



ADVANCED  
MOBILITY  
PARTNERSHIP

**Agenda**  
**Working Group**  
**Tuesday, August 6, 2024**  
**2:30 p.m.**

**Remote meeting**  
Please [register and join via Zoom](#).

Persons in need of accommodations, such as interpretation services, manual captioning, or assisted listening devices, are asked to contact the meeting organizer, Kalie Fallon, at [KFallon@drcog.org](mailto:KFallon@drcog.org) at least three business days in advance of the meeting.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Informational briefings – mobility hubs panel
  - a. Colorado Department of Transportation mobility hubs  
Brian Saller, Colorado Department of Transportation  
Jan Rowe, Colorado Department of Transportation
  - b. Denver University and Transportation Solutions mobility hubs  
Stuart Anderson, Transportation Solutions
  - c. E-mobility hub pilot program updates  
Carson Priest, Smart Commute Metro North
3. Mobility hubs Menti exercise
4. Partner agency updates and other matters
5. Adjourn  
Next meeting – October 1, 2024





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## Meeting Summary Working Group Tuesday, June 6, 2024 2:30 p.m. Held remotely via Zoom

### Attendees

Anna Bunce, City of Centennial	Doug Monroe, RTD
Brittney Compton, DRCOG	Lisa Nguyen, DEN Airport
Steve Cook, DRCOG	Heather Pickering-Hilgers, CDOT
Jay Decker, City and County of Denver	Dan Raine, City of Lone Tree
Kalie Fallon, DRCOG	Michael Schwartz, Inrix
Derek Fern, City of Arvada	Josh Schwenk, DRCOG
John Gardocki, RTD	Steve Sherman
Andy Geleske, CDOT	Charlie Standfield, RTD
William Haas, FHWA	Jaclynn Streeter, NETC
Nora Kern, DRCOG	Stefi Szrek, Jefferson County
Michael King, CDOT	Aaron Villere, DRCOG
Lauren Kirgis, DRCOG	Melaine Ward, City of Centennial
Emily Lindsey, DRCOG	Tom Worker-Braddock, City of Aurora
Wes Marshall, CU Denver	

### Welcome and introductions

Emily Lindsey, Chair, welcomed attendees to the Advanced Mobility Partnership Working Group.

### Informational briefings

#### Aero Shuttle

Jaclynn Streeter, Northeast Transportation Connections, gave an overview of the Aero Shuttle pilot program. The Aero shuttle is a free, on-demand, fully electric shuttle that provides service to the residents of Aurora Highlands property development and connects to the 40<sup>th</sup> and Airport Regional Transportation District zone. An additional service zone is now available in the Gateway and Green Valley Ranch area. The pilot program is one year long and is a partnership between the Aerotropolis Regional Transportation





Authority, the Aurora Highlands, the Colorado Department of Transportation, Xcel Energy and Northeast Transportation Connections.

The shuttle service is operated by Downtowner, LLC. There are a total of 2 shuttles, both of which have a total of eight seats and are ADA accessible. Two electric vehicle charging stations are currently being installed at the Aurora Highlands property for the shuttle to use and charge overnight. The shuttle operates from 6am – 8pm Monday through Friday, and 10am – 6pm on Saturday. Sunday service has been suspended due to a lack of ridership.

The initial concept of the shuttle came from the planning committee of the new E-470 off ramp through the Colorado Department of Transportation's Policy Directive 1601 transportation demand management requirements and approval process. The program is fully funded by the property developer.

Downtowner, the service operator, provides Northeast Transportation Connections with a monthly ridership report. The average daily ridership is up to 15 riders per day. The shuttle has had a total of 648 riders since January. Downtowner will be conducting a user survey at the end of the month to better understand ridership and demographics, which will be shared with the property developer. Riders have been using the shuttle for commuting, shopping errands and connecting to entertainment and dining areas.

### Link on Demand free transit program

Dan Raine, City of Lone Tree, presented on Lone Tree's Link on Demand shuttle program. The program started in 2014 as a partnership with Denver South Transportation Management Association as a first-and-last mile solution to connect commuting employees from the Regional Transportation District's Lincoln Station to large employers throughout the city. The shuttle was free for all employees.

As the Regional Transportation District expanded the southeast rail line, the Lone Tree Link program evolved to be an on-demand system for anyone in Lone Tree, powered by Uber. After some challenges, the program switched operators to Via in 2019. From February 2019 to March 2020, there were over 50,000 total boardings, with 30% of trips commuting to and from the Regional Transportation District's system. The majority of trips were connecting to multifamily housing and commercial areas.





