

Board update

Board meeting: November 20, 2024

Action items



[Discussion of amendments to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program](#)

Presenter: Josh Schwenk, senior planner, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: Denver Regional Council of Governments staff presented five proposed amendments to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. The first two amendments — additional funding for operational improvements at the intersection of Mineral Avenue and Santa Fe Drive in Littleton and additional funding to upgrade the multiuse path along Arapahoe Road in Centennial — were reapportioned by the Arapahoe County Subregional Forum from funding returned by the City of Englewood.

The amendments also include the addition of three projects under new federal discretionary awards: a project to add a safety median along U.S. Route 287 north of Lafayette, new improvements to the trail along Sanderson Gulch in Denver and new improvements to mitigate flood impacts in Lena Gulch in Golden.

Result: The Board approved the proposed amendments to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.



[Discussion of revisions to the Nominating Committee guidelines](#)

Presenter: Douglas W. Rex, executive director

Background: The Performance and Engagement

Committee proposed several revisions to the Nominating Committee guidelines to more accurately represent the process for nominating Board officers. The revised guidelines clarify that Board officer positions are designed to be successive (from treasurer to secretary to vice chair to chair to immediate past chair) and outline what factors the committee will consider to ensure diversity among Board officers.

The revised guidelines also grant the Nominating Committee authority to make recommendations to the Board for DRCOG representatives to serve on various regional committees.

Result: The Board approved the revisions to the Nominating Committee guidelines.

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[Selection of a new representative to the Nominating Committee](#)

Presenter: Douglas W. Rex, executive director

Background: The Nominating Committee is appointed each November, and one

of the six committee members is selected by the full Board of Directors. Members of the Nominating Committee must be directors (not alternates) who have served on the Board for at least one year. They are not eligible to be nominated as Board officers during their time on the Nominating Committee, and consideration is given to factors like community size and geographic location to ensure diversity of the committee.

There were two nominations from the floor: Austin Ward of the City and County of Broomfield and John Diak of the Town of Parker. However, Diak withdrew in support of Ward before a vote was taken.

Result: The Board approved Ward to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2025.

Informational briefings



[Ride Alliance overview](#)

Presenter: Malorie Miller, senior project manager, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: In July, DRCOG received a grant through the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation program to upgrade and pilot a Ride Alliance Trip Exchange Hub to help older adults, veterans and people with mobility challenges access on-demand transit services. Currently, Denver region residents who want to use on-demand transit

are facing waitlists for services, a high number of trip denials and no coordination among providers.

The Ride Alliance Trip Exchange Hub would coordinate trip requests across the region, reduce trip denials, create a better user experience for clients and streamline reporting processes across providers. The foundations of the hub were built under previous grant funding; the latest grant will allow DRCOG staff and consultant partners to enhance the hub's functionality, integrate transportation providers via an application programming interface (also known as an API) and pilot actual trips. Several organizations, including the Regional Transportation District and the Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council, have submitted letters of commitment for the project.

By the end of 2024, DRCOG staff intend to have a contract in place with two consultant partners (both of whom have worked on previous Ride Alliance iterations) and have memorandums of understanding underway with transportation providers. In 2025, work will begin to develop APIs and integrate partners, enhance and pilot the hub, and apply for the next stage of grant funding for full implementation.



[Regional Housing Needs Assessment compliance with state legislation](#)

Presenter: Sheila Lynch, director, Regional Planning and Development

Background: Since DRCOG staff began developing the Regional Housing Needs Assessment three years ago, state laws have evolved. The Sustainable Affordable Housing Assistance Act, passed earlier this year as Senate Bill 24-174, requires that nearly all local governments in Colorado conduct and publish a housing needs assessment. One exception is for local governments that participate in

the creation of a regional housing needs assessment.

DRCOG staff are closely monitoring the state's compliance rules to ensure that member governments can use DRCOG's Regional Housing Needs Assessment to fulfill the new requirement. December 31 is the deadline for local governments and regional entities to submit already completed housing needs assessments. DRCOG staff plan to submit the Regional Housing Needs Assessment for conditional approval in early December after making minor additions and clarifications to [the associated interactive dashboard](#), which will not change the assessment's primary findings.

Conditional approval will allow DRCOG to achieve substantial compliance before completing the next steps required in the process: the addition of a displacement risk assessment and a 60-day review period for each local jurisdiction that wants to use the DRCOG assessment as its state-mandated resource for housing planning. Conditional approval will also allow DRCOG staff to move forward with a regional housing strategy and help local government leaders and staff decide whether they want to pursue their own assessments.



[2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan major update kickoff](#)

Presenter: Alvan-Bidal

Sanchez, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: The Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan guides the region's investments in the multimodal transportation

system and helps member governments and partners implement Metro Vision's shared aspirations. The plan is updated every four years and amended as needed to ensure its content remains relevant and reflects current trends, needs and priorities. DRCOG staff have begun working on the next major update to the plan, which must be adopted by fall 2026 to meet federal requirements.

The updated plan will reflect the various plans and programs that have been initiated or completed since initial adoption of the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan in 2021, including the Regional Bus Rapid Transit Partnership, Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan, Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Strategic Plan. Major activities for the plan update, some of which are already underway, include an improved equity analysis, scenario planning, project solicitation and evaluation, ongoing engagement opportunities and accessibility remediation.

On adoption, the plan must meet federal fiscal constraint requirements, meaning that every proposed project must have reasonably expected funding. It also must meet federal air quality conformity and state transportation greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, among other state and federal requirements.

