

# NAVIGATING OUR SHARED FUTURE

## Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

December 2025



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### Executive summary

The Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Metropolitan Statistical Area received a \$1 million planning grant to develop climate action plans to reduce climate pollution emissions as part of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program, an initiative of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Denver Regional Council of Governments (also known as DRCOG) is spearheading the climate action planning efforts for the planning area, which is referred to as the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Planning Area.

The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan is the second deliverable for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program, after the Priority Climate Action Plan. This plan includes a climate pollution inventory, a workforce planning analysis, and a set of quantified measures to reduce carbon pollution in buildings, transportation and waste. The plan also includes broader tactics to reduce carbon pollution in agriculture, energy, industry and natural working lands.

At its core, the Denver region's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan outlines an ambitious, interconnected set of voluntary strategies to mitigate climate change while addressing economic disparities. The plan prioritizes equitable access to benefits and ensuring that vulnerable communities receive a fair share of the opportunities arising from investment. The flexible strategies in the plan can be customized by the local communities to meet their specific needs and priorities, while encouraging local decision-makers to pursue initiatives that will benefit the entire planning area.

Through collective and collaborative efforts, DRCOG staff, member governments, and partner organizations strive to create a resilient and sustainable future for the Denver region.

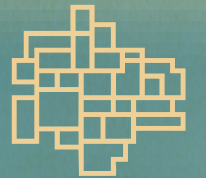
Contact: Maddy Nesbit, Senior Planner, [mnesbit@drcog.org](mailto:mnesbit@drcog.org)

### Emission reduction targets



# 3.3M

Residents across the DRCOG region  
59% of Colorado's population



# 59









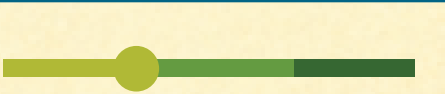

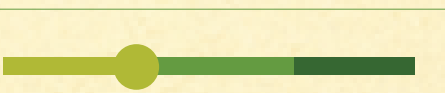
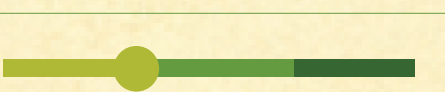
Cities, town, and  
counties represented

### What is DRCOG?

DRCOG is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy and allocate funding in the areas of transportation and personal mobility, growth and development, and aging and disability resources.

**Vision:** Our region is a diverse network of vibrant, connected, lifelong communities with a broad spectrum of housing, transportation and employment, complemented by world-class natural and built environments.

# Transportation, buildings, and waste implementation measures

	Measure	Goal Summary	Investment	Co-benefits
M1	Regional bus rapid transit expansion	Expand BRT access in the DRCOG region by completing routes in 5 corridors by 2030.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Placemaking</li> </ul>
M2	Provide funding for active transportation projects	Collaborate on and support the full build out of the active transportation network in the DRCOG region by 2050 (446 total miles).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthier communities</li> <li>Placemaking</li> <li>Safety</li> </ul>
M3	Regional transportation demand management program	Fully implement the Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan and require transportation demand management for Transportation Improvement Program projects.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Healthier communities</li> </ul>
M4	Coordination of electric vehicle charging locations and infrastructure purchases	Facilitate and support the completion of the regional EV charging network.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Placemaking</li> </ul>
M5	Low-income decarbonization	Provide free home weatherization and energy efficiency services to nearly 2,000 low-income households in the DRCOG region by 2030.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attainable housing</li> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Healthier communities</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M6	Energy advising	Provide energy advising services to nearly 40,000 homes, apartments, and businesses by 2030.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Healthier communities</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M7	Rebates and incentives	Provide incentives to install heat pumps in nearly 25,000 homes and apartments. Electrify more than 7 million square feet of commercial building space.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Healthier communities</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M8	Building Policy Collaborative	Guide municipalities in the DRCOG region to adopt net zero building energy codes by 2030.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Healthier communities</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M9	Collaborate to manage the regional “wasteshed”	Create a regional Waste Planning Collaborative and develop a regional wasteshed plan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M10	Develop local ordinances and policies to manage the regional “wasteshed”	Develop a hub for local governments to collect information on funding opportunities and to collaborate on new public-private partnerships to increase local circularity.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic vitality</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M11	Expand public education in the region	Support municipalities in adopting model ordinances and policies to increase diversion and circularity.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>
M12	Support expansion of public-private partnerships to improve local circularity	Increase waste diversion annually through public education and awareness campaigns.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Placemaking</li> <li>Resource conservation</li> </ul>