team, including opportunities to share lessons-learned with peer transit agencies and governments.

RMI/HCE Energy Resilience Initiative

Holy Cross Energy (HCE) contracted with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) on a project to strengthen the resilience of the electricity system in the Upper Roaring Fork Valley, especially in light of threats created by the Lake Christine Fire in 2018. RFTA was asked to participate as a larger consumer of electricity in the Upper Valley, as well as a provider of public transportation during unfortunate public emergencies. RFTA Staff also attended the Microgrids Working Group. The group discussed ideal criteria for a feasible microgrid project, as well as several potential locations i.e. AABC that would include RFTA, the Airport, the Fire Station, CMC etc. RMI will be releasing a report later this summer that will provide a wealth of information and possible next steps for the public and regional decision makers to discuss possible outcomes. More information: https://rmi.org/energy-resilience-in-the-roaring-fork-valley/.

The public is invited to the RMI Breakfast Briefing: Seeking Resilience in the "New Climate Normal", Tuesday August 13th, 9-11 am at the RMI offices in Basalt. Attendees will learn how communities are taking steps to improve their resilience against extreme weather events, how Holy Cross Energy and RMI are partnering to set an example in the Roaring Fork Valley, and what lessons can be adapted by other communities facing similar climate challenges.

CDOT 2045 State Transportation Plan

CDOT has kicked off planning and outreach for the 2045 State Transportation Plan. According to the interactive website, CDOT is engaging in a transportation conversation by taking a fresh look at the State's investment priorities and asking people across Colorado what matters to their lives and what transportation can do to get them there. CDOT is bringing planning efforts together to create "*Your Transportation Plan*" that identifies a 10-year strategic pipeline of projects, inclusive of all modes, informed both by a data-driven needs assessment and public and stakeholder input. Everyone is encouraged to take a 15-minute survey that includes the ability to place trouble spots on an interactive map:
https://www.codot.gov/programs/colorado-transportation-matters/your-transportation-plan.

Over the next few months, RFTA Staff will be providing input for both the state plan and the Intermountain Transportation Planning Region (IMTPR) regional transit plan.

Complete Count Census Committee

The Roaring Fork Valley Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census met at the Carbondale branch of the Garfield Public Library on Wednesday July 24, 2019 to kick-off the valley-wide effort to organize the community ahead of the 2020 Census. Approximately 45 people attended the meeting, including staff from Pitkin County, City of Aspen, Town of Carbondale, and Garfield County.

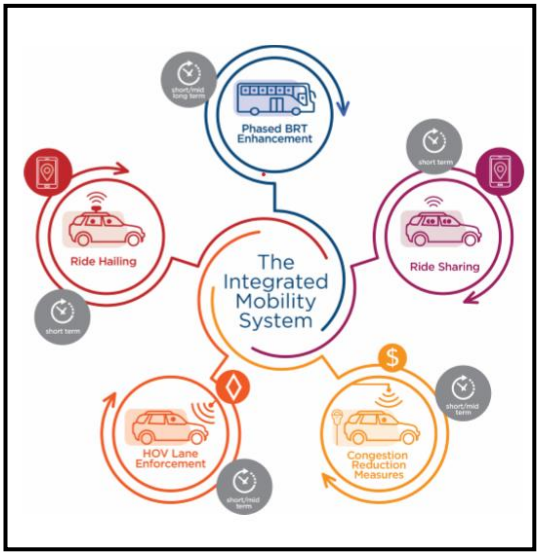
The 2020 census staff emphasized the importance of local governments and citizens in ensuring a complete count of all of all residents in the region. The process will begin in April 2020.

Ride Glenwood On-Demand Transit Stakeholder Meeting

David Johnson, Jason White, Dan Blankenship, Kurt Ravenschlag, and other staff attended a meeting with the City of Glenwood Springs and VIA Transportation to discuss the potential for On-Demand transportation in the City of Glenwood Springs, serving the north and west areas of the city in particular that are outside of the RFTA's service area. VIA reviewed conceptually what such a system would look like and how it would operate.

Aspen Institute Mobility Forum

On July 29, David Johnson and Dan Blankenship attending a meeting with the Community Forum Task Force and Transportation and Mobility to discuss the Forum's ***Upper Valley Mobility Report (September 2017)***, and more specifically the proposed Integrated Mobility System (IMS). The task force previously recommended unanimously that work begin immediately to plan an integrated mobility system that includes the following five elements. A key question was whether the EOTC could play a greater role in collaborative regional planning.



Active Grant Projects, revised 8/1/2019

Project	Grant Source	Execution Date	Expiration Date	Grant Amount	Match Amount	Total Project Cost
Buses: Battery Electric Buses (1)	FY17 FTA 5339(c) LoNo	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$715,528	$178,882	$894,410
Buses: Battery Electric Buses (2)	FY19 FASTER (SB 228)	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$1,404,000	$351,000	$1,755,000
Buses: Battery Electric Buses (3)	FY18 and FY19 FASTER	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$2,154,400	$538,600	$2,693,000
Buses: (4) 45' Diesel Coaches	FY18 5339(b) Bus/Facility	2/21/2019	12/31/2021	$2,231,500	$557,872	$2,789,372
Buses: (4) Hybrid Replacements	FY19 5339(b) Bus/Facility	Pending	Pending	$1,788,312	$447,080	$2,235,392
Buses: 9 Diesels (7 low floors, 2 coaches)	FY19 CCCP (FTA 5339)	Pending	12/31/2021	$3,991,440	$997,860	$4,989,300
Equipment: BEB 450 kW (1) On-Route Charger	FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT)	Pending	Pending	$480,000	$120,000	$600,000
Facility: AMF Phase 9: Replace 6 Fuel Tanks	FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT)	Pending	Pending	$1,000,000	$250,000	$1,250,000
Facility: GMF/Regional Transit Center Renovation/Expansion	FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT)	Pending	Pending	$1,581,460	$395,365	$1,976,825
Facility: GMF/Regional Transit Center Renovation/Expansion	FY19 USDOT BUILD	Pending	Pending	$7,983,000	$13,000,000	$20,983,000
Glenwood Springs Corridor Study	FTA 5304 Planning	Pending	Pending	$40,000	$10,000	$50,000
Operating Regional Commuter	FTA FY19 5311	12/7/2018	12/31/2019	$1,115,810	$1,115,810	$2,231,620
Operating Hogback	CDOT FY19 FASTER	12/28/2018	12/31/2019	$200,000	$200,000	$400,000
				$14,874,138	**$4,705,389**	**$19,579,527**

Battery Electric Bus Pilot Project
FY 19 CCCP projects
Operating Grants