

**AGENDA**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING**  
**Friday, March 24, 2023**  
**11:00 a.m. – 1:25 p.m.**  
**Via Webinar**

- 1 11:00 Call to Order and Introductions
- 2 11:05 Public Comment  
Up to 45 minutes is allocated now for public comment and each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If there are additional requests from the public to address the Committee, time will be allocated at the end of the meeting to complete public comment.
- 3 11:10 Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson
- 4 11:20 Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5 11:35 Move to Approve Consent Agenda
  - Minutes of February 24, 2023, meetings.  
(Attachment A)

**ACTION ITEM**

- 6 11:40 Discussion and Approval of Project funding for AAA contracted services for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 – Sharon Day  
(Attachment B)
- 7 12:00 Discussion and Approval of Project funding for July 2023 - June 2024 Older Americans Act & State Funding for Senior Services (OAA/SFSS) transportation funding  
(Attachment C)

### **INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS**

- |    |       |  |
|----|-------|--|
| 8  | 12:15 | <u>Four Year Plan Overview – Jayla Sanchez-Warren<br/>(Attachment D)</u> |
| 9  | 1:00  | <u>DRCOG Board Report</u>  |
| 10 | 1:05  | <u>County Reports</u>  |

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 11 |      | <b><u>Next meeting March 24, 2023</u></b> |
| 12 | 1:15 | <u>Other Matters by Members</u>           |
| 13 | 1:25 | <u>Adjourn</u>                            |

Attendees can request additional aids or services, such as interpretation or assistive listening devices, by calling 303-480-6723 or emailing [mpatton@drcog.org](mailto:mpatton@drcog.org). Please notify DRCOG at least 48 hours in advance so we can coordinate your request.

### AAA Acronym Quick List

ACL/AOA	Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging
ACO	Accountable Care Organization
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADRC	Aging and Disability Resource Center
AHC	Accountable Health Communities
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee
CASOA	Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults
CCT	Colorado Choice Transitions
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COA	Council on Aging
DCOA	Denver Commission on Aging
DORA	Department of Regulatory Agencies
DOLA	Department of Local Affairs
DRMAC	Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council
F&B	Finance and Budget Committee
GIS	Geographic Information System
HB	House Bill
HCPF	Health Care Policy and Financing
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HTP	Hospital Transformation Project
I&A	Information and Assistance
JBC	Joint Budget Committee
LTC	Long Term Care
MDS	Minimum Data Set
MIPPA	Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASUAD	National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PHI	Personal Health Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
ROD	Record of Decision
RTC	Regional Transitions Committee (Aging)
RTC	Regional Transportation Committee*(Transportation)
SAPGA	Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging
SB	Senate Bill
SHIP	State Health Insurance Assistance Program
SMP	Senior Medicare Patrol
SRC	Seniors' Resource Center
SUA	State Unit on Aging
VDC	Veterans Directed Care
VOA	Volunteers of America

# ATTACH A

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING  
MEETING SUMMARY  
Friday, February 24, 2023**

**Members Present**

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Andrea Suhaka	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	At Large – Denver
Cary Johnson	Jefferson County
Cathy Noon	Arapahoe County
Connie Ward	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Gretchen Lopez	Douglas County
Houston “Tex” Elam	At Large – Arapahoe County
Jim Dale	Jefferson County
Karie Erickson	Douglas County
Perla Gheiler	City and County of Denver
Phil Cernanec	At Large – Arapahoe County
Steve Conklin	DRCOG Board – Edgewater
Tom Mahowald	DRCOG Board
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board – Lone Tree

**Guests Present**

Lili Jou, General Public, Shari Haidvogel, Kaiser Permanente, Valerie Robson, Jefferson County

**DRCOG Staff Present**

AJ Diamontopoulos, Senior Management Analyst, Buffy Sophinos, Lead Community Resource Specialist, Cindy Grainger, ADRC Administrative Assistant, Desiree Boelte, SHP Program Manager, Doug Rex, Executive Director, Erika Dubray, Community Resource Manager, Ivan Sosa, Case Manager, Jenny Castle, Resource QA Coordinator, Jennifer Reeves, VDC and Transitions Manager, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Kelsie Jurin Community Resource Specialist, Liv Bergman, Sr. Community Resource Specialist, Malorie Miller, Transportation Program Manager, Marlene Priest, Ombudsman, Mindy Patton, AAA Division Assistant, Rene Hickman, Ombudsman, Rich Mauro, Legislative Director, Roshida Lewis-Johnson, Case Manager, Sara Beth Ford, Refugee and Friends Program Manager, Shannon Gimbel, Ombudsman Manager, Sharon Day, Business Operations Manager

Karie Erickson Committee Chair – Called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

**Public Comment Period (Non-ACA Members)**

- Lili Jou conveyed that Denver no longer has a local arthritis foundation. She wanted DRCOG to sponsor acupuncture research for arthritis on the DRCOG website. Chair Erickson said we would look into this on the Network of Care website. Mindy Patton asked for Lili to provide her email address and Erika Dubray would contact her to add this to the Network of Care website.

### Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson

Chair Erickson reported that Jayla Sanchez-Warren, AAA Director was out ill and would not be present.

### Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

There was no Directors report due to Jayla's absence.

### Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: January 27, 2023, meeting summary.

Phil Cernanec motioned for approval. Andrea Suhaka seconded the motion; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Agendas and summaries are posted on the DRCOG website located at <https://drcog.org/calendar> from there choose the month and date of the meeting, click on the event. Once clicked, you will find the link to the meeting for that month.

### **Informational Briefings**

#### Update on the Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) – AJ Diamontopoulos

- The Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) is designed to improve the quality of hospital care provided to Medicaid members. Over a five-year period, the program will help hospitals transition from a fee for service business model to a pay for performance model. This will be a cost saving measure that will reimburse hospitals for activities that improve or maintain a patient's health.
- Hospitals will be required to engage with their community, organizations, and stakeholders to understand what is going on from a health care perspective. Then adjust their service offerings and how they deliver those services to meet the needs of their community.
- Hospitals have designed projects based on the engagement conversations and set their own quality measures.
- When patients are admitted to the hospital, they are screened for five health related social needs.
  1. Do you have housing needs?
  2. Do you have trouble getting to medical appointments because of transportation?
  3. Are you able to buy enough food to last the entire month?
  4. Do you feel safe in your home?
  5. Can you pay your utility bill?
- Hospitals will provide a report to Medicaid with the number of patients seen compared to the number of patients screened who had a social need and receive an incentive for those patients.
- Hospitals are paid for these referrals, but community-based service providers who provide the services are not reimbursed for these additional referrals. This will be a burden to community-based service programs who are already unable to serve those in need.

- Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) requires not only the screening but also hospitals must report how they addressed the needs identified. The goal is to lower hospital readmission rates.
- AJ joined the Community Advisory Council to the HTP and the Chase board and will be bringing attention to the problem. In addition, there is funding that the State can tap into from the federal government that could fund community organizations to provide services to Medicaid members.

#### Update on Transportation – Erika Dubray and Malorie Miller

- In 2022 the AAA made changes to the model they were using; the program has been going well and is sustainable with 570 unique riders.
- A total of 26,803 one-way trips were provided in calendar year 2022 and 32,877 single RTD bus tickets were issued.
- Total spending in calendar year 2022 was \$816,868.
- Since the initiation of the new model, there has been a drop in rides for HopSkipDrive as many clients switched to Uber providing an opportunity for the AAA to offer more trips at a reduced rate.
- HopSkipDrive provided 15,778 trips in 2022 with an average trip cost of approximately \$36.
- Uber provided 10,995 trips in 2022, with an average trip cost of approximately \$17. Ridership has more than doubled as clients can have on demand service at the lower expense.
- 32,877 bus tickets were provided in 2022, local discount tickets are the most requested type of ticket with Access-a-Ride the second most requested.
- In September, a fourth provider, Carepool was added. They provide light hands-on assistance and allowed the AAA to expand services in Gilpin and Clear Creek. Unfortunately, a waitlist was started at the same time, so growth for Carepool has been slow. Reviews for service have been very positive and they anticipate Carepool to become significantly more in-demand throughout 2023.
- The AAA confirmed that they can work together with RTD so clients can use the new Access-a-Ride Uber feature and pay for it partially with AAA Uber funds.
- The AAA is researching more providers that are wheelchair accessible.
- The AAA submitted a proposal for \$900,000 in DRCOG-related funding which will allow the program to grow adding two mobility coordinators and a community resource specialist increasing the team to five people.
- In July, if the additional funding is approved, the AAA hopes to double the amount of clients they are currently serving.
- The AAA will be rolling out an official travel training program next fiscal year. Staff will be trained on best practices and how to develop a travel training program.
- The AAA is still waiting to find out about the Ride Alliance grant submitted in November. The grant will help finish that project and get it launched.

