

**Attachment A
Meeting Summary
Regional Transportation Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

***In-person meeting with Virtual Option for Public (Via Zoom)**

Members (or Voting Alternates) Present:

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| Vince Buzek | Regional Transportation District |
| Brian Welch (Alternate) | Regional Transportation District |
| Michael Guzman (Alternate) | Regional Transportation District |
| Paul Rosenthal | Regional Transportation District |
| Yessica Holguin | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Karen Stuart | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Eula Adams (Alternate) | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Darius Pakbaz (Alternate) | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Wynne Shaw (Chair) | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Randy Weil | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Ron Papsdorf (Alternate) | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Deborah Mulvey (Alternate) | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Jeff Baker | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| Jeff Kullman | Michael Baker International |
| Mike Silverstein | Regional Air Quality Council |
| Erin Clark | Denver Housing Authority |

Additional Alternates (Or Members and Alternates Attending Virtually) Present:

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| Jessica Myklebust (Alternate) | Colorado Department of Transportation |
| Greg Mills | Denver Regional Council of Governments |
| JoyAnn Ruscha | Regional Transportation District |

Public: Dee Beckwith, Tonya Robinson

DRCOG staff: Josh Schwenk, Cam Kennedy, Erik Braaten, Travis Noon, Jacob Riger, Aaron Villere, Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, Nora Kern, Emily Kleinfelter, Kalie Fallon, Robert Spotts, Todd Cottrell, Max Monk, Ala Alnawaiseh, Steve Cook, Brad Williams, Sang-Gu Lee

Call to Order

Chair Wynne Shaw called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

April 16, 2024 Regional Transportation Committee Meeting Summary

The summary was accepted.

Action Items

2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan Amendments

Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, Regional Transportation Planning Program Manager, informed the committee that the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, commonly known as the 2050 RTP, sets the vision for the Denver region's multimodal transportation system and guides investment in projects and programs to achieve that vision. The 2050 RTP was updated in 2022 to comply with the state's Greenhouse Gas Transportation Planning Standard. DRCOG staff initiated a cycle amendments process in September 2023 that is scheduled to conclude in mid-2024. The draft was the subject of an April 17, 2024, public hearing before the Board of Directors, and Appendix C has been updated to reflect comments received during the public review period, staff responses, and any revisions to the 2050 RTP amendments based on those comments.

Vince Buzek moved to recommend to the Board of Directors the draft 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan and associated Denver Southern Subarea 8-hour Ozone Conformity Determination and Greenhouse Gas Transportation Report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment

Josh Schwenk, Senior Planner, stated that the Unified Planning Work Program, commonly known as the UPWP, is the management tool for scheduling, budgeting, and monitoring the metropolitan planning activities of DRCOG and participating entities. The primary reasons for this amendment are to revise the financial tables to reflect the final carryover balances from DRCOG's previous Consolidated Planning Grant contract, adjust planned expenditures to reflect updated costs for work elements and include two new deliverables: a transportation demand management incentives whitepaper and Vision Zero quick build toolkit.

Paul Rosenthal asked about the new fuel-efficient buses and vans and inquired how they are more efficient than the current ones. Mr. Schwenk replied that newer models of buses and vans are more efficient in general, and Brian Welch added that this funding will go towards needed improvements at RTD's operating facilities in addition to new buses and vans.

Mike Silverstein asked if a full briefing could be provided in the coming months regarding Bus Rapid Transit, commonly referred to as BRT, since BRT is an important element of the work that goes into improving the region. Eula Adams echoed that statement and also emphasized the importance of how BRT is being implemented at the project level and how it affects adjacent businesses. Karen Stuart took the opportunity to note that there is a public meeting tomorrow at the Miller Activity Complex recreation center from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. regarding the Federal Boulevard BRT project.

Karen Stuart moved to recommend to the Board of Directors the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program for the Denver Region. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program Policy Amendments

Josh Schwenk, Senior Planner, explained that the region's transportation planning process allows for Board-approved amendments to the current Transportation Improvement Program, commonly known as the TIP, on an as-needed basis. The proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2024-2027 TIP have been found to comply with the current Transportation Improvement Program amendment procedures, as contained within the Board-adopted Policies for Transportation Improvement Program Development and conform with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality.

Karen Stuart asked for more information on the mobility hub project at Interstate 25 and CO7. Ron Papsdorf, DRCOG Transportation Planning and Operations Division Director, replied that DRCOG and CDOT are coordinating on mobility hub planning for CDOT's mobility hubs associated with Bustang. DRCOG's related efforts are focused on planning for other mobility hubs outside of the freeway corridors.

