

Board of Directors Meeting Summary

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

Members/Alternates Present

Colleen Whitlow, Chair	Town of Mead
Julie Duran Mullica	Adams County
Rhonda Fields, Alternate	Arapahoe County
Claire Levy	Boulder County
Austin Ward*	City and County of Broomfield
Rebecca Lloyd	Clear Creek County
Adam Paul	City and County of Denver
Kevin Flynn	City and County of Denver
Susan Berumen	Gilpin County
Sharon Davis	City of Arvada
Alison Coombs	City of Aurora
Nicole Speer*	City of Boulder
Greg Mills	City of Brighton
Craig Kim, Alternate	City of Commerce City
Emily Baer	Town of Erie
Josie Cockrell	Town of Foxfield
Georgia Kofoed	Town of Georgetown
Rachel Binkley	City of Glendale
Gerchard Pfau	City of Golden
Chuck Harmon	City of Idaho Springs
Saul Tapia Vega	City of Lafayette
Jeslin Shahrezaei	City of Lakewood
Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, Alternate	City of Longmont
Judi Kern	City of Louisville
Angela Bernhardt	Town of Morrison
Ryan Debner, Alternate	Town of Mountain View
Richard Kondo	City of Northglenn
John Diak	Town of Parker
Jay Whittaker	City of Sheridan
Justin Martinez	City of Thornton
Jack Johnson, Alternate	City of Westminster
Rachel Hultin	City of Wheat Ridge
Kiernan Maletsky	Regional Transportation District

Others Present: Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, Melinda Stevens, Executive Assistant, DRCOG; Zeke Lynch *, Douglas County; Tom Worker-Braddock, Aurora; Christine Sweetland*, Centennial; Susan Wood, Wheatridge; Joan Lyons*, John Gardocki*, Jordan Rudel*, Jacob Kershner, Colorado Department of Transportation; and staff.

*Participated via Zoom

Chair Colleen Whitlow called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. with a quorum present.

Move to approve agenda

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

Report of the Chair

- Director Kern reported that the Finance and Budget Committee met on August 5 and approved several items, most notably a \$3.2 million contract with Lotus Engineering and Sustainability for the Power Ahead Colorado Building Policy Collaborative.
- Director Shahrezaei reported the committee did not meet.

Report of the Executive Director

- Awards Celebration: DRCOG has met its sponsorship goal for the August 26 awards celebration, with the reception beginning at 5:30 p.m., the program at 7 p.m., and parking validation available for board directors.
- ULI UrbanPlan Workshop: DRCOG and the Urban Land Institute will host a one-day UrbanPlan workshop on October 9 to give elected officials, community leaders, and local government staff hands-on experience with the complexities of real estate development.
- Starter Home Initiative: The Common Sense Institute and Civic Results will host a September 23 event in Greenwood Village focused on exploring solutions to Colorado's multifamily housing supply, with additional housing-focused events anticipated later in the year.
- Wasatch Front Peer Exchange: Senior staff from the Wasatch Front Regional Council will visit DRCOG for a peer exchange focused on corridor planning, including discussions with regional partners and a tour of the Colfax BRT and Speer/Leetsdale corridors.
- Heat Pump Week / Power Ahead Colorado: DRCOG's inaugural Heat Pump Week was a successful Power Ahead Colorado outreach effort featuring events at the Denver Zoo and a Colorado Rockies game to raise awareness of heat pumps and their heating and cooling benefits.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

Move to approve consent agenda

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

Items on the consent agenda included:

- Summary of the meeting July 15, 2026, meeting
- Amendments to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program
- Amendment to the Federal Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 Unified Planning Work Program for the Denver Region

Discussion of Federal Performance Measures – Traffic Congestion and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program

