

# Board of Directors Meeting Summary

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

## Members/Alternates Present

Jeff Baker, Chair	Arapahoe County
Steve O'Dorisio*	Adams County
Claire Levy	Boulder County
James Marsh-Holschen, Alternate	City and County of Broomfield
Nicholas Williams, Alternate	City and County of Denver
Kevin Flynn	City and County of Denver
Kevin Van Winkle	Douglas County
Andy Kerr	Jefferson County
Sharon Davis, Alternate	City of Arvada
Larry Vittum*	Town of Bennett
Nicole Speer	City of Boulder
Greg Mills	City of Brighton
Jason Gray, Alternate	Town of Castle Rock
Tammy Maurer	City of Centennial
Steve Douglas	City of Commerce City
Steve Conklin	City of Edgewater
Othoniel Sierra	City of Englewood
Emily Baer	Town of Erie
Josie Cockrell	Town of Foxfield
Lisa Vitry, Alternate	City of Golden
Chuck Harmon	City of Idaho Springs
Jeslin Shahrezaei	City of Lakewood
Stephen Barr	City of Littleton
Marissa Harmon	City of Lone Tree
Joan Peck	City of Longmont
Judi Kern	City of Louisville
Colleen Whitlow	Town of Mead
Nichole Sterling	Town of Nederland
Richard Kondo	City of Northglenn
John Diak	Town of Parker
Terrence Kelly	City of Sheridan
Mike Foster, Alternate	Town of Superior
Justin Martinez	City of Thornton
Sarah Nurmela	City of Westminster
Darius Pakbaz	Colorado Department of Transportation
Bill Sirois	Regional Transportation District

Others Present: Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, Melinda Stevens, Executive Assistant, DRCOG; Michele Riccio\*, Adams County; DJ Beckwith\*, Art Griffith\*, Douglas County; Mac Callison, Aurora; Deborah Mulvey\*, Castle Pines; Lynette Kelsey\*, Georgetown; Kent Moorman\*, Thornton; Claire Carmelia, Westminster; Ed Bowditch, Jennifer Cassell, Bowditch & Cassell; Jordan Rude\*, John Gardocki\*, Colorado Department of Transportation; Carla Perez, HDR; and DRCOG staff.

\*Participated via Zoom

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

The Chair noted new members and alternates: Robert Eber, new member for the City of Cherry Hills Village; Kevin Van Winkle, new member for Douglas County; Mike Foster, new alternate for the Town of Superior; Susan Maguire, new alternate for the City of Cherry Hills Village; and Rachel Zenzinger, new alternate for Jefferson County.

### **Move to approve agenda**

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

### **Report of the Chair**

Chair Baker reminded directors that Statements of Interest to serve on the Finance and Budget Committee, the Performance and Engagement Committee, or a regional committee are due by close of business on January 24. He also thanked George Teal and Randy Weil for their service on the DRCOG Board.

- Director Conklin reported that the Performance and Engagement Committee did not meet.
- Director Kondo reported the Finance and Budget Committee met prior to the meeting and approved four action items to allow the Executive Director to either extend or amend contracts or accept additional funds. They also received a presentation from Jenny Hunnings on DRCOG's procurement process.

### **Report of the Executive Director**

- Small Area Forecast: DRCOG develops a Small Area Forecast model to predict household and employment location trends, using state demographic forecasts to inform regional planning. A proposed update is now ready for review, and DRCOG will be seeking input from member governments before presenting it to the Board.
- US Department of Commerce – Denver Award: The Denver Economic Development & Opportunity Department has received \$2.4M through the Good Jobs Challenge program to support workforce training for aerospace jobs. Denver was eligible for the grant due to federal approval of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy developed by DRCOG.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Move to approve consent agenda**

Chair Baker noted that Director Kelsey had informed staff prior to the meeting of a change that should be made to the summary, clarifying which "Director Harmon" made the motion on an agenda item.

