

Attachment A
Meeting Summary
Transportation Advisory Committee
Monday, September 22, 2025

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

Members (or Voting Alternates) Present:

Kent Moorman	Adams County – City of Thornton
Michele Ricco	Adams County
Jeff Dankenbring	Arapahoe County – City of Centennial
Mac Callison (Alternate)	Arapahoe County – City of Aurora
Alex Hyde-Wright	Boulder County
Gerrit Slater (Alternate)	Boulder County – City of Boulder
Michelle Melonakis	Boulder County – City of Lafayette
Sarah Grant (Chair)	Broomfield, City & County
Justin Begley	Denver, City & County
David Gaspers	Denver, City & County
David Krutsinger (Alternate)	Denver, City & County
Doug Rex (Alternate)	Denver Regional Council of Governments
Larry Nimmo (Alternate)	Douglas County – City of Castle Pines
Zeke Lynch (Alternate)	Douglas County
Tom Reiff	Douglas County – Town of Castle Rock
Kellee Van Bruggen	Jefferson County – City of Arvada
Christina Lane	Jefferson County
Mike Whiteaker	Jefferson County – City of Lakewood
Miguel Aguilar	Southwest Weld County – Town of Erie
Chris Quinn	Regional Transportation District
Brodie Ayers	Aviation Special Interest Seat
Hilary Simmons	Older Adults Special Interest Seat
Jeff Boyd	Housing Special Interest Seat
Frank Bruno	Via Mobility Special Interest Seat
Lisa Sakata (Alternate)	Environmental Special Interest Seat

Members Attending Virtually or Additional Alternates Present:

Cammie Edson	Boulder County – City of Longmont
Rocky Macsalka (Alternate)	Jefferson County – City of Wheat Ridge
Evan Pinkham (Alternate)	Southwest Weld County
Angie Rivera-Malpiede	Equity Special Interest Seat
Marissa Gaughan (Alternate)	Colorado Department of Transportation Division of Transportation Development
Jordan Rudel (Alternate)	Colorado Department of Transportation Region 1
Tom Moore	Regional Air Quality Council
Kyra Reumann-Moore (Alternate)	Regional Air Quality Council
Emma Belmont (Alternate)	Federal Transit Administration (ex-officio)

Public: John Gardocki, DJ Beckwith, Ryan Arthur, Dee McIntosh, Ted Heyd, Branden Shafer, Camilla Soechtig, Randy Simmons, Steve Gendel, Riley Burke, Maux Sullivan, Chris Nevitt, Charlie Standfield, Carla Perez, Madi Sydnor, JoAnn Mattson, Isabella Chase, Kim Borshei

DRCOG staff: Cam Kennedy, Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, Steve Erickson, Nisha Mokshagundam, Emily Lindsey, Kaitlyn Service, Brittney Compton, Josh Schwenk, Kathryn Rush, Lauren Kirgis, Cole Neder, Carolyn Klamm, Sang-Gu Lee, Aaron Villere, Pavlo Krokidis, Steph Piperno, Brad Williams, Ala Alnawaiseh, Jenny Wallace, Malorie Miller, Mahmudul Chayan

Call to Order

Chair Sarah Grant called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Public Comment

Alvan-Bidal Sanchez stated there was one new membership change with Cammie Edson taking over the alternate member position previously held by Phil Greenwald.

July 28, 2025 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

The summary was accepted.

Action Items

Amendments to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program

Josh Schwenk, Senior Planner, stated that the region's transportation planning process allows for Board-approved amendments to the current TIP on an as-needed basis. Typically, these amendments involve the addition or deletion of projects, or adjustments to existing projects, and do not impact funding for other projects in the Transportation Improvement Program. The proposed amendments to the 2026-2029 TIP have been found to conform with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality.

Tom Reiff inquired if this is the remaining funding of the \$50 million that was previously approved for the RTD FasTracks. Josh confirmed that this was correct. This is the remaining \$771,000 that was still within that project.

Tom Reiff moved to recommend to the Regional Transportation Committee the attached project amendments to the 2026-2029 TIP. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Transportation Demand Management Set-Aside

Steve Erickson, Division Director, and Nisha Mokshagundam, Way to Go Manager, informed the committee that in May 2025, after conducting a workshop for potential applicants, DRCOG issued a call for Letters of Intent, followed by a call for applications. Applications and Letters of Concurrence were due July 3, 2025. A Project Review Panel made up of DRCOG staff and external partners such as CDOT, RAQC, and Ride NoCo reviewed and rated each of the seven applications received. After discussion, the Panel recommended funding all seven projects.

Frank Bruno moved to recommend to the Regional Transportation Committee that the recommended projects be funded through the TDM Services Set-aside of the DRCOG 2026-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Transportation Improvement Program – Programming Year Adjustments

Todd Cottrell, Project and Programming Delivery Manager, discussed that as a result of several factors, the normal schedule for developing the next TIP for Fiscal Years 2028-2031 overlaps the current 2050 RTP Update. That overlap does not give the region the opportunity to align TIP investment priorities with the priorities of the updated RTP. To remedy this situation, DRCOG is recommending two one-time exceptions to policy to offset the regular every-four-year TIP schedule to account for the current 2050 RTP major update schedule.