### Board Report – Wynne Shaw and Steve Conklin

- DRCOG Board Chair Steve Conklin, welcomed and thanked Tom Mahowald of Netherland for volunteering to be a member of the ACA. Board Chair Conklin also announced that Wynne Shaw is the new Vice Chair of the DRCOG Board.
- At the last DRCOG meeting, directors talked about federal performance measures that deal with safety, bridges, fatalities, and accidents.
- The Regional Transportation Committee presented information about the coordination of traffic lights, and the overall interaction of municipalities in terms of trying to keep traffic moving. One of the goals is keeping people from idling too long at stop lights.
- The Board also received a lengthy update and had a robust conversation on upcoming legislative matters. Chair Conklin said this is going to be a very interesting session with a lot of housing issues related to creating more housing and affordable housing.
- DRCOG Executive Director Doug Rex mentioned that the Board will be reviewing the AAA bylaws in March with the understanding that they will be amended later to comply with the changes to the Older Americans Act.
- DRCOG Board Vice Chair Wynne Shaw thanked Karie Erickson for attending the Living and Aging Well luncheon in Lone Tree and for sharing what Douglas County is doing and has available for their aging population.

### County Reports

#### Cary Johnson – Jefferson County

- Jefferson County's next meeting will include three County Commissioners and will be their opportunity to talk about their concerns and needs for older adults in Jefferson County.
- The county is currently working on an extensive program to provide housing for homeless older adults.

### Other Matters by Members

- Tex Elam spoke about the new RTD access on demand program which is underway and has been well received by those who are disabled. They are having some growing pains with the changing of the application form. RTD is currently trying to sort out duplicate applications. They are also having contract issues which is affecting vendors such as Via.

Next meeting – **March 24, 2023**

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.



**ATTACH B**

## ATTACHMENT

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Travis Noon, Program Manager, AAA Grant Compliance, Administration & Finance, [tnoon@drcog.org](mailto:tnoon@drcog.org)

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
March 24, 2023	Action	6

### SUBJECT

Project funding for AAA contracted services for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

### PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, OAA/SFSS funded projects as recommended by the ACA Funding Subcommittee.

### ACTION BY OTHERS

March 10, 2023 – ACA Funding Subcommittee made the recommended funding allocations.

### SUMMARY

DRCOG contracts with various community-based service providers to provide services to older adults aged 60+ to help them age in place. DRCOG typically issues requests for proposals (RFPs) on a two-year cycle, where all providers must submit a proposal every other year. In the off years, DRCOG has the option to extend contracts for the second year of funding. DRCOG has switched this schedule to be staggered, meaning an RFP will be released for a certain set of services every year. Each RFP will still have a two-year cycle with off-years being contract renewals at DRCOG's option. This change was made to reduce the number of proposals received in any given year and allow time for a more thorough review of the proposals. To facilitate this change, DRCOG is renewing contracts for some service providers for next year, while other requests were submitted to an RFP.

DRCOG released the RFP for service in Nov. 2022, and that RFP closed in Jan. 2023. DRCOG received requests from 24 organizations to provide community-based services to older adults. In addition, 21 providers were given the opportunity to submit requests to extend their contract for another year. Between these two sets of requests, and the requests received under the separate transportation RFP, a total of over \$22.6 million was requested from DRCOG. There is approximately \$16.5 million available for contracted services next fiscal year.

The ACA funding subcommittee met to review the proposals and contract renewal requests and made recommendations for funding. The recommendations from the funding subcommittee are attached. Given the large difference between requested funding and available funding, most requests were reduced to be level funding with the start of SFY23 prior to contractors being awarded additional funding.

### PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

**PROPOSED MOTION**

Move to recommend to the DRCOG Board Finance and Budget Committee approval of OAA/SFSS projects \$16.5 million for the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024 as recommended by ACA Funding Subcommittee.

**ATTACHMENT**

SFY24 OAA and SFSS recommended funding

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you need additional information, please contact Travis Noon, Program Manager, AAA Grant Compliance, Administration and Finance Division at [tnoon@drcog.org](mailto:tnoon@drcog.org), or Sharon Day, Manager AAA Business Operations, [sday@drcog.org](mailto:sday@drcog.org).

**SFY 2024 Recommended Funding For  
Older Americans Act/State Funding for Senior Services**

Provider	Service	Amount Requested	Recommendation
<b>Contract Renewals</b>			
Aging Resources of Douglas County	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>
Asian Pacific Development Center	Counseling	\$ 38,959.20	\$ 34,635.00
	Education	\$ 170,553.32	\$ 122,187.00
	Screening	\$ 38,816.00	\$ 28,879.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 248,328.52</b>	<b>\$ 185,701.00</b>
Audio Information Network of Colorado	Education	\$ 366,574.88	\$ 159,840.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 366,574.88</b>	<b>\$ 159,840.00</b>
Benefits in Action	Counseling	\$ 321,828.00	\$ 128,731.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 321,828.00</b>	<b>\$ 128,731.00</b>
Brothers Redevelopment Inc	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>
Center for People With Disabilities	Visually Impaired - Counseling	\$ 64,480.00	\$ 52,000.00
	Visually Impaired - Education	\$ 32,240.00	\$ 24,800.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 96,720.00</b>	<b>\$ 76,800.00</b>
City and County of Denver Office on Aging	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 117,618.00	\$ 110,880.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 117,618.00</b>	<b>\$ 110,880.00</b>
Colorado Center for the Blind	Visually Impaired - Counseling	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
	Visually Impaired - Education	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 170,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>
Colorado Health Network	Education	\$ 102,949.88	\$ 102,949.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 102,949.88</b>	<b>\$ 102,949.00</b>
Colorado Legal Services	Legal Assistance	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 595,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 595,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 595,000.00</b>
Colorado Visiting Nurse Association	Evidence Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	\$ 207,900.00	\$ 170,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 207,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 170,000.00</b>
Denver Inner City Parish	Education	\$ 220,268.00	\$ 28,023.00
	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 126,208.50	\$ 28,023.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 346,476.50</b>	<b>\$ 56,046.00</b>
Douglas County Government - Adult Services Pr	Reassurance	\$ 75,810.00	\$ 75,728.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 75,810.00</b>	<b>\$ 75,728.00</b>
Ensign Skills Center	Education	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
	Reassurance	\$ 828.00	\$ -
	Screening	\$ 25,794.00	\$ 25,794.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 64,622.00</b>	<b>\$ 63,794.00</b>
Jefferson Center for Mental Health	Counseling	\$ 213,347.70	\$ 126,716.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 213,347.70</b>	<b>\$ 126,716.00</b>
Jewish Family Service of Colorado, Inc	Case Management	\$ 38,388.00	\$ 20,400.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 38,388.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,400.00</b>
Senior Support Services	Counseling	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	Screening	\$ 298,645.00	\$ 253,396.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 348,645.00</b>	<b>\$ 303,396.00</b>
Seniors Resource Center	Case Management	\$ 649,944.50	\$ 607,511.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 649,944.50</b>	<b>\$ 607,511.00</b>
Southwest Improvement Council	Screening	\$ 225,945.00	\$ 225,945.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 225,945.00</b>	<b>\$ 225,945.00</b>

