

Denver Regional Council of Governments
State of Colorado

Board of Directors

Resolution No. X, 2026

A resolution requesting revision of the metropolitan planning area boundary and modification of the memorandum of agreement regarding the Denver urban area transportation planning process.

Whereas, it is a function and duty of the Denver Regional Council of Governments, and a regional planning commission under the laws of the State of Colorado, to make and adopt an advisory regional plan for the physical development of the territory within its jurisdiction; and

Whereas, the Denver Regional Council of Governments, as the metropolitan planning organization, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the continuing transportation planning process within a defined metropolitan planning area; and

Whereas, federal regulations regarding metropolitan planning organizations require that the metropolitan planning area include at a minimum the urbanized area recognized by the United States Census Bureau as well as those areas expected to urbanize within the next twenty years; and

Whereas, the urbanized area for the Denver Regional Council of Governments has been defined by the United States Census Bureau to include areas within Clear Creek County; and

Whereas, federal regulations allow for adjusting the planning area boundary to reflect the most comprehensive boundary to foster an effective planning process that ensures connectivity between modes, improves access to modal systems, and promotes efficient overall transportation investment strategies, and

Whereas, the proposed metropolitan planning area boundary would reflect the areas already within the Denver region's daily commuter shed, given that thousands of residents, workers, deliveries, recreation enthusiasts and persons accessing services travel between Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties and the greater Denver region daily; and

Whereas, the proposed metropolitan planning area boundary would match the state-designated Greater Denver Area Transportation Planning Region, which already includes Clear Creek County and Gilpin County; and

Whereas, the geography of both counties are already within the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) planning area, DRCOG's Area Agency on Aging, and DRCOG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and

Whereas, the memorandum of agreement between the Denver Regional Council of Governments, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the Regional Transportation District regarding the Denver urban area transportation planning process defines the geographic scope covered by the memorandum; and

Whereas, the Regional Transportation Committee has reviewed the proposed changes to the metropolitan planning area and the memorandum of agreement and has recommended they be adopted.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, pursuant to federal regulation (23 CFR 450.312), the Board of Directors of the Denver Regional Council of Governments, as the metropolitan planning organization, hereby requests that Governor Jared Polis approve the revision to the Denver Regional Council of Governments metropolitan planning area boundary as shown on the attached map and forward this boundary revision to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration.

Be it further resolved that the Chair of the Denver Regional Council of Governments is hereby authorized to execute a modification to the memorandum of agreement between the Denver Regional Council of Governments, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the Regional Transportation District regarding the Denver urban area transportation planning process to change the geographic scope to reflect the addition of Clear Creek County and Gilpin County within the metropolitan planning area.

Be it further resolved that the Chair of the Denver Regional Council of Governments is hereby authorized to submit the revised metropolitan planning area boundary to Governor Jared Polis for approval and to forward the modification of the memorandum of agreement to both the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Regional Transportation District for signature.

Resolved, passed, and adopted this 15th day of April, 2026 at Denver Colorado.

Colleen Whitlow, Chair
Board of Directors
Denver Regional Council of Governments

ATTEST:

Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director