Michael Guzman moved to recommend to the Board of Directors the attached project amendments to the *Fiscal Year 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program*. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Awards

Travis Noon, Program Manager, Administration and Finance, reminded the committee that at its April 16, 2024, meeting, the RTC considered and recommended funding allocations based on the recommendation of the project funding selection panel. Original estimates for available funding were based on five-month apportionments from the Federal Transit Administration for federal fiscal year 2024 and available federal fiscal year 2022 unspent funding. The annualized estimate for federal fiscal year 2024 funding was \$3.3 million. However, the FTA released full-year apportionments later in April 2024 in the amount of about \$2.9 million, which is approximately \$400,000 less than originally estimated. Based on projected unspent previously awarded funding available to carry over, DRCOG staff is amending the recommended awards to reduce the award amount to DRCOG from \$900,000 to \$516,346. All other projects remained as originally recommended by the review panel.

Erin Clark moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 awards for the period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, as recommended by the review panel and adjusted by DRCOG staff. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion Item

Nondiscrimination Program Update

Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, Regional Transportation Planning Program Manager, discussed that DRCOG staff have initiated a required three-year update to three existing plans: the

Title VI Implementation Plan, Limited English Proficiency Plan, and Americans with Disabilities Act Program Access Plan. Staff are also developing a new Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Plan for its Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant program.

Michael Guzman inquired about the definitions DRCOG is using regarding translation and interpretation. Mr. Sanchez replied that DRCOG recognizes the distinction and provided some examples of recent techniques DRCOG has used for engagement.

Deborah Mulvey asked which languages DRCOG is focusing on. Mr. Sanchez stated that DRCOG focuses on the most-common non-English languages spoken in the region. Spanish is the primary non-English language, so the bulk of resources is focused on making DRCOG documents and meetings accessible to native Spanish speakers.

Yessica Holguin stated her interest in a future presentation on DRCOG's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, commonly known as DBE, program.

Administrative Items

Member Comment/Other Matters

- Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Report

Yessica Holguin stated there is a Transportation Commission workshop tomorrow and a regular Commission meeting on Thursday, with full agendas for both meetings. Jessica Myklebust stated that the Interstate 25 Gap Project and Interstate 70 Central project have received environmental excellence awards. Additionally, the Federal Highway Administration provided an award recognizing CDOT's air quality monitoring efforts along the Interstate 270 and Interstate 70 mountain corridors. Darius Pakbaz stated that later in the month, CDOT will begin work on the Statewide Transportation Plan, and CDOT's local partners will be involved in the process, including DRCOG.

- Regional Transportation District (RTD) Report

Vince Buzek thanked the staff, directors, lobbyists, and other stakeholders who were instrumental in ensuring that House Bill 1447 was defeated in the state legislature. Meanwhile, Senate Bill 230 did pass and while it will provide some funding for RTD, it also stipulates that RTD must complete the remainder of two transit lines within 10 years, those being the Northwest Rail Line and the North Metro Rail Line. The Northwest Rail Peak Service Feasibility Study is coming to an end, and he is looking forward to the results. Paul Rosenthal added that Senate Bill 32 will also provide funding for transit and will help fund the Zero Fare for Youth program, but there will be no funding for the Zero Fare for Better Air initiative this year. Michael Guzman added that tonight is the Finance and Planning Committee for RTD. He also added his opinion that the fiscal realities RTD operates under need to be recognized by the state legislature.

- Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) Report

Mike Silverstein stated that the anti-idling bill was approved by the state legislature, so now local governments can enact stricter anti-idling programs. RAQC will be reaching out to local governments to help with model ordinances and other issues that can help improve air quality. The campaign regarding summertime ozone begins in the coming weeks, and he looks forward to working with RAQC's partners in the region to spread awareness. Mike Silverstein also stated that, since the region is currently categorized as "severe" for ozone nonattainment by the Environmental Protection Agency, commonly referred to as the EPA, cleaner gasoline blends will be available at the pumps during the summer months.

Since Chair Wynne Shaw was not elected mayor of Lone Tree last week and she is term-limited on the city council, this will be her last meeting. Chair Shaw took the opportunity to thank staff and committee members for the conversations and the hard work in making the region a better place for all. The committee thanked her for her service to DRCOG and the region.

Next Meeting – July 16, 2024

Adjournment

There were no additional comments and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.