

# Finance and Budget Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

## Members Present

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Rich Kondo, Chair | City of Northglenn        |
| Jeff Baker        | Arapahoe County           |
| Claire Levy       | Boulder County            |
| Adam Paul         | City and County of Denver |
| Andy Kerr         | Jefferson County          |
| Angela Lawson*    | Aurora                    |
| Stephen Barr      | Littleton                 |

Others Present: Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director; Colleen Whitlow, Mead; and DRCOG staff.

Chair Rich Kondo called the meeting to order at approximately 5:41 p.m. with a quorum present.

## Move to approve consent agenda

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

Items on the consent agenda included:

- Summary of the September 18, 2024 special meeting

## Select a representative to the Nominating Committee

Executive Director Rex provided an overview of the selection process to directors. After a discussion amongst members, it was decided this item would be brought back to the committee for action at the November meeting.

## Discussion of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with TransitPlus and DemandTrans in an amount not to exceed \$545,950 for the period beginning on November 4, 2024 and ending on January 15, 2026.

Ron Papsdorf provided a brief overview of the contract to the members. DRCOG was awarded a \$975,486 SMART grant in March 2024 to upgrade and pilot the Ride Alliance Trip Exchange Hub. The trip exchange hub is a Demand Response Transportation service that will coordinate trip requests, reduce trip denials, and streamline reporting processes across human-service transportation providers. A Request for Proposals was published in August 2024 to solicit proposals for a consulting agency to provide technical guidance for the Ride Alliance project on real-time scheduling algorithms, logic-based responses, and application programming interface. Two vendors applied and staff recommended the TransitPlus and DemandTrans team due to their extensive experience completing related projects, history of working on the Ride Alliance project, and technical expertise with transactional data specifications.

Director Barr **moved** to approve **Resolution Number 38, 2024**, authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with TransitPlus and DemandTrans in an amount not to exceed \$545,950 for the period beginning on November 4, 2024 and ending on January 15, 2026. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

**Discussion of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to accept an option letter from Colorado Department of Human Services to extend federal American Rescue Plan Act funds through June 30, 2025 for older adult services.**

Sharon Day provided an overview of the intended fund allocations to the members. The federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was among a series of economic stimulus bills passed by the U.S. Congress to help address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under a contract with the Colorado Department of Human Services, the DRCOG Area Agency on Aging (AAA) was allocated ARPA funds of approximately \$9.1 million starting in 2022. As of July 1, 2024, approximately 95% of funds were spent to administer Older Americans Act programs benefiting older adults and their caregivers throughout the AAA region. DRCOG recently received an option letter from the State for a nine-month, no-cost extension of ARPA funds, pushing out the expiration date to the state fiscal year end date of June 30, 2025. All ARPA funding subparts, except for the Public Health Workforce funds used for health-related navigation services, are projected to be fully spent by the end of the original term date of September 30, 2024. After that date, the remaining ARPA balance is projected at less than \$200,000 and will be expended before the end of the new term date.

Director Levy **moved** to approve **Resolution Number 39, 2024**, authorizing the Executive Director to accept an option letter from Colorado Department of Human Services to extend federal American Rescue Plan Act funds through June 30, 2025 for older adult services. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** unanimously.

**Report of the Chair**

There was no report.

**Report of the Executive Director**

Executive Director Rex informed the committee that DRCOG found out earlier in the day that their grant agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency had been approved for the EPA Decarbonization Grant.

**Next meeting – November 20, 2024**

**Other matters by members**

There were no other matters by members.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.