



Potential Metropolitan Planning Organization Boundary Expansion

Regional Transportation Committee: February 17, 2026

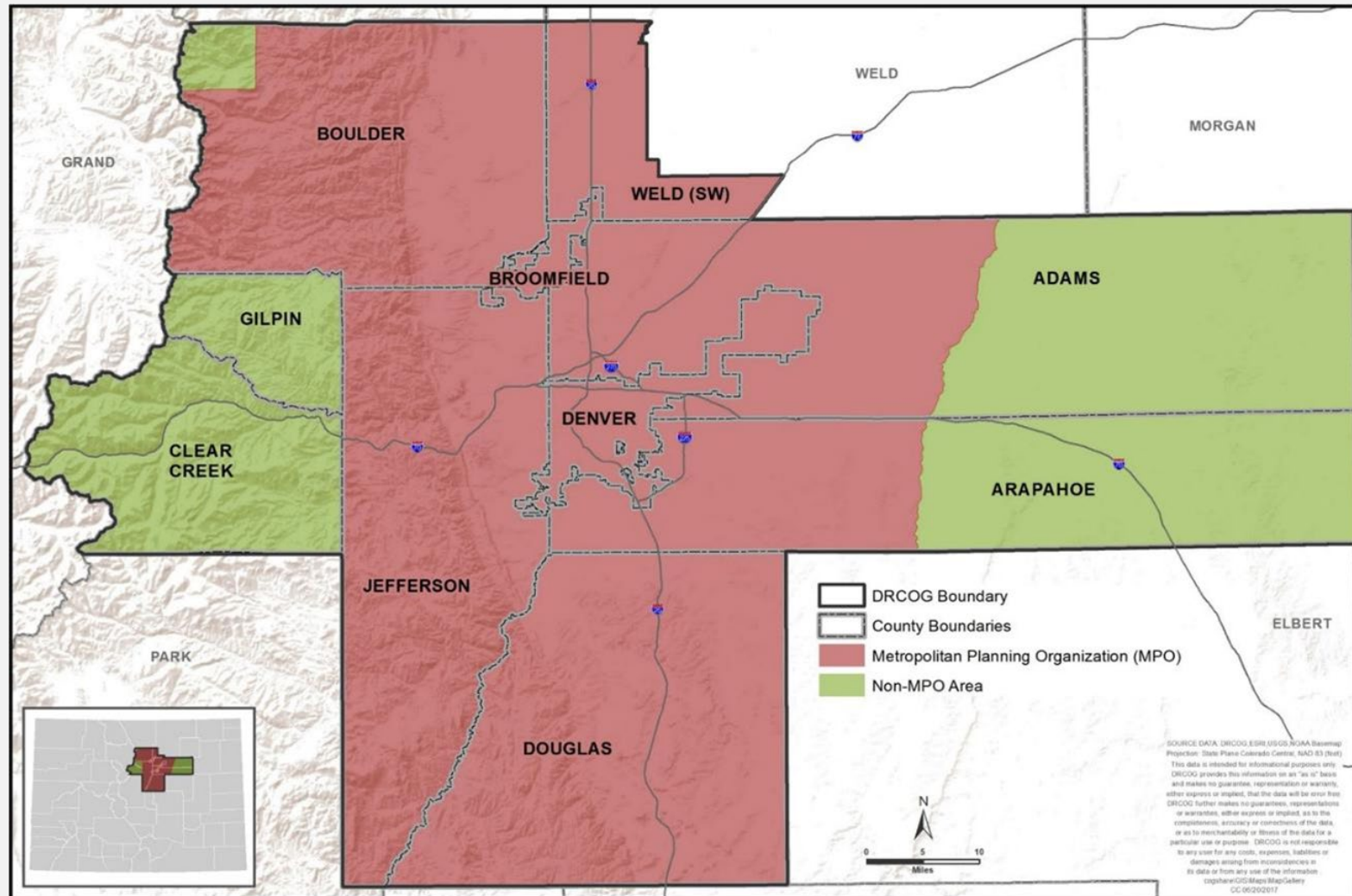
Overview

- DRCOG is required to review its metropolitan planning area boundary after each decennial census.
- DRCOG can/must adjust its boundary to account for urbanized area geography changes and broader planning coordination.
- Accordingly, staff has been exploring with Clear Creek County and Gilpin County the potential to expand our boundary to include them.

Context

- Clear Creek County and Gilpin County are already part of DRCOG's state-defined Transportation Planning Region.
- Also already DRCOG members and part of our Area Agency on Aging and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.
- Evergreen small urbanized area extends into Clear Creek County; federal regulations require adjusting boundary.
- Strong existing links between both counties and metro region: Interstate 70, workforce, recreation, others.
- Potentially low-cost, high-return strategy to strengthen regional planning coordination and streamline transportation planning.

