

Board update

Board meeting: October 16, 2024

Action items



[Discussion of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment](#)

Presenter: Sheila Lynch, director, Regional Planning and Development

Background: In line with Metro Vision's guidance that the Denver region should have diverse housing options that meet the needs of residents of all ages, incomes and abilities, Regional Planning and Development staff worked with consultants and approximately 200 stakeholders to develop a [Regional Housing Needs Assessment](#) and an associated [interactive dashboard](#). In November, Denver Regional Council of Governments staff and partners plan to launch a Regional Housing Strategy, using the knowledge and understanding built through the development of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment as a foundation. The Board's acceptance of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment establishes it as a tool for understanding regional housing needs and the barriers to addressing them when developing the Regional Housing Strategy.

Result: The Board voted to accept the Regional Housing Needs Assessment as a guide for future housing planning, strategy and action.

[Establishing committee oversight of DRCOG's building decarbonization program](#)

Presenter: Robert Spotts, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations



Background: To manage the implementation of DRCOG's new building decarbonization program, staff presented a proposed structure for committee oversight of the program at the September 18 Board meeting. Spotts shared a [draft revision of DRCOG's Committee Policy, Guidelines and Descriptions](#) that adds two new committees: the Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee, which will provide policy oversight and recommendations to the Board, and the Regional Building Decarbonization Technical Committee, which will explore technical issues and policy alternatives for recommendation to the Oversight Committee and Board. Both committees will be composed of a wide range of stakeholders, including local government officials, community leaders, environmental advocates, industry experts and representatives from underserved communities.

Result: The Board voted to approve the amendments to the Committee Policy, Guidelines and Descriptions to add two standing committees to oversee and advise the building decarbonization program.

[Selection of representatives to serve on the Regional Decarbonization Oversight Committee](#)

Presenter: Robert Spotts, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations



Background: Immediately following the approval of the proposed building decarbonization committee structure, the Board elected four members to serve on the Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee.

Result: The Board selected Directors Stephen Barr, Steve Douglas, Richard Kondo and Brian Wong to serve on the Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee. Directors Emily Baer, Claire Levy and Nicole Speer were appointed as alternates to the committee.

Informational briefings



Regional bus rapid transit update

Presenter: Jacob Riger, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: Staff from DRCOG, the Colorado Department of Transportation, Regional Transportation District and various local governments formed the Regional Bus Rapid Transit Partnership to implement a regional bus rapid transit network. The partnership plans to create 11 bus rapid transit corridors by 2050, five of which are targeted for completion by 2030. Of the 11 planned corridors, two (East Colfax and Colorado State Highway 119) are under construction, and two (Federal Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard) are in the federal project development process. Additionally, DRCOG has completed an initial study for the Alameda corridor and is about to initiate a federally compliant alternatives analysis study for the East Colfax Extension project. DRCOG also recently received a Build America Bureau grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation on behalf of the partnership to accelerate planning and project development work on several of the remaining corridors.



Public engagement plan update

Presenter: Kelsie Forfar-Jones, public engagement planner, Communications and Marketing

Background: DRCOG's public engagement plan outlines the agency's principles of public engagement and documents how DRCOG staff ensure the public is involved in processes and decision-making. Since the last plan update in 2021, DRCOG has developed new plans and programs, refined existing strategies and explored equitable engagement strategies. The upcoming plan update will include information on virtual engagement approaches, evaluation of newly tested strategies such as offering public meeting attendees compensation and transit passes, and additional requirements and engagement techniques for Regional Planning and Development and Area Agency on Aging staff. DRCOG staff are currently developing the plan document, with a goal to conduct public and stakeholder review in January and February and have the final plan ready for Board and committee consideration by March.

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