**SFY 2024 Recommended Funding For  
Older Americans Act/State Funding for Senior Services**

Provider	Service	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Via Mobility Services	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 68,627.00	\$ 68,627.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 68,627.00</b>	<b>\$ 68,627.00</b>
Volunteers of America, Colorado	Congregate Meals	\$ 1,490,296.00	\$ 1,345,296.00
	Evidence Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	\$ 112,000.00	\$ 87,200.00
	Home Delivered Meals	\$ 4,445,356.00	\$ 3,970,356.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 6,047,652.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,402,852.00</b>
<b>Total Renewals</b>		<b>\$ 10,556,376.98</b>	<b>\$ 8,830,916.00</b>
<b>RFP Requests</b>			
A Little Help	Chore	\$ 79,000.00	\$ 56,250.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 79,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 56,250.00</b>
AgeWise Colorado	Education	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 200,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc	Caregiver Counseling	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 140,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 130,000.00</b>
Arapahoe County	Chore	\$ 105,515.14	\$ 105,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 105,515.14</b>	<b>\$ 105,000.00</b>
Benefits in Action	Material Aid	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 450,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 120,000.00</b>
Blue Spruce Habitat for Humanity	Chore	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 38,500.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 38,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 38,500.00</b>
Brothers Redevelopment Inc.	Chore	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 190,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>
Catholic Charities and Community Services of the Archdiocese of Denver, Inc.	Caregiver Access Assistance	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 52,145.00
	Counseling	\$ 42,500.00	\$ -
	Grandparent Caregiver Counseling/Training	\$ 74,802.00	\$ 71,478.00
	Grandparent Caregiver Respite Care	\$ 34,230.00	\$ 32,341.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 214,532.00</b>	<b>\$ 155,964.00</b>
City and County of Broomfield	Caregiver Respite Care	\$ 107,530.18	\$ 99,107.00
	Information and Assistance - Compensated	\$ 13,776.17	\$ 13,655.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 121,306.35</b>	<b>\$ 112,762.00</b>
Colorado Gerontological Society	Material Aid	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 600,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 850,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 600,000.00</b>
Denver Inner City Parish	Home Delivered Meals	\$ 252,358.00	\$ -
	Material Aid	\$ 402,468.00	\$ 55,194.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 654,826.00</b>	<b>\$ 55,194.00</b>
Douglas County government	Chore	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
	Homemaker	\$ 273,000.00	\$ 201,972.00
	Material Aid	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
	Personal Care	\$ 282,100.00	\$ 188,758.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 575,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 406,730.00</b>
Ensign Skills Center	Material Aid	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 7,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 13,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000.00</b>
Geri-Fit Company LLC	Evidence Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	\$ 25,684.00	\$ -
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 25,684.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**SFY 2024 Recommended Funding For  
Older Americans Act/State Funding for Senior Services**

Provider	Service	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Jewish Family Service of Colorado	Homemaker	\$ 357,185.00	\$ 311,865.00
	Material Aid	\$ 75,710.00	\$ 52,741.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 432,895.00</b>	<b>\$ 364,606.00</b>
Mount Evans Hospice, Inc.	Counseling	\$ 32,406.67	\$ 26,240.00
	Education	\$ 4,752.97	\$ -
	Screening	\$ 22,592.40	\$ 26,430.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 59,752.04</b>	<b>\$ 52,670.00</b>
Project Angel Heart	Home Delivered Meals	\$ 787,626.98	\$ 576,141.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 787,626.98</b>	<b>\$ 576,141.00</b>
Rebuilding Together Metro Denver	Chore	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 75,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Senior Support Services	Transportation Voucher - Bus Tickets	\$ 99,792.00	\$ 65,670.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 99,792.00</b>	<b>\$ 65,670.00</b>
Seniors Resource Center, Inc.	Caregiver Counseling	\$ 16,022.00	\$ 14,855.00
	Caregiver Respite Care	\$ 1,159,134.00	\$ 500,721.00
	Chore	\$ 353,787.00	\$ 353,787.00
	Chore - Hoarding	\$ 385,500.00	\$ 175,210.00
	Homemaker	\$ 341,826.00	\$ 341,826.00
	Personal Care	\$ 28,492.00	\$ 11,093.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,284,761.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,397,492.00</b>	
Southwest Improvement Council	Material Aid	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 16,200.00
	Transportation Voucher - Bus Tickets	\$ 7,560.00	\$ 5,355.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 25,560.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,555.00</b>
The Center For People With Disabilities	Special Equipment for Visually Impaired	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 25,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,000.00</b>
The Senior Hub	Adult Day Care/ Adult Day Health	\$ 86,600.00	\$ 72,162.00
	Home Delivered Meals	\$ 83,784.00	\$ 83,784.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 170,384.00</b>	<b>\$ 155,946.00</b>
Volunteers of America	Chore	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 132,600.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 160,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 132,600.00</b>
<b>Total RFP Requests</b>		<b>\$ 7,778,734.51</b>	<b>\$ 4,669,080.00</b>

<b>Contract Renewal Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,556,376.98</b>	<b>\$ 8,830,916.00</b>
<b>RFP Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,778,734.51</b>	<b>\$ 4,669,080.00</b>
<b>Transportation (on separate page)</b>	<b>\$ 4,304,597.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,000,000.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,639,708.49</b>	<b>\$ 16,499,996.00</b>

**ATTACH C**

## ATTACHMENT

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Travis Noon, Program Manager, AAA Grant Compliance, Administration & Finance, [tnoon@drcog.org](mailto:tnoon@drcog.org)

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
March 24, 2023	Action	7

### SUBJECT

Project funding for July 2023 - June 2024 Older Americans Act & State Funding for Senior Services (OAA/SFSS) transportation funding.

### PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the July, 1 2023 – June 30, 2024 OAA/SFSS funded transportation projects as recommended by the Peer Review Panel (“Panel”).

### ACTION BY OTHERS

March 10, 2023 – ACA Funding Subcommittee recommended approval

### SUMMARY

As part of the 2024-2027 TIP Policy DRCOG has set-aside \$2 million per year for Human Services Transportation. DRCOG is the Designated Recipient for the Federal Transit Administration section 5310 program in the Denver-Aurora Urbanized Area. This program provides approximately \$2.8 million annually. DRCOG’s Area Agency on Aging receives Older American’s Act/Older Coloradans Act to funding for service in 8 counties in the Denver metro area. These three funding sources complement each other and can be used in federal fund braiding situations to provide transit services and fund transit capital projects for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.

DRCOG conducted a combined call for projects for the HST set-aside, Denver-Aurora Urbanized Area FTA 5310, and Area Agency on Aging Older Americans Act Transportation projects. DRCOG received proposals from 16 organizations requesting over \$10.8 million for various transit projects across the DRCOG region. There is approximately \$8 million in available funding combined from the three funding sources.

Applications for all three funding sources were evaluated by a Peer Review Panel made up of staff and members from, Advisory Committee on Aging Funding Subcommittee, Denver Human Services, the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition, and the Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. DRCOG staff participated on the panel in an advisory role and did not score the projects. Projects recommended are to be implemented between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. DRCOG staff conducted an equity analysis to ensure distribution of funds to cover services across the region.

Since the HST and 5310 funding is under the purview of the Transportation Planning and Operations Division at DRCOG, approval from the DRCOG Transportation Advisory Committee and Regional Transportation Committee is conducted separately from the OAA/SFSS recommendations presented to ACA.



PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of OAA/SFSS transportation projects for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 as recommended by Peer Review Panel.

ATTACHMENT

*5310-HST-OAA Transportation RFP Committee Recommendations*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Travis Noon, Program Manager, AAA Grant Compliance, Administration and Finance Division at [tnoon@drcog.org](mailto:tnoon@drcog.org)

## 2023-2024 Human Services Transportation TIP, FTA Section 5310, OAA/SFSS Transportation Request for Proposals Recommendations