DRCOG metropolitan planning boundary



DRCOG planning area

 **3.4**
million people

 **Nine-plus**
counties

 **2.4**
million jobs

 **60%** of Colorado's
population

Boulder

Weld

Broomfield

Gilpin

Clear Creek

Denver

Jefferson

Douglas

Adams

Arapahoe

 **59** member
governments

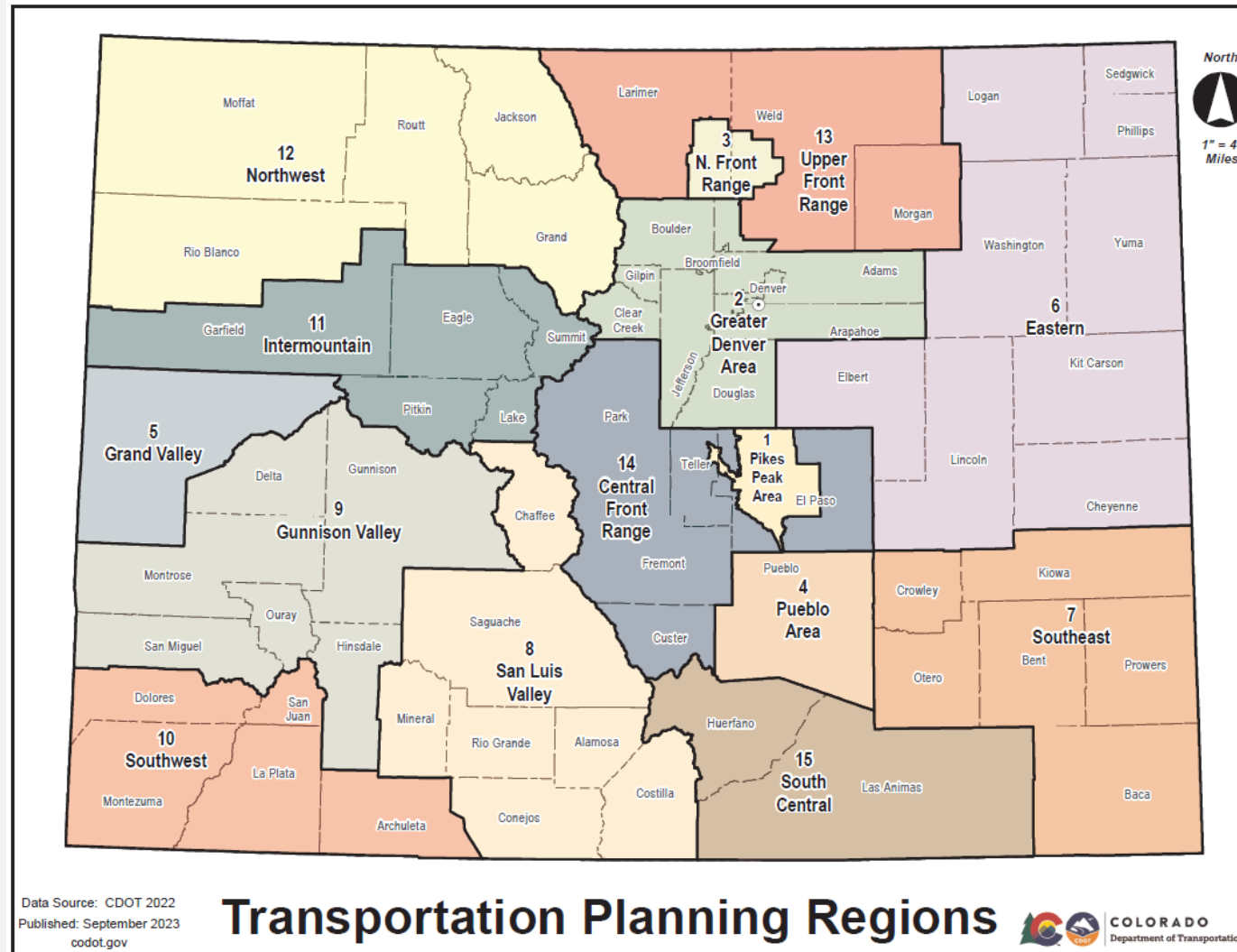
 **5,288**
square miles

 Metropolitan Planning
Organization boundary

 Area Agency on Aging
boundary

 Council of Governments
boundary

DRCOG Transportation Planning Region



Transportation Planning Regions

Current activities and next steps

- Ongoing meetings and communications with both counties and local governments.
- DRCOG Board informational briefing.
- Recent meetings with CDOT and RTD (“3C” planning partners) as federally required.
- DRCOG Board would ultimately vote on changes to the metropolitan planning area boundary (federal requirement).
- Governor approves adjusted boundary and Federal Highway Administration is notified (federal requirement).

Thank you!

Jacob Riger, AICP
*Transportation Planning and
Operations Director*
jriger@drcog.org

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