Kent Moorman inquired about this approach connected to CDOT. Todd responded that CDOT agrees with this approach. This next cycle will have a 3-year gap.

Jeff Dankenbring recommended to the Regional Transportation Committee exceptions to the adopted Policies for TIP Program Development document to shift the future Fiscal Years 2028-2031 TIP to 2029-2032, and to allocate future Fiscal Year 2028 funding as noted. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

Front Range Passenger Rail and Joint Service Update

Cole Neder, Senior Planner, introduced Chris Nevitt, Chair of the Front Range Passenger Rail District, Maux Sullivan, Assistant Director of Passenger Rail, and Branden Shafer, Special Advisor on Passenger Rail for the State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). They provided updates on both their initiatives and how they relate to each other and Mountain Rail to ultimately implement an intercity passenger rail network connecting the Front Range and Northwest Colorado.

Kent Moorman inquired whether a tax will be passed by the time the passenger rail begins operating, or if this can begin before a tax is approved. Maux responded that Joint Service does not envision any additional taxpayer revenue to get started.

Tom Rieff inquired if this will be on the ballot in November 2026. Chris responded that the plan is to go to voters in the 2026 midterm elections. If it passes, then the District will begin building from Pueblo to Fort Collins, but in the meantime, Joint Service will already be delivering starting January 1, 2029, with none of that additional revenue.

Mac Callison stated that since Chris discussed being competitive in terms of speed, what would the costs for this look like? Maux stated that Joint Service envisions three round-trip, so one in the morning, afternoon, and evening. However, that is still subject

to negotiations with BNSF about when they would allow passenger rail. A fare policy hasn't been adopted yet, but Amtrak has served as a model as well as the Winter Park Express. Chris added that there is no fare policy established yet for the District either, but the focus should be on maximizing ridership, not maximizing profit, and Maux confirmed that it is consistent with the state's policy, too.

Gerrit Slater stated how Joint Service could be brought online by 2029 with no additional cost. What trade-offs does that entail, since the state is making major investments into mobility hubs along I-25? How does Bustang service tie in here? Maux responded that the revenue streams are separate to fund these projects, so funding for Bustang isn't being dipped into.

Doug Rex asked what examples Joint Service has looked at around the country, which could serve as models for what we want to replicate. Maux responded that transit leaders and experts were consulted, including RTD's Debra Johnson, and they were instrumental in developing a strategy to make Joint Service viable.

Tom Rieff asked if the Joint Service adding three additional stops in the Louisville and Broomfield areas will fulfill in their minds the FasTracks obligations. Maux replied that CDOT is overseeing the service development planning effort for Front Range Passenger Rail efforts, and those stops are incorporated into the service development plan. Regarding whether they fulfill RTD's obligations, that question should be answered by RTD representatives.

Ride Alliance Stage 1 Project Update

Malorie Miller, Senior Project Manager, stated that DRCOG received a grant award through the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Stage 1 grant in July 2024. This project builds off previous work completed by DRCOG and others in the region to develop the initial Trip Exchange Hub. The purpose of the Trip Exchange Hub is to coordinate human service transportation requests across the region, reduce trip denials, create a no-wrong-door approach for clients seeking services, and streamline reporting processes across human service transportation providers. The Ride Alliance project has made significant progress in achieving the goals outlined in the SMART application.

Frank Bruno, Hilary Simmons, and David Krutsinger commended the work Malorie has done to shepherd this work, and the coordination between various stakeholders has been tremendous.

Community, Livability and Innovative Planning Set-Asides: Call for Letters of Interest

Emily Lindsey, Program Manager, and Kaitlyn Service, Program Manager, announced that DRCOG is preparing for a joint call for letters of interest for the Community-Based Transportation Planning, Livable Centers Small-Area Planning, and Innovative Mobility Set-Asides. The forthcoming call for project proposals, via a short letter of interest

application, will open on October 1 and remain open through November 15. Since there is some overlap in the eligible project types, the same application form can be utilized to submit a single project proposal for any of the three set-aside programs. DRCOG staff will host an informational webinar on October 14 to provide additional information on the set-aside programs, application process, and timeline. DRCOG encourages partner agency staff to reach out to DRCOG staff to discuss potential project ideas.

Informational Item

Multimodal Supportive Local Development Toolkit

The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) is currently developing Built to Move: A DRCOG Toolkit for Multimodal-Supportive Local Development Standards. This implementation-based project will provide local governments with strategies and standards that advance multimodal connectivity and access within urban, suburban, and rural community contexts. The item was in the packet for review, as noted at the beginning of the meeting.

Administrative Items

Member Comment/Other Matters

There was no additional comment.

Next Meeting – October 27, 2025

Adjournment

There were no additional comments, and the meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.