

**Town of Lyons, Colorado  
Board of Trustees  
BOT Agenda Cover Sheet  
Agenda Item No: XI.2.  
Date: 05/17/21**

**TO:** Mayor Angelo and Members of the Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Kim Mitchell, Director of Community Relations

**DATE:** 05/13/21

**ITEM:** Resolution 2021-52 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH BOULDER COUNTY FOR THE 2021 ECOPASS PROGRAM

ORDINANCE  
 MOTION / RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

- I. **REQUEST OR ISSUE:** Board consideration of a resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Boulder County for the 2021 EcoPass program.
  
- II. **RECOMMENDED ACTION / NEXT STEPS:** Staff understands there may be questions as to approving an MOU without current RTD Bus Service and the Y route in Lyons. However, the EcoPass program is valid system wide (for bus service and light rail), beyond Lyons and available to be used by residents for other routes. In addition, the expectation is that service will resume to pre COVID levels this summer as public transportation and travel returns to pre pandemic levels. Due to the ongoing and continued support of Boulder County for the program and the zTrip supplemental program, staff recommends supporting the MOU and EcoPass Program.
  
- III. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Boulder County has drafted and approved the MOU between the County and the Town regarding the cost share for the 2021 RTD EcoPass Program. The Town has had the EcoPass Program along with public bus service between the Town and Boulder for the past ten years. The 2020 COVID Pandemic changed many things locally and nationally, including public transportation and bus service to/from Lyons. For the latter third of 2020, Lyons had no bus service to Boulder. For 2021, Boulder County expects bus service in Lyons to return in August.

It is important to note that the EcoPass program is valid system wide and while there has not been service in Lyons for the bus, riders in the Lyons EcoPass program have been able to ride buses in the region. For example, EcoPass holders/riders may take a bus from Boulder to downtown Denver or to DIA or a bus within the city of Boulder.

In addition, Boulder County is backfilling in the lost bus service via the zTrip taxi voucher program which provides transportation for those who need a ride to/from Boulder and Lyons or to/from Longmont and Lyons. For the first 4 months of the program the county has paid \$17,448 for the program and \$40K is available. Currently students may get a ride to Boulder via zTrip and then use their EcoPass to use the SKIP, HOP, JUMP etc.

while in Boulder. There are approximately 360 current EcoPass holders in Lyons. As school has returned to more in-class learning, students and parents have renewed their EcoPass.

- IV. **FISCAL IMPACTS:** The 2021 Town budget allocated \$25K for the EcoPass program. The 2021 fee structure is based on 2019 ridership levels and includes a reduction in total cost due to loss of service for Q4 of 2020. The total cost of the program this year is \$40,930, with Boulder County contributing 50% (\$20,465) and the Town paying the other 50% (\$20,465). Pre COVID the cost was originally expected to be closer to \$50K. The Town also charges those residents who want to participate in the program and purchase their EcoPass. The cost varies between \$15 for students, seniors and lower-income to \$30 for all others.
  
- V. **LEGAL ISSUES:** None at this time and the attorney has reviewed the MOU
  
- VI. **CONFLICTS OR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:** N/A
  
- VII. **ALTERNATIVES:** The BOT could deny the resolution, which may impact the approximately 360 current EcoPass holders in the Lyons area.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** "I MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-52"