

Board of Directors

Meeting date: August 20, 2025

Agenda Item #: 8 – B

2025 Public Engagement Plan

Agenda item type: Consent agenda

Summary

2025 update to DRCOG's public engagement plan, which guides the agency's public engagement efforts. It is periodically updated as conditions change in the region.

Background

DRCOG's public engagement plan was originally adopted in 2019 and amended in 2021 and primarily serves as a guidebook for staff. It is also a written declaration of DRCOG's principles of public engagement and documents the actions carried out by DRCOG to ensure that opportunities exist for the public to be involved in DRCOG's processes and decision-making. The plan ensures that DRCOG seeks early and ongoing input from people and organizations throughout the region, is responsive, and addresses ideas and concerns.

Since the 2021 amendment, DRCOG has developed new plans and programs, refined existing strategies, and explored equitable engagement strategies. The update to the plan includes:

- Information on virtual strategies enhanced following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Evaluation of piloted innovative public engagement strategies.
- Additional content regarding requirements and engagement techniques for stakeholders and projects across the organization.
- Revisions to increase accessibility, readability, and usability.

Staff initiated the update last summer and the following phases have been identified:

- Kick-off: Summer 2024. Complete.
- Initial staff outreach: Fall 2024. Complete.
- Document development: Winter 2024 through Spring 2025. Complete.
- Public and stakeholder review: Summer 2025. Complete.
- Committee and Board approval: Summer 2025. In progress.
- Finalization and accessibility remediation: Fall 2025. Planned.

The updated plan was the subject of a June 18 public hearing. Through the public comment period, DRCOG staff got several comments that were addressed in the final version of the plan. DRCOG staff added a section on how to use community data, added clarity on how to solicit participation, and added some additional tips. There were no public comments shared at the public hearing.

Action by others

<u>July 27, 2025</u> – Transportation Advisory Committee recommended adoption. August 19, 2025 – Regional Transportation Committee will make a recommendation.

Previous discussion/action

October 16, 2024 - Board of Directors





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Recommendation

Move to adopt the 2025 Public Engagement Plan.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Staff presentation.
- 2. Public comment log.
- 3. <u>Draft 2025 Public Engagement Plan.</u>

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701; or Carolyn Klamm, Planner, at 303-480-6752 or cklamm@drcog.org; or Angie Shelbourn, Public Engagement Planner, at 303-350-5461 or ashelbourn@drcog.org.

