

Attachment 3: Summary of Public Involvement

About

Central to the planning process for the Transfort Optimization Plan is a robust and inclusive public involvement process designed to ensure meaningful participation from diverse populations, with a particular emphasis on transit-reliant groups.

Who we interacted with

Project-related committees, boards and commissions, organization and community groups, and the community-at-large were engaged at key points throughout the project.

A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) were formed to meet at key points throughout the project to provide guidance on analyses and materials. The CAC is comprised of representatives from different organizational and community groups, whereas the TAC is comprised of City of Fort Collins staff with planning and technical expertise from FC Moves and Transfort. Additionally, the project team engaged with a variety of Boards and Commissions during the project including Transportation Board, Senior Advisory Board, Disability Advisory Board, Climate Equity Committee, and Dial-A-Ride & Transit Accessibility Committee (DARTAC).

The heart of public engagement occurred in Summer 2025 to obtain input on the three transit scenarios, reaching thousands of residents through surveys, open houses, community events, and presentations to Boards and Commissions, the CAC and TAC, and other key stakeholders and partners. Key partners included schools, higher education, community organizations serving older adults, the business community, people with disabilities, and underserved populations. Because two key stakeholders, Colorado State University and Poudre School District were not in session during June, staff conducted outreach to both entities in the spring in the form of surveys, tabling at events, and social media. Additionally, links to surveys via QR code were provided on buses to capture existing transit riders. This phase of engagement was both targeted and broad-based, capturing as many people as possible in the process including both current and potential transit riders.

Our strongest interactions occurred with stakeholder groups who tended to be informed and interested in transit but didn't necessarily use transit regularly. We also had strong responses from the community through the survey with over 350 responses.

What we heard on the scenarios

Feedback emphasized frequency over coverage as the top priority, support for simple, linear routes, improved reliability and safety, and expanded evening, weekend, and school-oriented service. Residents also identified system gaps, particularly along Timberline and south of Harmony, and expressed skepticism about microtransit due to cost and the inconvenience of transferring to fixed route. Feedback on the scenarios along with data evaluation and best practices informed the recommended transit scenario.

Next Steps

Following Council feedback, Transfort and FC Moves will enter the inform stage of engagement to share outcomes with the community, finalize implementation plans, and begin phased rollout of the operational plan in 2027.

Additional Information

This section provides more specific information on the community groups and organizations engaged during the project.

The CAC is comprised of members from the following organizations or groups:

- Active Modes Advisory Board
- ARC of Larimer County
- Bohemian Foundation
- CARE Communities
- Colorado State University (CSU)
- DARTAC
- Front Range Community College
- Housing Catalyst
- Large Employers (e.g. Advanced Energy, Broadcom)
- North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO)
- Poudre School District (PSD)
- Rescue Mission
- Strong Towns
- Summit Stone Health
- Transportation Board

The following groups (in alphabetical order), identified in the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) are populations that we engaged:

- Boards and Commissions
- Business representatives
- Colorado State University
- Community members with disabilities
- Culturally diverse community members
- Fort Collins transit riders
- Latino/Hispanic and Spanish-speaking community members
- Lower-income and underserved community members
- Older adults (Ages 60+)
- Residents in Fort Collins
- Transit-dependent populations
- Transit, active modes and sustainability advocates
- Unhoused community members
- Youth/schools

Engagement occurred in some capacity with the following organizations:

- Active Modes Advisory Board
- Chamber of Commerce – Local Legislative Affairs Committee
- City Council
- Climate Equity Committee
- Colorado State University

- Community Connectors
- Dial-a-Ride and Transit Accessibility Committee
- Disability Advisory Board
- Housing Catalyst
- Larimer County Mobility Committee
- Larimer County Office on Aging
- Lived Experience Advisory Council
- Midtown Business Improvement District
- North Fort Collins Business Association
- Poudre School District
- Senior Advisory Board
- Transportation Board

