

SUMMARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, January 18, 2023
Note: Meeting held virtually via Zoom

Members/Alternates Present

Kevin Flynn, Chair	City and County of Denver
Jeff Baker	Arapahoe County
Claire Levy	Boulder County
Austin Ward (Alternate)	City and County of Broomfield
Randy Wheelock	Clear Creek County
Nicholas Williams	City and County of Denver
George Teal	Douglas County
Marie Mornis	Gilpin County
Tracy Kraft-Tharp	Jefferson County
Lisa Smith	City of Arvada
Alison Coombs	City of Aurora
Larry Vittum	Town of Bennett
Nicole Speer	City of Boulder
Margo Ramsden	Town of Bow Mar
Jan Pawlowski	City of Brighton
Deborah Mulvey	City of Castle Pines
Tim Dietz	Town of Castle Rock
Tammy Mauer	City of Centennial
Todd Williams	City of Central City
Randy Weil	City of Cherry Hills Village
Craig Hurst	City of Commerce City
Steve Conklin	City of Edgewater
Othoniel Sierra	City of Englewood
Ari Harrison	Town of Erie
Josie Cockrell	Town of Foxfield
Lynette Kelsey	Town of Georgetown
Paul Haseman	City of Golden
Rachel Binkley	City of Glendale
Chuck Harmon	Town of Idaho Springs
Jeslin Shahrezaei	City of Lakewood
Stephen Barr	City of Littleton
Kat Bristow	Town of Lochbuie
Wynne Shaw	City of Lone Tree
Joan Peck	City of Longmont
Kyle Brown (Alternate)	City of Louisville
Hollie Rogin	Town of Lyons
Colleen Whitlow	Town of Mead
Tom Mahowald	Town of Nederland
Richard Kondo (Alternate)	City of Northglenn
John Diak	Town of Parker
Sally Daigle	City of Sheridan
Neal Shah	Town of Superior

Board of Directors Meeting Summary

January 18, 2023

Page 2

Jessica Sandgren
Sarah Nurmela
Bud Starker
Sally Chafee
Rebecca White
Brian Welch

City of Thornton
City of Westminster
City of Wheat Ridge
Colorado Department of Transportation
Colorado Department of Transportation
Regional Transportation District

Others Present: Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, Melinda Stevens, Executive Assistant, DRCOG; Chris Chovan, Adams County; Bryan Weimer, Arapahoe County; Mac Callison, Aurora; Art Griffith, Lauren Pulver, Douglas County; Christina Lane, Jefferson County; Gerrit Slatter, Boulder; Austin Payne, Castle Rock; Shawn Poe, Commerce City; Deborah Fahey, Louisville; Kent Moorman, Thornton; Debra Baskett, Westminster; Ed Bowditch, Jennifer Cassell, Bowditch & Cassell; Kathleen Bracke, Jordan Rudel, CDOT; Charlie Stanfield, RTD; Randle Loeb, Matt Williams, Chris Hudson, Citizens; and DRCOG staff.

Chair Kevin Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

The Chair noted new members and alternates: Kyle Brown, new member for the City of Louisville; Kat Bristow, new member for the Town of Lochbuie; Tim Dietz, new member for the Town of Castle Rock; Marie Mornis, new member for Gilpin County; Kathryn Wittman, new member for City of Dacono; Tom Mahowald, new member for the Town of Nederland; Todd Williams, new member for the City of Central; Deborah Fahey, new alternate for the City of Louisville; Jacklyn White, new alternate for the Town of Lochbuie; Lesley Dahlkemper, alternate for Jefferson County; Royce Pindell, new alternate for the Town of Bennett; and Ashley Stolzmann, new alternate for Boulder County.

Move to approve agenda

Director Harmon **moved** to approve the agenda. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Report of the Chair

Chair Flynn wanted to inform directors that the February Board work session would mainly be devoted to a discussion revolving around the potential role for DRCOG in regional housing conversations.

