

PRESSRELEASE



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**DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AWARDS
HIGHEST HONOR TO REGIONAL ADVOCATE TOM CLARK**

DENVER – The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) presented its highest honor, the John V. Christensen Memorial Award, to Tom Clark for his leadership of and advocacy for regional collaboration and development. The award was presented by Bob Roth, DRCOG chair and Aurora city council member, during DRCOG’s annual awards celebration.

Clark began his career in economic development as director of commercial and industrial development in Illinois in the late 1970s. He came to Colorado as director of economic development for the Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce, quickly proving his mettle by bringing the Anheuser-Busch brewery to the northern Front Range.

In 1985, just as the region’s economy was in the middle of the oil bust, Clark was offered a job with the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, where he served at the helm of the regional economic development office. He served as both the executive vice president of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and as the CEO of the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation.

During his tenure, Clark served as a key player in virtually every major development and expansion project in the Denver area, including:

- Construction of Denver International Airport
- Bringing the Rockies to Denver, and construction of Coors Field
- The new Mile High Stadium
- World Trade Center Denver
- Passage of FasTracks
- Establishment of direct international flights to Asia and Europe and
- The Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

“Tom Clark has helped shaped the Denver region for more than 30 years,” said Doug Rex, DRCOG acting executive director. “DRCOG is proud to honor Tom Clark with the John V. Christensen Memorial Award

for his countless contributions to regionalism and collaboration. He has no doubt made Denver one of the nation's best places to live."

Clark retired in March of this year, leaving behind a legacy in regional collaboration and planning. The John V. Christensen Award honors individuals who promote regional collaboration to solve problems. It was first presented in 1973 to honor the late John V. Christensen, an Arapahoe County commissioner and DRCOG co-founder. Clark joins a distinguished group of regional champions.

The Denver Regional Council of Governments is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy and allocation finding in the areas of transportation and personal mobility, growth and development and aging and disability resources.

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