Alvan-Bidal Sanchez provided a detailed overview of the measures to the Board. The proposed federal PM3 performance targets for the Denver-Aurora urbanized area focuses on traffic congestion and mobile-source emissions reductions required under federal regulations and the region's ozone non-attainment status. The recommended targets, developed in coordination with CDOT where required, include increasing non-single-occupancy vehicle travel to 37.5% at two years and 38.8% at four years, while keeping

annual peak-hour excessive delay below 19.8 and 20.5 hours per capita, respectively. Staff also proposed two- and four-year emissions-reduction targets for nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) associated specifically with CMAQ-funded projects. The targets are intended to be realistic and achievable, may be reassessed at the two-year midpoint, and have received unanimous approval from the Transportation Advisory Committee and Regional Transportation Committee; they will also be incorporated into the CMAQ Performance Plan due to the state by September 30.

Director Flynn **moved** to approve the traffic congestion reduction and on-road mobile source emissions reduction targets. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

2050 Regional Transportation Plan Update

Alvan-Bidal Sanchez presented this update to the Directors. The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is nearing completion following extensive planning, modeling, and public engagement. Key updates include revised priorities emphasizing vulnerable road-user safety, expanded transit options, active transportation, and system reliability; updated population and employment forecasts reflecting slower regional growth and a larger older-adult population; and increased investments in active transportation, freight, and safety, including an increase in active transportation funding from approximately \$800 million to \$1.2 billion. The RTP has also been redesigned for accessibility, incorporates the full 10-county region including Clear Creek and Gilpin counties, consolidates its appendices, and will replace its web map with an interactive dashboard. Following engagement with nearly 1,500 people across the region, the updated plan is expected to begin its 30-day public review on September 6, with a public hearing on October 7 and final approval targeted by the federal deadline of December 8.

Emerging Mobility in the Denver Region

Emily Lindsey provided an overview of emerging mobility in the region to the Board. There has been a lot of new data discovered by regional collaboration through the Advanced Mobility Partnership with CDOT, RTD, and the Denver Metro Chamber on transportation technologies including automated vehicles, microtransit, mobility hubs, and shared micromobility. Shared bikes and scooters continue to grow across the region, with more than 37 million trips recorded since 2019 and ridership up more than 20% during the first half of 2026; data and surveys indicate these services help connect riders to transit and replace some vehicle trips, while also reinforcing the need for safe, connected active transportation infrastructure. DRCOG also continues to coordinate regional micromobility planning, data sharing, and technical assistance and administers an Innovative Mobility Set-Aside of approximately \$1 million annually, with 11 projects underway addressing areas such as safety, curb data, bicycle data, mobility hubs, shared micromobility, and microtransit. A new joint call for Innovative Mobility and Community-Based Transportation Planning projects will open October 1 through November 15, with no local match required.

Committee Reports

State Transportation Advisory Committee

Director Baer reported the STAC discussed key MMOF and Revitalizing Main Streets funding deadlines, bridge maintenance planning, CDOT Region 4 projects including opportunities for input on US 287, and updates to Colorado's Scenic and Historic Byways Program.

Metro Mayors Caucus

Executive Director Rex reported the August 5 meeting focused on regional business and economic development, including the VIBE initiative and a Denver Metro Chamber presentation on business recruitment and retention challenges and opportunities.

Metro Area County Commissioners

There was no report.

Advisory Committee on Aging

There was no report.

Regional Air Quality Council

There was no report.

E-470 Authority

Director Diak reported the Board approved funding and construction management contracts for the next 6.5-mile expansion from 104th Avenue to US 85.

Economic Development District Advisory Committee

Director Martinez reported the committee reviewed the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) and recommended updates before Board approval and submission as part of DRCOG's Economic Development District application to the EDA.

Report from CDOT

There was no report

Report from RTD

Director Maletsky reported RTD's September service changes include the new hourly airport route and initial Colfax BRT bus-only lane operations, while its 2027 legislative agenda focuses on addressing the agency's structural deficit.

Next meeting – September 16, 2026

Other matters by members

There were no other matters by members.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Colleen Whitlow, Chair
Board of Directors
Denver Regional Council of Governments

ATTEST:

Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director