Agency	Proposal Name	Requested Service/Project	Amount Requested	Recommend to Fund?	Amount Recommended	HST Total	FTA 5310 Total	OAA
<b>A Little Help</b>	A Little Help with Transportation for Older Adults in Metro Denver	Operating Assistance	\$42,000.00	Y	\$42,000.00			\$42,000.00
		Software Upgrades	\$25,000.00	Y	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00		
		Mobility Management	\$40,000.00	Y	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00		
<b>AbleLight</b>	Addressing Transportation Needs for Developmentally Disabled - AbleLight ADA Van Replacement	ADA Compliance Vehicle Replacement - 6 Ford Transits	\$560,700.00	2 Vehicles	\$170,238.00		\$170,238.00	
<b>Boulder County</b>	Peak-to-Peak Volunteer Driver Pilot Program	Mobility Management	\$40,000.00	Y	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00		
<b>City and County of Broomfield</b>	City and County of Broomfield Easyride Transportation	Operating Assistance	\$358,000.00	Y	\$358,000.00			\$358,000.00
<b>City of Golden</b>	Golden RTD Flex-Ride Voucher Program	Operating Assistance	\$6,000.00	N	\$0.00			
<b>City of Lakewood</b>	City of Lakewood - Lakewood Rides 2023-2024	Operating Assistance	\$476,533.50	Y	\$375,000.00		\$60,000.00	\$315,000.00
		ADA Compliant Vehicle Replacement - 2 Class B BOCs, 1 Class D BOC	\$382,177.00	2 Class B	\$246,925.00		\$246,925.00	
<b>Denver Inner City Parish</b>	DICP Transportation Services	Operating Assistance	\$110,904.00	Y	\$100,000.00			\$100,000.00
<b>Denver Regional Mobility &amp; Access Council, DRMAC</b>	Denver Regional Mobility & Access Council -Mobility Assistance Proposal	Mobility Management	\$423,584.78	Y	\$371,250.00	\$74,250.00	\$297,000.00	
<b>Douglas County Government</b>	2023 Douglas County Transportation	Operating Assistance	\$444,000.00	Y	\$299,700.00			\$299,700.00
		ADA Compliant Vehicles Expansion - 1 Ford Transit EV, 1 ADA Minivan	\$182,444.00	EV only	\$123,505.00		\$123,505.00	
		EV Charging Station	\$43,556.00	Y	\$43,556.00		\$43,556.00	
		Mobility Management	\$462,600.00	Y	\$462,600.00	\$161,713.00	\$300,887.00	
<b>DRCOG</b>	DRCOG AAA Choice Services Program Transportation	Mobility Management	\$1,000,000.00	Y	\$900,000.00	\$900,000.00		
<b>Easter Seals Colorado</b>	Easterseals Colorado: Neurological Rehabilitation Adult Day Program Fleet Expansion	ADA Compliant Vehicles Expansion - 1 Ford Transit	\$103,120.00	Y	\$54,077.00		\$54,077.00	
<b>Jewish Family Service of Colorado</b>	Jewish Family Service - Arts and Community Explorations on the Move	ADA Compliant Vehicles Expansion - 1 Ford Transit	\$86,955.00	Y	\$54,077.00		\$54,077.00	

**2023-2024 Human Services Transportation TIP, FTA Section 5310, OAA/SFSS Transportation  
Request for Proposals Recommendations**

Agency	Proposal Name	Requested Service/Project	Amount Requested	Recommend to Fund?	Amount Recommended	HST Total	FTA 5310 Total	OAA
<b>Laradon Hall Society for Exceptional Children and Adults</b>	LARADON VEHICLE REPLACEMENT AND OPERATING REQUEST FOR FY 23/24	ADA Compliant Vehicles Replacement - 2 ADA Minivans, 3 Ford Transits	\$484,942.00	2 Minivans	\$153,000.00		\$153,000.00	
		Operating Assistance	\$139,372.26	Y	\$139,372.00		\$139,372.00	
<b>Town of Erie</b>	Flex Ride Starter Service	Operating Assistance	\$200,000.00	Y	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00		
<b>Via Mobility Services</b>	Via Mobility Services	Operating Assistance	\$3,594,667.00	Y	\$3,268,871.00	\$514,700.00	\$968,871.00	\$1,785,300.00
		Mobility Management	\$515,000.00	Y	\$472,000.00		\$472,000.00	
		ADA Compliant Vehicles Replacement - 4 EV Paratransit Vans	\$618,118.00	N	\$0.00			
		Maintenance Equipment	\$112,500.00	N	\$0.00			
		Facility Driveway Paving	\$225,000.00	N	\$0.00			
		Facility Planning Project	\$22,500.00	N	\$0.00			
<b>Volunteers of America</b>	VOA Transportation Program Gilpin/Clear Creek	Operating Assistance	\$105,464.00	Y	\$100,000.00			\$100,000.00
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$10,805,137.54</b>		<b>\$8,039,171.00</b>	<b>\$1,955,663.00</b>	<b>\$3,083,508.00</b>	<b>\$3,000,000.00</b>

**ATTACH D**

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6735 or [jswarren@drcog.org](mailto:jswarren@drcog.org)

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Agenda Category</b>	<b>Agenda Item #</b>
February 24, 2023	Information Briefing	8

**SUBJECT**

Review the 2023-2027 Area Plan on Aging

**PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Informational only

**ACTION BY OTHERS**

N/A

**SUMMARY**

The federal Older Americans Act requires state units on aging and local area agencies on aging to develop four-year area plans to identify priorities and objectives over the course of a four-year period.

DRCOG's Area Plan on Aging reflects both the strengths and needs of the region's population of older adults and people with disabilities, as well as relevant demographic information. The plan highlights accomplishments by the DRCOG Area Agency on Aging and community providers; examines anticipated challenges and provides information about service goals, advocacy efforts and partnership development.

**PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

N/A

**PROPOSED MOTION**

N/A

**ATTACHMENT**

Staff Presentation

If you need additional information please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, 720-375-1738 [jswarren@drcog.org](mailto:jswarren@drcog.org)

# Area Plan on Aging

Jayla Sanchez-Warren, director, Area Agency on Aging

February 15, 2023

# Background

- **The Older Americans Act** requires area agencies on aging to develop a four-year **Area Plan on Aging** to identify priorities and objectives. This plan covers state fiscal year 2024-2027.
- **Area Plans** are used to create the **Colorado State Plan on Aging**.
- The **Administration for Community Living** uses state plans on aging to identify trends, identify needs, develop service priorities, spending allocations and demonstration projects.
- The **Administration on Aging** develops the plan's format and questions. The **state** may require additional questions.
- The plan is due to the state **March 30** and **may be amended** during the plan's term.

# Areas of focus in the Area Plan on Aging



- Public input.
- Demographics.
- Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults results.
- Volunteers.
- COVID-19 pandemic response and impact.



# During plan development, older adults were asked about:



- Core services.
- Social isolation
- Ombudsman program.
- Legal assistance program.
- Diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Targeting and outreach.
- Innovation and expansion of services.
- Other services.

# Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

The Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults **asks older adults** about 17 aspects of livability in their communities in six categories:

- Community design.
- Employment and finances.
- Equity and inclusivity.
- Health and wellness.
- Information and assistance.
- Productive activities.

# Public input: regionwide community assessment survey

## Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

- Conducted the National Research Center at Polco.
- Statistically valid survey identifying the strengths and needs of the region's population of older adults.
- **4,595 older adults returned the survey** from 39,603 sent (12.5% response rate; 1.45% margin of error).

## Community Conversations with 250 participants:

- From the **Eastern Plains** and the **mountains**.
- From **Spanish-speaking** and **refugee** communities.
- Who live in **low-income residences**, who are **homeless** and who are **veterans**.

