

## Board of Directors

Meeting date: August 20, 2025

Agenda Item #: 9

### Discussion of the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program

Agenda item type: Action item

#### Summary

2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program for the Denver Region, known as the UPWP.

#### Background

The UPWP is the work program for the metropolitan planning organization-related activities DRCOG conducts. It is a federally required document that outlines and serves as the tool for scheduling, budgeting and monitoring the planning tasks and activities DRCOG and its partner agencies conduct within the region with federal transportation planning funds. It also lists other locally funded major planning activities.

The new 2026-2027 UPWP outlines activities to be conducted from October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027, and was prepared through a cooperative process with the Colorado Department of Transportation, Regional Transportation District and local governments. The UPWP includes anticipated revenues of nearly \$20 million in funding across over 100 deliverables.

Based on feedback gathered from DRCOG's staff, planning partners and committees, key priorities emerged for staff to address over the coming two years: air quality and resilience, housing and land use, safety, transit and transportation funding. Staff considered this feedback in the creation of this UPWP and has identified several tasks to make progress toward addressing these priorities:

- **Air quality and resilience:**
  - Finalize DRCOG's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.
  - Conduct the Regional Transportation Plan's air quality conformity, environmental and state-required transportation greenhouse gas analyses.
  - Continue planning work around active transportation, complete streets and transit to improve air quality in our region.
- **Housing and land use:**
  - Complete the Regional Housing Strategy.
  - Update Metro Vision.
- **Safety:**
  - Update the High Injury Network and regional crash profiles.
  - Complete a Vision Zero Operational Toolkit.
  - Complete white papers on improved crash reporting.
  - Analyze gaps in the active transportation network.
- **Transit:**
  - Continue to plan for and implement the regional bus rapid transit network/projects.
  - Create a human service transportation trip exchange hub.
  - Explore coordination of microtransit systems throughout the region.



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- **Funding:**

- Continue regular calls for projects for Transportation Improvement Program and set-asides.
- Explore cost of service analysis.

The draft UPWP was made available for public comment beginning on June 20 through July 7. A summary of comments received has been included as an attachment.

Since the Transportation Advisory Committee recommendation on July 28, DRCOG has made two funding changes; an approximate \$25,000 increase to the Fiscal Year 2026 revenue projection and an approximate \$174,000 increase to the anticipated carryover funding from the existing Fiscal Year 2024/2025 contract based on current spending projections. Both of these financial changes have been made within Appendix C of the attached draft document.

**Action by others**

[July 27, 2025](#) – Transportation Advisory Committee recommended adoption.

[August 19, 2025](#) – Regional Transportation Committee will make a recommendation.

**Previous discussion/action**

[March 19, 2025](#) – Board of Directors

**Recommendation**

Move to approve the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program for the Denver Region.

**Attachment(s)**

1. Link: [Draft 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program for the Denver Region](#). (Updated August 19, 2025)
2. Public comment summary.
3. Staff presentation.

**For more information**

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