

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING  
MEETING SUMMARY  
May 18, 2018**

**Members Present**

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Anne Gross	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	At Large
Bob Davis	Broomfield County
Bob Lanky	Jefferson County
Cary Johnson	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Houston "Tex" Elam	At Large
Jessica Sandgren	City of Thornton
Joyce Gallagher	Adams County
Karie Erickson	Douglas County
Linda Tate	Broomfield County
Maureen Spiegleman	City and County of Denver
Phil Cernanec	At Large
Sharon Perea	Gilpin County

**Guests Present**

Valerie Robson – Douglas County

**Others Present**

AJ Diamontopoulos, Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Sharon Day, Mindy Patton, Shannon Gimbel, Erin Iserman, Kirsti Klaverkamp

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Phil Cernanec – Called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

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

No Public Comment

**Approval of the April 20, 2018 Meeting Summary**

Sharon Perea made the motion to accept the summaries, Bob Lanky 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, summaries were approved.

**Boomer Bond Update – Brad Calvert and Kevin Priestley**

- Brad Calvert began with an introduction to the Regional Planning and Development division, his team is responsible for coordination of long range planning, growth, development and land use. One of their biggest accomplishments is their work with DRCOGs Board in the approval of the Metro Vision Long term plan for the DRCOG region.

- Brad told the group about the regions who have completed the Boomer Bond process and explained that there were other communities that are in the works. He gave some history of the Boomer Bond and how it has been recognized nationally.

Kevin Priestley's began his presentation which is attached.

**Slides 1 through 3** – Introduced graphs and tables showing:

- Colorado's historical pattern for attracting younger age groups who have impacted Colorado's age distribution for decades.

**Slide 5** – Showed the distribution of Colorado's population growth change by age

- The majority of migrants to Colorado are young.
- The large migration began in the 1970s and resulting in a quick increase to the 65+ population as the Boomer population hit this mark starting in 2006.
- Migration to Colorado was responsible for 70% of the population increase from 1970 to 1980

**Slide 6** – Provides county statistics of the 60-plus Population (2015-2040)

**Slide 7** – Shows the same statistics for the county population of the 75-plus Population (2015 - 2040)

**Slide 8** – Indicates the Leading 5-Year Cohort Growth for the Denver Region (2015 – 2040)

**Slide 9** – Spoke about the CASOA reports, the community assessment tool that facilitates the local dialogue and identifies priorities for jurisdictions and is a comprehensive tool to assist with the future development of policies, plans and strategies.

**Slide 11** – DRCOGs motivation is divided:

- Expand Partnerships
- Increase awareness
- Expand data collection and analysis
- Increase advocacy
- Increase funding
- The biggest motivation is to engage local governments

**Slide 12** – Resources are not keeping pace with need

- This slide shows that an expected 96% increase in the 60+ population from 2015 to 2040.
- DRCOG funding for older adult services has gone flat FY14 to FY18.

**Slide 13** – Boomer Bond tool to help engage the community

- Helps to facilitate local dialogue and identify priorities and consists of approximately 150 questions
- A comprehensive tool to assist with the future development of policies, plans and strategies

**Slide 14** – Discussed why the need for the Boomer Bond tool

- Kevin indicated that our home-grown increase in an aging population requires pursuing home-grown solutions
- That DRCOG in addition to programs and services through the OAA work to ensure that our communities are providing opportunities for people to age well
- Our environment greatly impacts our ability to age well, the design of our communities can work for or against healthy aging
- At minimum community design can assist in addressing two of the biggest needs identified in our most recent survey of older adults
- Community engagement can also be linked with the physical design of our communities
- Being engaged in your community is often a matter of being able to easily access opportunities for involvement
- A primary challenge he hears from older volunteers is transportation you can't volunteer or contribute if you can't reliably travel to the volunteer opportunity