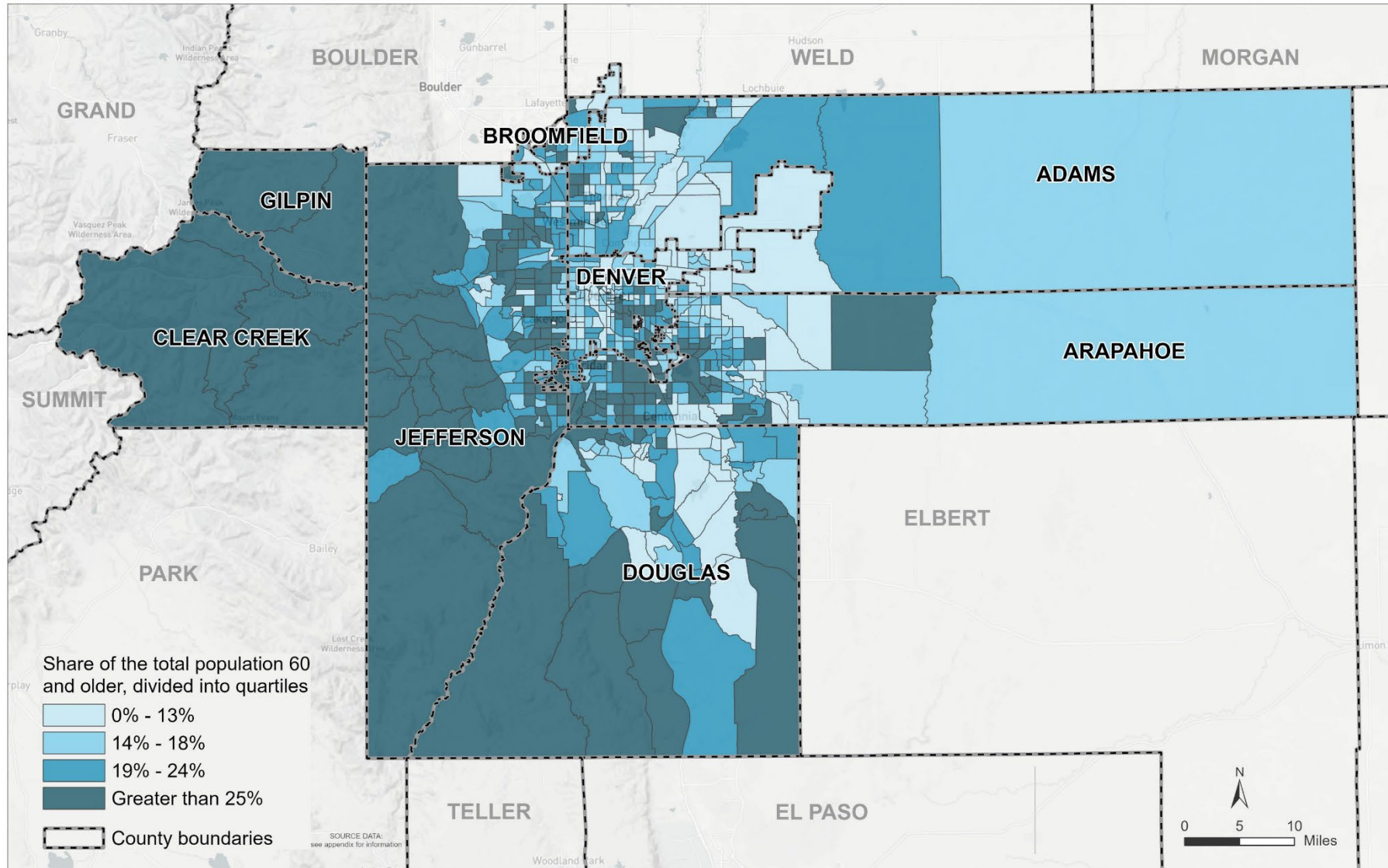
**Key informant session** with 61 community service providers.



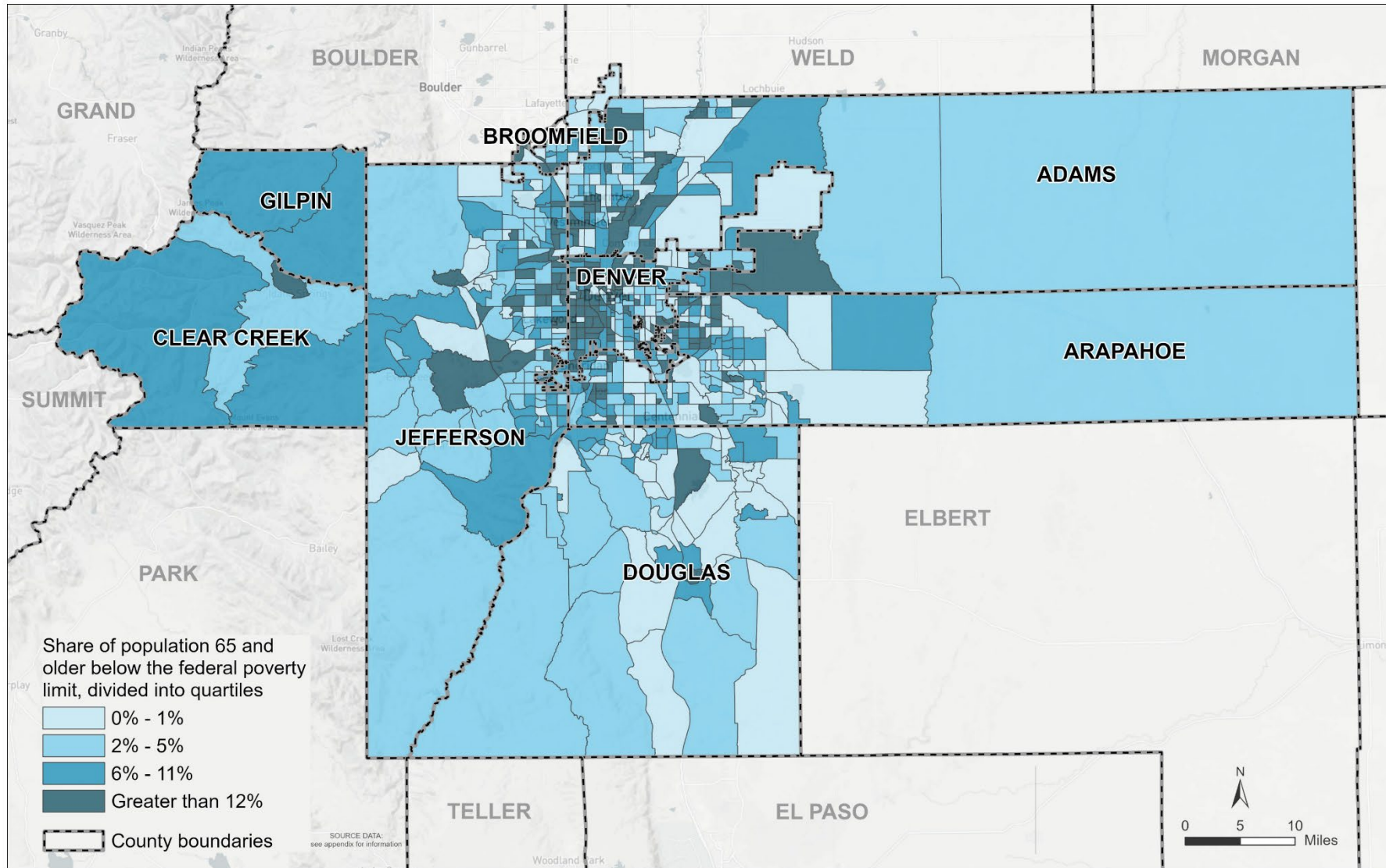
# Demographics



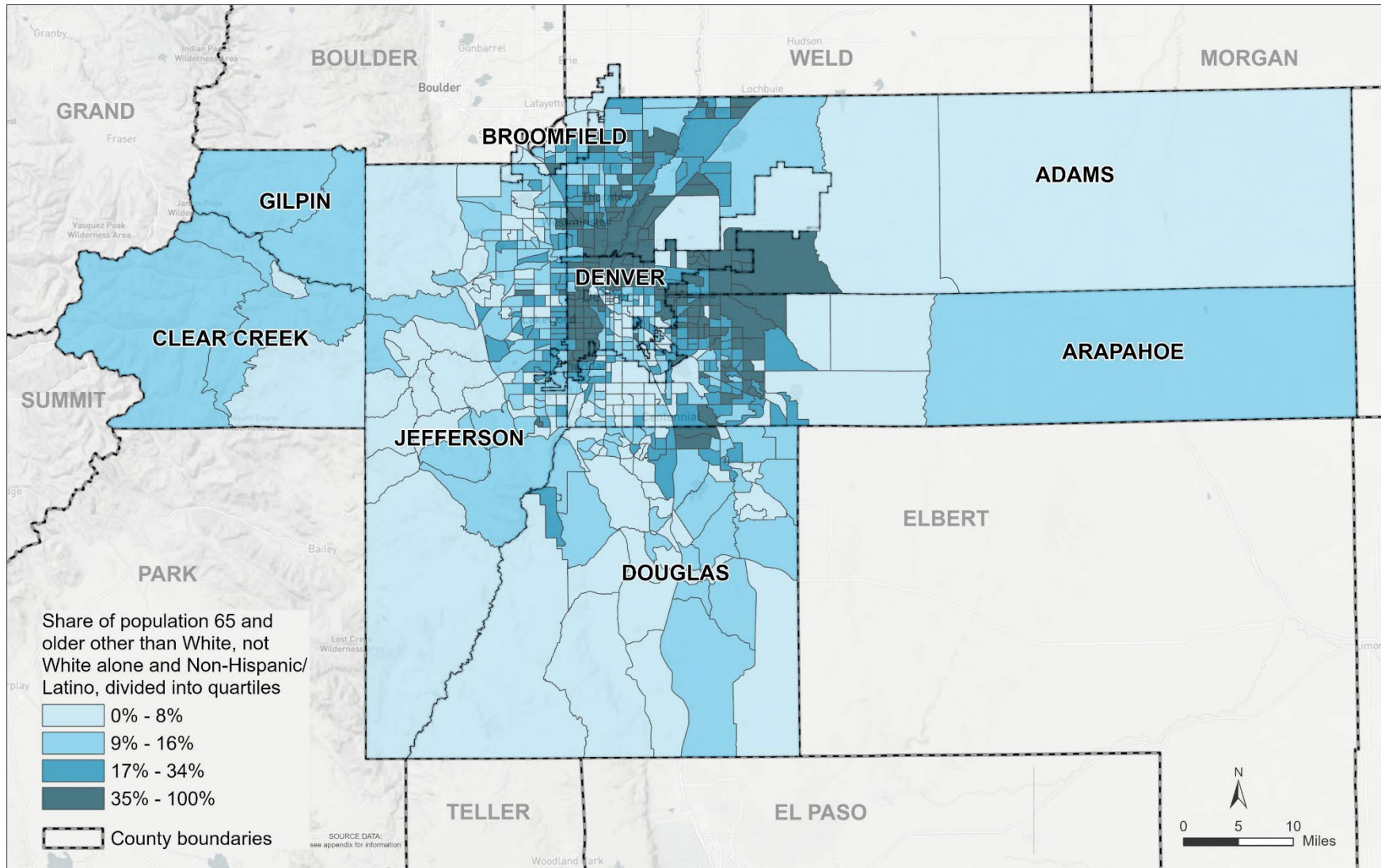
# Older adult population by census tract