After temporarily shutting the program down due to the COVID pandemic in 2020, service restarted in late 2020. Throughout 2021, the city identified the need for a call center for those without access to a smartphone. The city also updated the booking process to allow riders to reserve multiple trips per week in advance, especially for medical appointments due to the major hospitals in the area. The city continues to look for opportunities to make the program more equitable.

As the city grows and new development and transportation projects are implemented, the city sees the need to expand the Lone Tree on Demand service to connect to and support these projects. For example, the service recently expanded into the Meridian Business Park as a part of the Regional Transportation District's Partnership Program.

Looking ahead, Via will continue to provide services for the Link on Demand program for the next few years. Ridership trend for 2024 indicate that ridership is increasing, and thus the city has been working towards increasing capacity and utilization rates. In 2024 so far, completed rides went up by 19%, while the utilization rate increased by 0.2. The shuttle program has also been able to meet demand by 91.2%, a 2.3% increase from 2023. There are currently a total of five vehicles in the program's fleet.

### Partnership Program updates

John Gardocki, Regional Transportation District, gave an update on the Partnership Program. The Partnership Program was established in late 2022 by the board of directors to leverage funding from the Regional Transportation District and local jurisdictions to provide additional services that meet a community's local mobility needs outside of Regional Transportation District's existing services and fixed route services. A dedicated budget set-aside for partner matching was established, with the Regional Transportation District providing 80% with a 20% local match. Eligible projects include any mobility service that connects riders from point to point. Projects such as mobility hubs and bike shelters are not eligible.

Projects for the first round of the program have been selected and announced. Applications for the second round were due in June and winners will be announced in August. Second round agreements will be finalized in December 2024 and new partnership services are expected to begin in quarter 1 of 2025. For the second round, there is \$2 million per year for the next three years available. All submitted second-round





applications asked for three years of funding. The selection committee includes staff from the Regional Transportation District, the Denver Regional Council of Governments and Subregional Service Council representatives.

Mr. Gardocki then gave an overview of each project application for both round one and round two within the five subregional service councils.

The projects in Boulder County include the City of Boulder’s Gunbarrel microtransit pilot, the City of Longmont microtransit pilot and Boulder County’s Nederland-Boulder fixed route service expansion.

The projects in the Northeast subregional council include Smart Commute Metro North’s e-mobility hubs (funding for the bicycles only) and FlexRide optimization study, the City of Denver’s Denver Connector Expansion, Northeast Transportation Connections Majestic Commerce Center microtransit pilot and the City of Brighton’s microtransit pilot.

The projects in the Southwest subregional council include the Denver West Connector microtransit pilot and the City of Englewood’s trolley expansion.

Projects in the Southeast subregional council include the City of Lone Tree and Denver South’s Link on Demand expansion and the City of Aurora’s microtransit program for older adults.

There are currently no projects in the Northwest subregional service council.

Looking ahead, the Regional Transportation District may consider different and more specific criteria or requirements for the program as microtransit pilot programs and microtransit expansion applications have been at the forefront of the program.

**Denver Regional Council of Governments microtransit study updates**  
Nora Kern, Denver Regional Council of Governments, gave a quick update on Denver Regional Council of Governments’ Community Based Transportation Planning program. The program is focused on supporting and planning for community organizations in the region to improve mobility for historically marginalized communities. The program also has funding for projects available through a set-aside program for the 2024 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.





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There are currently two pilot projects within the program. One of the projects is a microtransit study in partnership with the City of Westminster and Adams County in the North Federal Boulevard corridor. The project was nominated via the non-profit Growing Home, out of the need to connect community members to healthy foods after a grocery store in the area shut down, and many of the community members experience mobility challenges. Growing Home is assisting the Denver Regional Council of Governments with community outreach. The study is expected to be completed by early 2025.

Five additional projects have been selected through the program's set-aside. One of the five projects is a microtransit study focusing on the southern area of Commerce City. The study is expected to start in early 2025.

The next call for projects for the Community Based Transportation Planning program set-aside will be in Summer 2025. Projects can include any type of transportation planning work including corridor studies, safety studies and microtransit studies. Projects are 100% funded by the Denver Regional Council of Governments and do not require a local match.

### **Partner agency updates and other matters**

Ms. Lindsey highlighted that the Federal Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grant Notice of Funding has been released and are due on July 12. The Denver Regional Council of Governments can provide a letter of support to grant applicants. The Denver Regional Council of Governments is planning on submitting a grant application regarding automated traffic signal performance measures. If other agencies are interested in partnering on the application, please reach out to Ms. Lindsey.

The Denver International Airport is considering applying for the grant regarding a centralized delivery facility for consolidated consumables. The application may include autonomous vehicles and freight planning.

### **Next meeting and adjournment**

Ms. Lindsey thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. The next meeting is August 6, 2024.



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