- Director Shaw reported that the Performance and Engagement Committee met earlier in the evening and discussed the 2023 Board Retreat and received an update on the annual awards celebration.
- Director Baker reported the Finance and Budget Committee met earlier that evening and approved six resolutions authorizing the Executive Director to:
 - negotiate and execute a contract with Brite Systems for approximately \$200,000 with a one year term to build, test, and deploy an enhancement to the comprehensive data system that currently supports AAA programs and services.

- execute a contract with the Regional Transportation District (RTD) for support of the vanpool services offered by DRCOG's Way to Go program in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 beginning on January 1, 2023 and terminating on December 31, 2023.
- execute a contract with Enterprise Leasing Company of Denver, LLC to provide vanpool services for the Way to Go vanpool program, with a not-to-exceed budget amount of \$450,000 per year, beginning on January 1, 2023, and terminating on December 31, 2023, with the option to renew for two additional one-year terms upon satisfactory performance.
- negotiate and execute a contract with Kucera International, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$350,000 with a term of February 2023 through September 2024 to create planimetric datasets.
- contract with Dulles Technology Partners, Inc for approximately \$100,000 to implement a new grant management system.
- accept state funds in the amount of \$100,000 from the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) for the purpose of contracting for Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) grants navigation services for DRCOG and DRCOG member governments.

Report of the Executive Director

- ED Rex wanted to reiterate to directors that the February Board work session would mainly be devoted to a continued discussion on the potential role for DRCOG in regional housing conversations.
- The solicitation of interest to serve on the Finance and Budget Committee, the Performance and Engagement Committee, or other regional committees will go out to directors on January 19 and voting on those assignments will be brought to the February Board meeting.
- Winter Bike to Work Day will take place on February 10 this year.

Public Comment

Randle Loeb asked members that when they are discussing housing, that it is important that everyone be transparent and accountable in terms of parity and equity. Additionally, he requested the Board include those people who are friends, disenfranchised, and marginalized, to be a part of the decision making.

Move to approve consent agenda

Director Levy **moved** to approve the consent agenda. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Items on the consent agenda included:

- Summary of the December 21, 2022 meeting
- Designate Location for Posting Notices of Meetings
- Transportation Planning Framework

Discussion of the FY 2022 First Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Project Delays

Todd Cottrell provided an overview of the project delays to the directors. Mr. Cottrell informed everyone that any references to December 2022 in the [TIP Project Delays Report for FY 2022](#), should be January of 2023. Timely initiation of TIP projects and project phases is an important objective of the Board. Delays tie up scarce federal funds that could have been programmed to other projects. The Policies for TIP Program Development document identifies expectations for project initiation and policy for addressing delays for TIP projects and project phases. At the end of FY 2022, DRCOG staff reviewed the implementation status of DRCOG-selected projects and project phases. Additionally, staff met with project sponsors to discuss the delays and identify action plans demonstrating the sponsor's commitment to timely initiation. The TIP Project Delays Report for FY 2022 summarizes the reasons for each delay and actions proposed by sponsors to get the project or phase(s) initiated.

Director Baker **moved** to approve the actions proposed by DRCOG staff regarding Fiscal Year 2022 first year TIP project delays. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Discussion of the draft Legislative Principle Statement and the draft 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues.

Rich Mauro reviewed directors suggested changes to the documents. Each year, the Board adopts two policy statements on a range of specific state and federal legislative issues. These documents provide the DRCOG Board, staff and lobbyists with policy direction on legislative issues during the coming year. The Draft 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues was provided to Board members at the November Board meeting along with DRCOG's legislative principle statement for review. DRCOG staff received comments on both [the legislative principle statement](#) and [the state policy statement](#) and have modified the draft documents to incorporate those suggestions. All other revisions were proposed by DRCOG staff.

Directors Levy and Speer requested that staff propose language to be incorporated in future legislative agenda documents related to equity in transportation investments and environmental justice in the impacts of transportation.