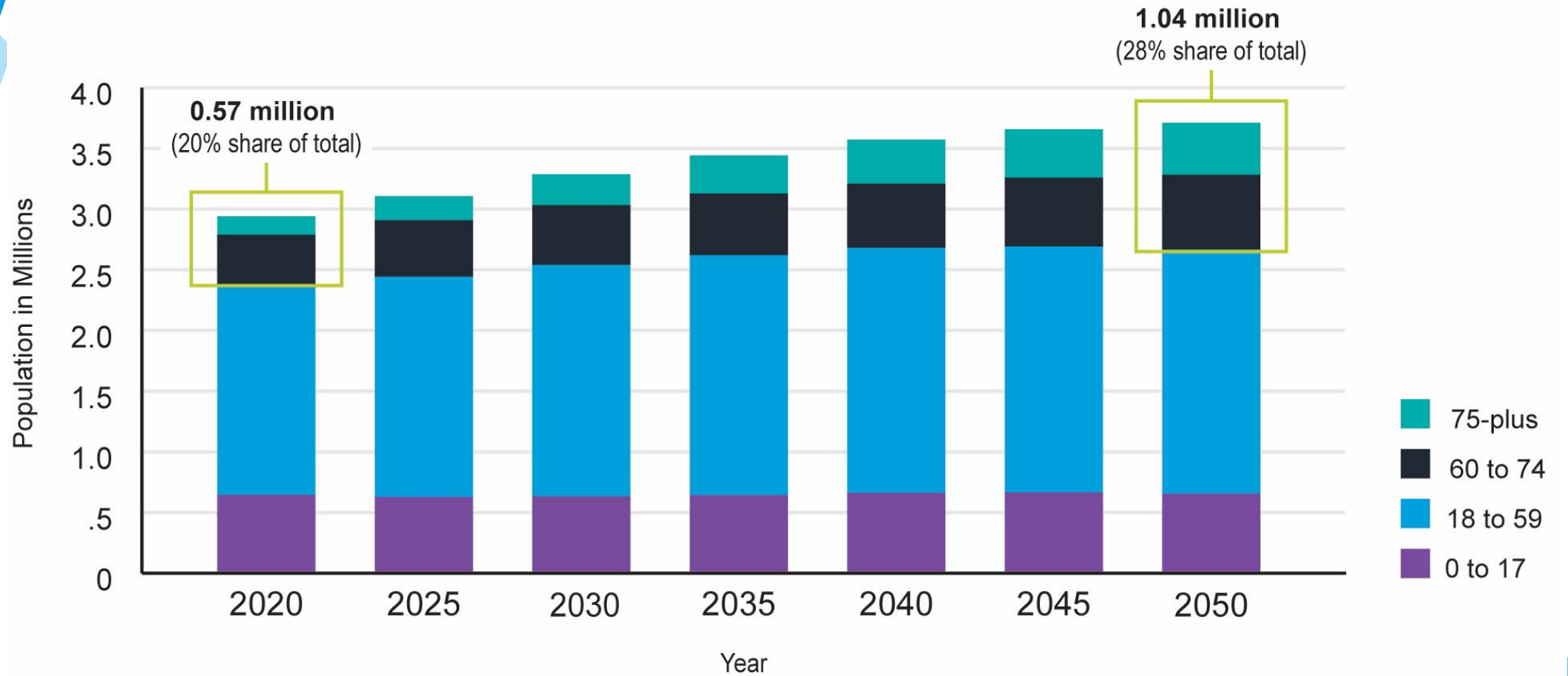
# Population 65 and older below the poverty line



