

Board of Directors

Meeting date: November 20, 2024

Agenda Item #: 14

2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan Major Update Kickoff

Agenda item type: Informational briefing

Summary

Kick-off of the next major update to the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan.

Background

As the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for the Denver region, the Denver Regional Council of Governments develops the [Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan](#) to guide the region's investments in the multimodal transportation system. The plan helps DRCOG's member governments and partners implement the shared aspirational vision of [Metro Vision](#). The plan is updated every four years and amended as needed to ensure that its content remains relevant and reflects current trends, needs and priorities.

The 2050 RTP was originally adopted in April 2021 and updated in 2022 to achieve compliance with the state's [Greenhouse Gas Planning Standard](#). DRCOG staff initiated a cycle amendments process in September 2023 that concluded in May 2024. DRCOG staff have initiated the next major update to the RTP, which must be adopted by fall 2026 to meet federal requirements.

Since the original adoption in 2021, numerous plans and programs have been initiated or completed that will be reflected in the updated 2050 RTP. Select efforts include the Regional Bus Rapid Transit Partnership, Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan, Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Strategic Plan, and Regional Housing Needs Assessment, as well as ongoing or planned updates to the Active Transportation Plan and Regional Multimodal Freight Plan and Coordinated Transit Plan.

Staff have identified the following major activities and tentative milestones for the upcoming effort that are subject to change:

- Scenario planning: Winter 2024 – Spring 2025.
- Financial planning: Winter 2024 – Spring 2025.
- Candidate projects: Summer – Fall 2025.
- Modeling and coordination: Winter 2025 – Spring 2026.
- Document development: Summer 2025 – Spring 2026.
- Public and stakeholder review: Ongoing, and Summer 2026.
- Committee and board approval: Fall 2026.



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Additional activities DRCOG staff have identified include Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Action Plan annual reporting, the development of a Public Engagement Plan specific to the 2050 RTP Update effort, definition of the Regional Roadway System, and an enhanced equity analysis. DRCOG staff have begun coordination with internal partners through deliverable-specific kick-offs and external partners and project sponsors through the County Subregional Forums. On adoption, the 2050 RTP must meet federal fiscal constraint requirements, meaning there must be reasonably expected funding to implement the proposed project. The 2050 RTP must also meet federal air quality conformity requirements and state transportation greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements, among other state and federal requirements.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

None

Recommendation

None

Attachment

Staff presentation

For more information

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