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

Items on the consent agenda included:

- Summary of the December 18, 2024 meeting
- Designate Location for Posting Notices of Meetings
- 2025 Policy Statement on Federal Legislative Issues

### **2025 legislative preview and discussion of legislative issues: New Bills for consideration and action.**

Rich Mauro, along with Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell, provided an introduction and overview of the 2025 legislative session, which began on January 8. Mr. Mauro proceeded to provide an overview of new bills for consideration to the Board. There were four new bills regarding transportation and two bills regarding Aging for discussion and action. The following bills were voted on separately:

- Transportation bills
  - House Bill 25-1007 – Concerning Paratransit Services
    - Director Levy **moved** a position of amend. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 20 in favor, 2 opposed, and 12 abstentions.
  - House Bill 25-1044 – Local Funding for Vulnerable Road User Protection
    - Director Speer **moved** a position of support. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 18 in favor, 4 opposed, and 12 abstentions.
  - House Bill 25-1046 – Increase Maximum Number Transportation Planning Regions
    - Director Peck **moved** a position of oppose. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 22 in favor, 2 opposed, and 10 abstentions.
  - House Bill 25-030 – Increase Transportation Mode Choice Reduce Emissions
    - Director Maurer **moved** a position of amend. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 19 in favor and 15 abstentions.
- Aging bills
  - House Bill 25-1022 – Qualified Medication Administration Personnel
    - Director Levy **moved** a position of support. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 17 in favor, 2 opposed, and 15 abstentions.
  - House Bill 25-013 – Senior Housing Income Tax Credit Extension
    - Director Levy **moved** a position of support. The motion was **seconded** and **passed** with 17 in favor, 3 opposed, and 14 abstentions.

### **Crash Data Consortium Update.**

Erik Braaten presented the update to the Board. During federal fiscal years 2023 and 2024, DRCOG coordinated a regional crash data consortium effort to identify and address common issues with crash data collection, processing, and analysis in the Denver region. Through a stakeholder engagement process, staff developed a [regional crash data inventory](#) and needs assessment, which informed the creation of a [final report](#) detailing desired outcomes, specific recommendations and implementation strategies, and next steps for the consortium. DRCOG is continuing to lead the crash data consortium as a part of its continuing Regional Vision Zero work.

### **Winter Bike to Work Day 2025 update**

Nisha Mokshagundam provided an overview of the event and update to directors. On Friday, February 14, 2025, Way to Go encourages Denver-region residents to “fall in love” with their commutes by participating in the annual international Winter Bike to Work Day event. The event celebrates the region’s dedicated cyclists who brave the cold while taking cars off the road to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. Way to Go conducts direct outreach to local organizations to educate them on the benefits of commuting by bike. Last year’s event had 4,437 cyclists that participated in the event, with 500 of those pledges being first-time participants. Way to Go staff encourages local governments and employers to help increase participation this year by contacting the Way to Go team for help and support, advertise the event with posters, share the event on social media, and pledge to participate in the event.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **State Transportation Advisory Committee**

Director O’Dorisio stated the January meeting covered legislative updates from CDOT, concerns about transportation funding and processes, the 2025 work program, and ways to improve collaboration with CDOT and the Legislature. They also discussed the statewide plan and strategies for addressing greenhouse gas reduction rules.

#### **Metro Mayors Caucus**

There was no report.

#### **Metro Area County Commissioners**

There was no report.

#### **Advisory Committee on Aging**

There was no report.

#### **Regional Air Quality Council**

Executive Director Rex reported the January 3 meeting focused on control strategies for venting and blowdowns, providing input for the State Implementation Plan.

#### **E-470 Authority**

There was no report.

#### **Report from CDOT**

Darius Pakbaz reported that construction has begun on the Lone Tree Mobility Hub, a collaborative project with the City of Lone Tree, DRCOG, and CDOT. The Transportation Commission held workshops on budget recommendations, a federal resiliency grant to replace outdated avalanche control equipment, and a proposal for overhead transmission lines, with a meeting on January 16 to consider accepting the Pikes Peak Area Council’s Transportation Greenhouse Gas Report.

#### **Report from RTD**

Bill Sirois reported that starting January 19 major service increases will take effect, marking a significant improvement from existing service. On January 7, seven new board members were sworn in and Julien Bouquet from District G was elected as the new board chair.

Additionally, RTD has launched a bus stop infrastructure accessibility assessment to improve coordination with local jurisdictions. Director Sirios also mentioned that hiring trends continue to be positive, which will support future service expansion.

**Next meeting – February 19, 2025**

**Other matters by members**

Chair Baker honored Director Joan Peck for her years of service on the DRCOG Board.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

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Jeff Baker, Chair  
Board of Directors  
Denver Regional Council of Governments

ATTEST:

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Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director