# Non-white population 65 and older by census tract

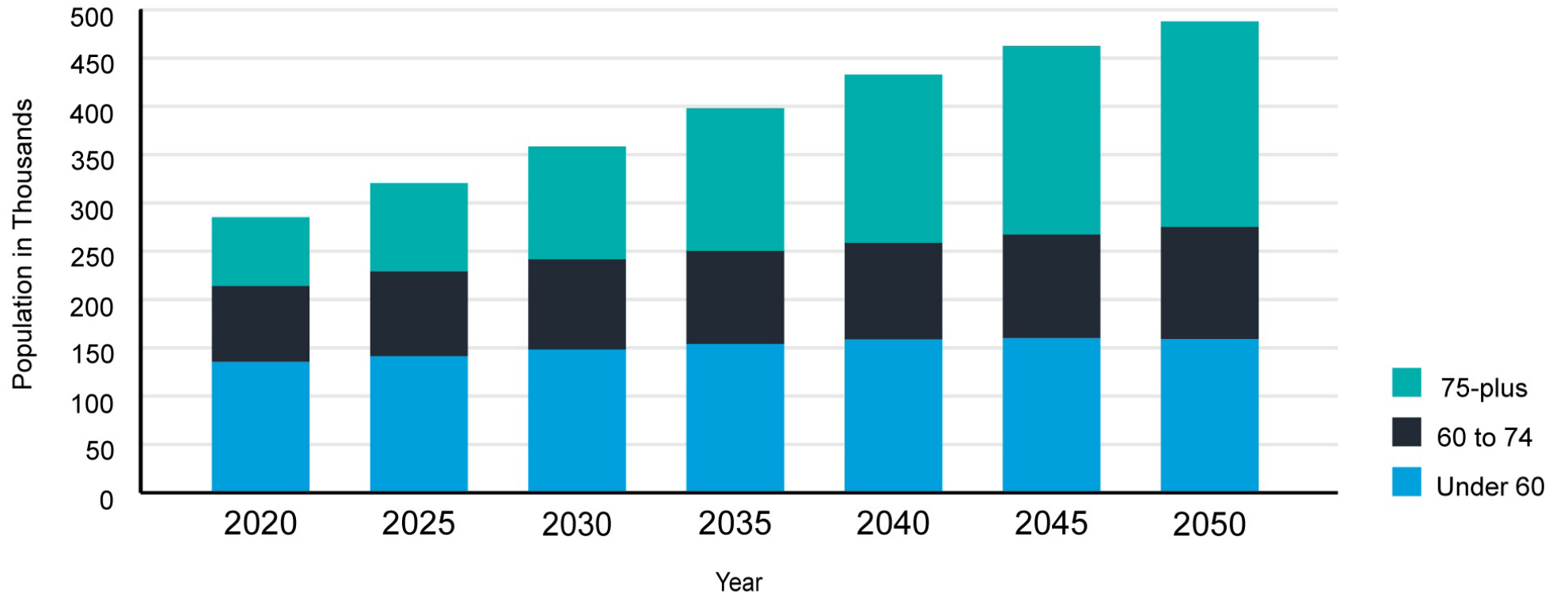


# 2020 to 2050 population forecast

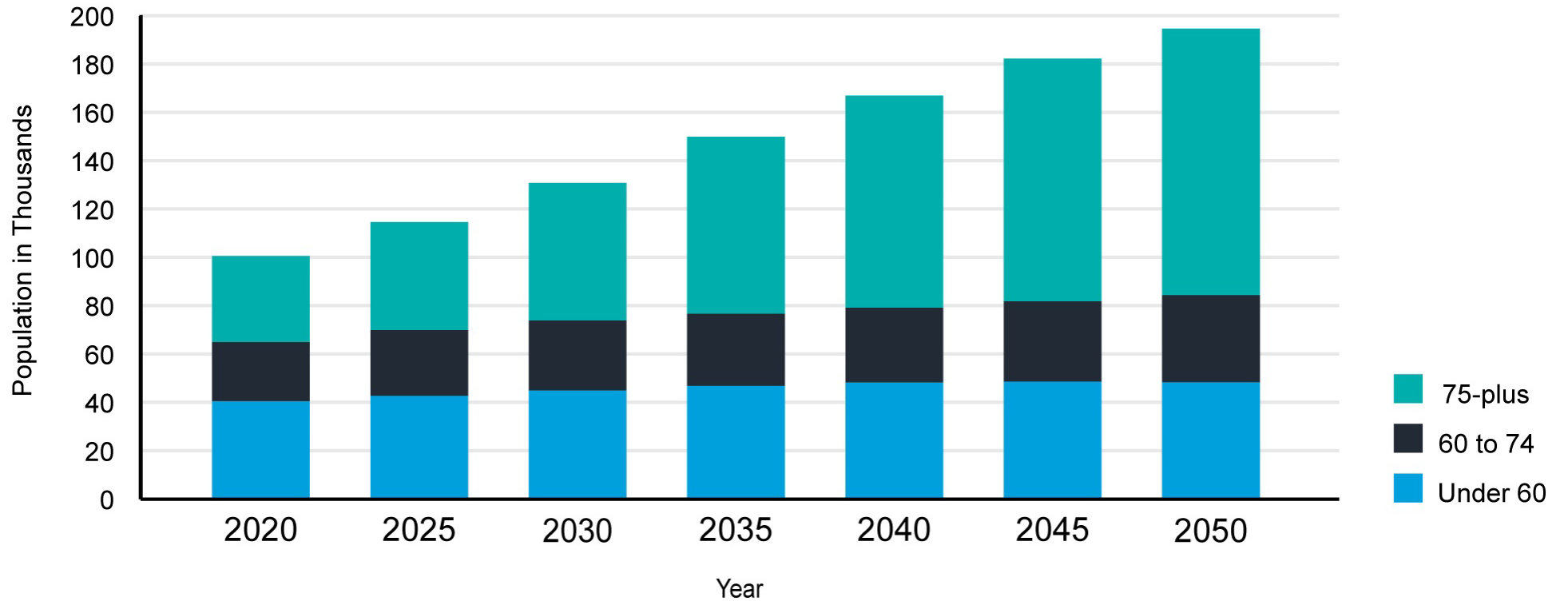




# Individuals with disabilities



# Individuals with self-care or independent living difficulties





# Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

# Objectives and methods

## Objectives

- Identify community strengths to support successful aging.
- Articulate the specific needs of older adults in the community.
- Estimate contributions made by older adults to the community.
- Develop estimates and projections of resident need in the future.

## Methods

- Random sample of older adult households.
- Multi-contact method mailed and online survey.
- Data statistically weighted to reflect older adult population.

# Goals

## Immediate

Make more informed decisions in:

- Planning.
- Resource allocation and development.
- Advocacy.
- Engagement.

## Intermediate

Create and offer:

- Programs to meet community needs.
- Better-quality programs.
- More effective policies.

## Long-term

Support a community of older adults that is more:

- Healthy.
- Engaged.
- Empowered.
- Independent.
- Productive.
- Vibrant.

# Community readiness

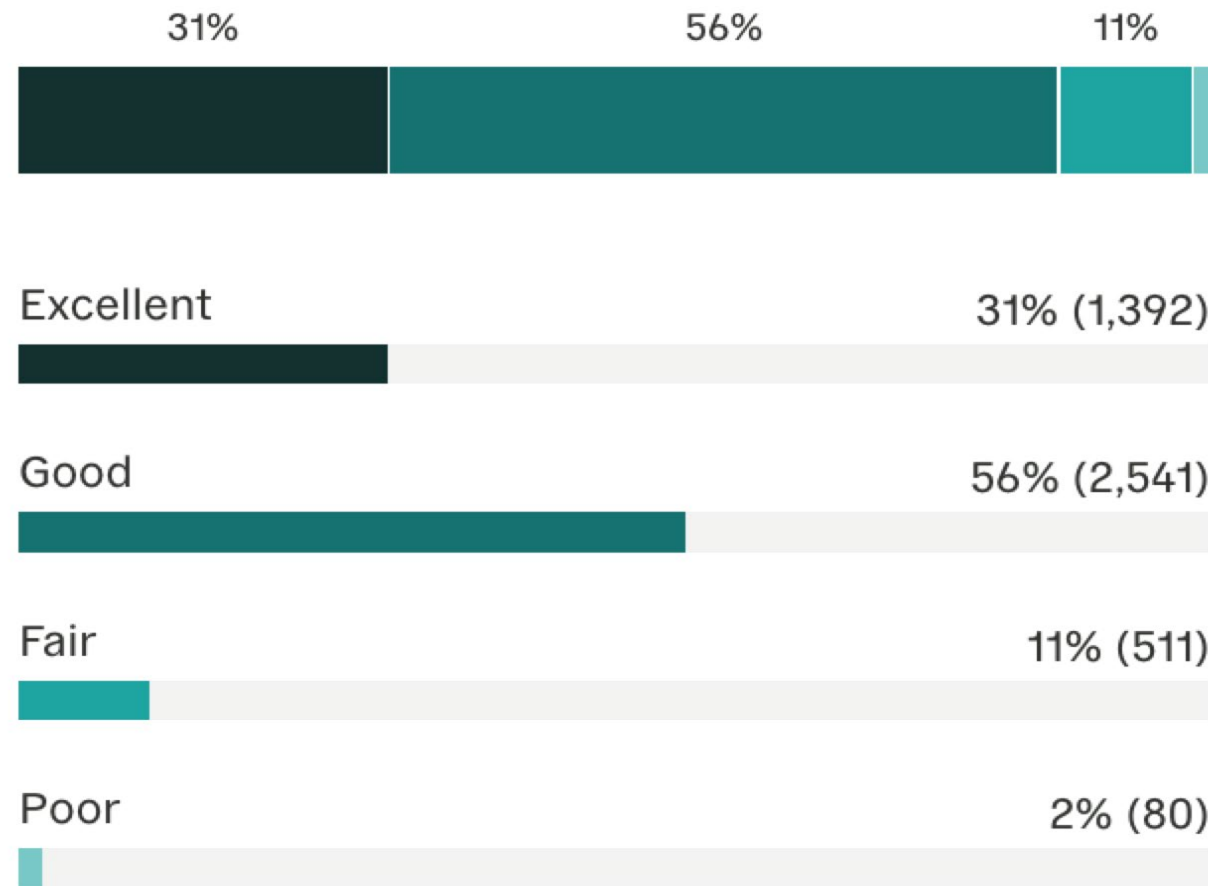
Dimension	Community livability topics	Score (of 100)
Overall community quality	Place to live and retire Recommend and remain in community	<b>66</b>
Community design	Housing Mobility Land use	<b>46</b>
Employment and finances	Employment Finances	<b>27</b>
Equity and inclusivity	Equity Community Inclusivity	<b>46</b>

# Community readiness (continued)

Dimension	Community livability topics	Score (of 100)
Health and wellness	Safety Physical health Mental health Health care Independent living	<b>43</b>
Information and assistance	Quality of older adult services Information on available older adult services	<b>30</b>
Productive activities	Civic engagement Social engagement Caregiving	<b>48</b>

# Overall quality of life

Denver region older adults response to “Your overall quality of life”:





# Community characteristics: strengths



Highest scores

## 70% or higher

- Ease of travel by car.
- Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit.
- Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities.
- Fitness opportunities including exercise classes and paths or trails.
- Ease of walking in your community.