Director Peck **moved** to approve an amendment to the statement highlighted on page 7 of the Draft 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues to read as "Allocate additional state funds to support transit services within and among communities in the DRCOG area." The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Director Levy **moved** to approve an amendment to the bolded paragraph on page 3 of the Draft 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues to read as "DRCOG supports legislative initiatives that foster transit-oriented development. DRCOG also supports initiatives that a) provide the Regional Transportation District (RTD) and local jurisdictions with the ability to manage parking facilities using best practices that help the region reduce vehicle miles

traveled (VMT); b) local infrastructure investment support; c) expanding the ability of RTD and local governments to enter into joint-development agreements; and d) protecting local authority to use tax-increment financing to leverage development in areas around transit stations.” The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

Director Shaw **moved** to approve the 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues as amended. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 44 in favor and 1 abstention from Director Binkley.

RTD Zero Fare for Better Air update

Charlie Stanfield, RTD, provided an update on this initiative to the directors. SB22-180 established the Zero Air for Better Air initiative that RTD and other transit agencies around the state participated in during August 2022. The goal of the initiative was to help reduce ground level ozone by providing funding to subsidize free transit service for at least 30 days during the summer ozone season. During August 2022, fares were free on the entire RTD system. RTD was allocated \$11 million per year for two years, with a required 20% local match. RTD found that overall ridership increased 22% from July 2022, with much of the August ridership retained in September 2022.

2023 legislative session preview of Colorado General Assembly

The 2023 Session of the Colorado General Assembly convened on January 9. Rich Mauro and DRCOG's lobbyists Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell presented a brief overview of what to expect during the session. Bowditch and Cassell provided members with a [2023 Colorado Legislative Session Outlook](#).

Regional Transportation Operations and Technology (RTO&T) Strategic Plan

Greg MacKinnon provided an overview of the plan to directors. The purpose of the plan is to guide the DRCOG region's near-term efforts to deploy technology tools and coordinated system procedures for the multimodal transportation system. These efforts will assist transportation operations staff in serving daily travel demands across the region. The plan envisions transportation systems serving all travel modes across the DRCOG region that are interconnected and collaboratively operated, managed, and maintained to optimize safe, reliable, and efficient travel for all system users, contributing to the region's economic prosperity and high quality of life. This is an aspirational plan that provides guidance for the implementation of operational infrastructure and services to further strengthen the connections between transportation systems and improve the reliability of travel across the region. There are three main sections in the plan: Current State of Regional Transportation Operations, Regional Transportation Operations Needs, and Action Plan. This plan also provides guidance for the development of the upcoming call-for-projects for the RTO&T Set-Aside scheduled for early 2023.

ADDENDUM - Recommendations for election of DRCOG Board officers for 2023

Director Diak provided a brief overview of this item to directors. The Nominating Committee provides a recommendation for election of DRCOG Board officers for

2023 at the January Board meeting. Election of Officers occurs at the February meeting of the Board of Directors.

Committee Reports

State Transportation Advisory Committee – There was no report.

Metro Mayors Caucus – Director Starker stated the caucus met on January 14 at a retreat and reviewed their work for the year 2022. They reaffirmed their recommitment to regionalism, and sent their best wishes to the DRCOG Board for the new year.

Metro Area County Commissioners – Director Baker stated the commissioners had a combined holiday event with MMC on December 15. MACC is currently working on the leadership transition from Arapahoe County to Boulder County and setting up meetings for 2023.

Advisory Committee on Aging – There was no report.

Regional Air Quality Council – There was no report.

E-470 Authority – There was no report.

Report from CDOT – Director White stated that there was a ribbon cutting for the Central I-70 project that took place in late November. Director White also wanted to let the Board know that this would be her last meeting and thank everyone for their partnership.

Report on FasTracks – Director Welch wanted to inform the Board of two upcoming public meetings for the Northwest Rail Peak Hour Feasibility Study. The first one will take place on January 31 at 3pm in Boulder and the second one will be in Westminster on February 2 at 3pm.

Next meeting – **February 15, 2023**

Other matters by members

There were no other matters by members.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Kevin Flynn, Chair
Board of Directors
Denver Regional Council of Governments

ATTEST:

Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director