RFTA Planning Department Monthly Update
January 10, 2019

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

RFTA Planning Department Vision Statement
We will work creatively, cooperatively and comprehensively with our partners in the public, private and nonprofit sectors and other groups to create healthy and vibrant communities.

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.

Battery Electric Bus (BEB) Pilot Project
The Planning Department continues to meet internally with appropriate Staff for grant management, bus delivery and AMF infrastructure preparation. We are also meeting externally with Holy Cross Electric and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) on a potential local renewable energy source to help offset the increased electrical consumption with the BEB project. We are also working on a transportation rate for electricity that will keep electricity costs for charging BEBs more affordable and consistent.

RFTA Strategic Plan
Planning/Communications/Marketing Staff has been working closely with the CEO and COO to restructure the plan to align more closely with RFTA's core objectives, and provide a more definitive roadmap for RFTA's short and long term project goals.

RFTA Recreational Trails Plan 2019 Update
The Planning Department has been working closely with the Facilities/Trail Dept. to lead this plan update process since early 2018. We have also been closely coordinating with DHM Design for public outreach, Pitkin County Open Space & Trails Staff for common trail topics, conducting regional stakeholder meetings and soliciting public feedback via a public survey and draft plan comments.

Project Schedule (revised 1/3/19):

Nov. 28th	Stakeholder Meeting #2
Dec. 3rd - Jan. 1st	RFTA Website, First 30-day Public Review of 2019 RTP Update (2 comments)
Jan. 3rd	DHM discussion and first reading postponed to 2/14/19 board meeting
Jan. 8th	RFTA and POST Staff to meet about e-bikes
Jan. 11th	DHM to provide working draft of 2019 plan to RFTA
Feb. 6th	Draft plan due for 2/14 board packet
Feb. 7th	Ad for First Public Reading/Hearing on 2/14 and notice of Second Public Review
Feb. 14th	RFTA Board Meeting, First Public Reading/Hearing
Feb. 18th	Run ad for Second Public Reading/Hearing on 3/14
Feb. 12th - March 13th	RFTA Website, Second 30-day Public Review Period
March 6th	Final plan due for 3/14 board packet

March 14th	RFTA Board Meeting, Second Public Reading/Hearing, seek adoption
April 11th	RFTA board meeting placeholder for postponed plan adoption

Regional Land Use Development Referrals
As a regional referral agency, RFTA is occasionally asked to provide comments on regional commercial and large residential projects that may affect existing or future transit/trail operations. We are submitting referral comments on the following developments:

- RFTA is a stakeholder in the Riverview School Safe Routes to School Grant Program
- Garfield County, Black Bridge Condos, Neiley/Maniscalchi Variance, Rio Grande Railroad Corridor
- Basalt, LAAM 525 LLC Site Plan Review, adjacent to RFTA Basalt BRT Station-PNR
- Aspen Skiing Company Aspen Mountain Master Plan

Grant Funding Management and Development
The Planning Department is responsible for submitting Federal/State/Local capital and operating grant applications, managing grant contract responsibilities and researching creative funding opportunities for the financial sustainability of RFTA. Here is a snapshot of recent grant activity:

Project	Grant Source	Execution Date	Expiration Date	Grant Amount	Match Amount	Total Project Cost
Operating	FTA FY19 5311	12/7/2018	12/31/2019	$1,115,810	$1,115,810	$2,231,620
Operating	CDOT FY19 FASTER	TBD	TBD	$200,000	$200,000	$400,000
Battery Electric Buses (1)	FY17 FTA 5339(c) LoNo	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$715,528	$178,882	$894,410
Battery Electric Buses (2)	FY19 FASTER (SB 228)	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$1,404,000	$351,000	$1,755,000
Battery Electric Buses (3)	FY18 and FY19 FASTER	9/7/2018	12/31/2020	$2,154,400	$538,600	$2,693,000
(4) Diesel MCI Replacements	FY18 5339(b) Bus/Facility	TBD	TBD	$2,231,500	$557,872	$2,789,372
				$7,821,238	**$2,942,164**	**$10,763,402**

Staff was informed in December 2018 that we were unsuccessful in receiving a USDOT BUILD Grant for the Renovation/Expansion of the Glenwood Springs Maintenance Facility (GMF)/Regional Transit Center (RTC). Approximately 851 applications were submitted this cycle, seeking a total of over $11 billion of $1.5 billion BUILD funding available.

The majority of projects awarded were highway and freight rail projects in rural areas, showing where their priorities are. Of the 91 projects awarded BUILD funds, only 11 were transit projects (or 12%). Transit projects totaled only $133 million of the $1.5 billion available, or 8%.