## 60% to 69%

- Ease of bicycling.
- Recreation opportunities including games, arts, library services.
- Opportunities to volunteer.
- Availability of preventive health services such as health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops.

# Community characteristics: challenges

## More than 75% of Denver region older adults identified the following challenges:

- Availability of accessible housing (such as homes with a no-step entry, single-floor living, wide hallways and doorways)
- Cost of living in your community.
- Availability of affordable quality housing.



Lowest scores

# Community characteristics: additional challenges

## More than 50% of Denver region older adults reported having problems with:

- Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community.
- Doing heavy or intense housework.
- Maintaining your home.
- Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Low  
scores

# Community characteristics: additional challenges

## 40% to 50% of Denver region older adults identified the following challenges:

- Physical health.
- Yardwork.
- Staying physically fit.
- Feeling like your voice is heard in the community.
- Having enough money to meet daily expenses.

Low  
scores

# Needs of older adults in the Denver region

Need type	Percent	Individuals
Housing	39%	288,000
Information about services	37%	272,000
Health care	32%	233,000
Physical health	32%	233,000
Finances	26%	189,000
Mental health	25%	185,000
Civic engagement	24%	176,000
Mobility	22%	162,000
Social engagement	21%	154,000

Other older adults indicated a need for community inclusivity (19%, 143,000), safety (16%, 114,000), caregiving (11%, 80,000 and equity (9%, 65,000).



# Effects of COVID-19 and social isolation



# Negative effects of the pandemic

## The **Area Agency on Aging** and its contracted **community-based service providers**:

- Scaled back **services**. (Some stopped providing services and others closed entirely.)
- Services **adapted** and **changed** to meet evolving need.
- Laid off **staff**, or had staff quit.
- Lost **volunteers**.
- Had **clients die**.
- Had **staff get sick**.
- Had to significantly **reduce contact** with clients.
- Had to provide **personal protective equipment** and **cleaning supplies**.

# Positive effects of the pandemic on providing services

As a result of COVID-19, the **Area Agency on Aging:**

- Received significantly **more funding**.
- Was **allowed flexibility** to respond to needs quickly due to the relaxation of Older Americans Act and state regulations.
- **Encouraged innovation** in service delivery.
- Developed **new services**.
- Developed **new partnerships**.
- **Strengthened relationships** with county health and human services departments.



# Lasting challenges of the pandemic

Among the **Area Agency on Aging** and its contracted **community-based service providers**, the ongoing effects of the pandemic have resulted in:

- Service reductions.
- Suppressed staff and volunteer levels among contracted service providers compared with pre-pandemic levels.
- Increased cost for **labor, food and gas** and **supply chain issues** have resulted in greater costs per unit of service.
- **Loss of contracted service providers** and difficulty in partnering with new contractors.
- Continued **COVID-19 outbreaks** and related **safety protocols**.

# Effect of social isolation

- Older people were told to **shelter in place**, shop at designated times and **avoid visiting family and friends** to reduce their exposure to COVID-19.
- Nursing homes and assisted living residences **banned all visitors**. Residents were cut off from all social contact.
- Individuals living in nursing homes and assisted living residences were **confined to their rooms** due to infection control policies.
- Some residents were **moved out of their rooms** to facilitate the creation of COVID-19 units in facilities.
- Many **lost friends** or **loved ones** to COVID-19.

# Ongoing challenges caused by social isolation

- **Increased anxiety** and **depression** can be attributed to the lack of social interaction during the pandemic.
- Increase in diagnosed cases of **agoraphobia** — the fear of leaving home or entering crowded spaces.
- **Decreased physical abilities**, and **increased levels of confusion**.
- Older adults report having **increased feelings of sadness, mourning** and **frustration** at the loss of time.

# Plans to address social isolation over the next four years

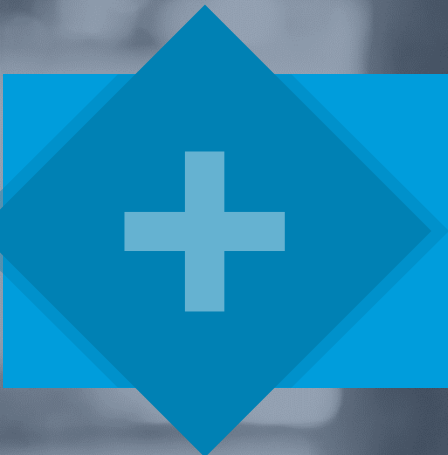
As resources allow, the Area Agency on Aging plans to:

- **Provide funding** for solutions like voice assistant technology, medical alerts and assistive technology.
- Develop more **virtual education, counseling and engagement** activities.
- Start a **nutrition voucher program and partnering with restaurants** to underserved parts of the Denver region to provide nutritious meals and **increase social activity**.

# Plans to address social isolation over the next four years

**Revitalize congregate meal programs and encourage people to return by:**

- Providing **transportation** to meal sites.
- Offering **entertainment** during meals.
- Providing services like **education, health clinics, blood pressure checks, foot clinics.**



# Diversity, equity and inclusion

# Diversity, equity and inclusion

As resources allow, the Area Agency on Aging plans to:

- **Tailor outreach and messaging to targeted populations** and in underserved areas.
- **Translate materials and provide translation services** to increase in access and engagement.
- **Increase virtual services** as applicable and allowable to increase access to care, mental health support, education and engagement.
- **Train contracted service providers** on cultural competency, supporting LGBTQ individuals and implicit bias training to improve their knowledge, understanding and skills.

# Diversity, equity and inclusion (continued)

- **Increase transportation services and remove barriers to transportation.**
- Continue to provide medical diets and offer meals that **consider cultural preferences.**
- **Translate the Aging Mastery Program** curriculum into two additional languages and provide annual training.
- **Support participant-directed and person-centered planning for older adults** and their caregivers in case management, options counseling and in-home assistance.
- Work to make the **Area Agency on Aging regional advisory committee more diverse.**





# Ombudsman Programs

# Ombudsman Program priorities

**Staffing issues:** Increases of abuse and neglect of older adults are a direct result of the staffing crisis and affect all areas of residents' care and quality of life. We plan to **increase systemic advocacy surrounding the staffing crisis.**

Consider steps to **reestablish basic rights for residents** by holding the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment accountable for citing facilities that disregard residents' rights when violated.

**Advocate for formalized oversight of guardians:** Develop a process to ensure oversight of guardianship responsibilities and penalties for guardians who mistreat, abuse or exploit their wards.

**Increase consumer education by raising awareness** of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and the types of abuse and neglect in long-term care facilities that the Ombudsman can help identify and resolve.

# Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly Ombudsman

**Increase funding** to develop more local programs and establish funding for existing local Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly programs.

**Advocate at the state and federal levels for thoughtful growth** and explore how growth will be managed to ensure participants receive quality services.

**Increase partnerships with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment related to the home health portion of the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly** to better leverage the department's oversight.

Continue to **increase outreach to targeted audiences** (for example, using community town halls or other innovative methods to reach residents of low-income senior high-rises).

# Evidence-based services

The Area Agency on Aging currently funds **evidenced-based programs for fall prevention, health and wellness and nutrition.**

It currently funds evidence-based programs including **Healthy Moves to Aging Well, Community Aging in Place—Advancing Better Living for Elders, Aging Mastery Program and Fresh Conversations.**

As resources allow, the Area Agency on Aging will provide evidence-based services to **caregivers** and will evaluate programs such as the **Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives and Powerful Tools for Caregivers.**



# Innovation to improve services

**Collaborative advocacy:** work with contracted partners, community service providers, older adults, the Advisory Committee on Aging and national groups to include payment for community service into Medicare.

Use **new data systems, survey information** and **in-house gap analysis** to analyze service needs, develop new services and monitor service performance and delivery.

Improve access to services by providing and funding more **virtual services**.

**Streamline assessments and reduce administrative burdens** on contracted service providers.

# Innovation to improve services (continued)

**Increase coordination, data collection and outcomes of referrals** made between AAA and contracted service providers.

Participate in the Administration for Community Living's **Community Care Hub** and other national and state initiatives related to **social determinants of health and payment for community-based services**

Work with health providers and payers to demonstrate that **investments in the overall well-being of older adults reduces health care costs and improves health outcomes.**





**Thank you!  
Questions?**

**Jayla Sanchez-Warren,  
director, Area Agency on Aging**