**Slide 15** – Development and implementation of the tool

- Initially developed by group of 60 stakeholders consisting of elected officials, architects, planners, human service professionals and citizens
- Intentionally created as an instrument geared toward local government staff/operations
- “Beta-tested” by 3 communities

**Slide 16** – Kevin spoke about how mobility and access, community living, housing and support services are involved and contribute, that each assessment is locally owned

- It takes approximately 4-8 months to complete
- DRCOGs role is to serve as process designer, connector and resource and serves as lead facilitator in smaller communities
- They help evaluate outcomes with an emphasis on the process and not the results

**Slide 17** – Shows the 17 jurisdictions who have completed Boomer Bond

**Slide 18** – Kevin talked about the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) grant and how it was used to implement efforts in smaller communities.

**Slide 19** – Gave some highlights of how communities made the tool their own

Bob Davis said the Boomer Bond was just presented to their City Council and was well received

**Slide 20** – Showed the steps involved in the assessment process and prioritization of findings

**Slide 21** - Had examples of an assessment findings reports

**Slide 22** – Early benefits and solution already initiated

**Slide 23** – Some lessons learned

- Short staffed in smaller communities

- Navigating political environments was challenging
- Bringing outside communities into the fold
- DRCOG must act as neutral party
- Funding and housing stock

**Slides 24 through 27** – Provides some success stories

**Slides 28** – Future and follow up

- Follow up Survey once a year or every 6 months to see how program is going
- Apply for Next50 grant applications

**Slide 29** – Brad presented to Pueblo and DRCOG will serve as a resource to Pueblo as they move forward

- Currently working with partners to explore role for Boomer Bond assessment tool throughout Colorado will present to Grand Junction in September and APA Colorado Workshop in October

Sharon Perea asked how the Next50 grants worked. Kirsti explained the Next50 Initiative is a non-profit organization dedicated to funding innovative initiatives that improve community services for older adults and their caregivers. With the larger goal of maintaining and enhancing quality of life for older adults (50 years+) in their second fifty years of life.

- The AAA received the Next50 grant for capacity building and partnership for the AHC Grant to assist with showing the impact of AAA provided partnership services
- Once established the grant will give funding to those that are found to need assistance without being put on a waitlist

Bob Brocker, asked how communities measure the outcomes of the tool. Kevin said that we hear back from the communities, use the follow up survey he talked about and will send out that survey every 6 months to see how things have progressed. Brad hopes to see progress eventually show up in future CASOA reports.

Brad Calvert, Director, Regional Planning and Development  
bcalvert@drcog.org, 303-480-6839

Kevin Priestley, Assistant Planner, Regional Planning and Development  
kpriestley@drcog.org, 303-480-6769

### **Legislative Report – Rich Mauro**

- There was a \$4M increase to the State Funding for Senior Services statewide
- DRCOGS Ombudsman Supervisor was instrumental in getting assisted living regulations changed and passed SB-18-054
- Bed fees for ASL will be increased and the state will be able to hire 9 new surveyors statewide
- An increase for 1.5 FTE in the state ombudsman program
- HCPFs CCT program will continue in Colorado with a slight increase to funds

- SAPGA received \$55K to keep the group going
- Medicaid facilities receive a 25% increase about \$4,500 per resident in hopes that facilities will keep the program

An extensive report on the items Rich spoke about and followed this year are included at the end of these minutes.

- A bill for transportation multimodal funding passed
  - This bill provides opportunity for transportation funding for seniors and the disabled
  - Groups such as ACA and CCOAs have the chance over the next 2 years to advocate with CDOT for this funding.
  - Doug Rex, DRCOGs Executive Director said that out of the allotted 15% of the multimodal funds, 85% will be dedicated to local governments and should be controlled by the Council of Governments and transportation planning districts if no council of government is available,

Karie Erickson asked if DRCOG could put together cheat sheets for group on talking points

Bob Brocker asked - What the term affordable housing means? They explained that in each area it means something different depending on the economics in their area. Bob asked how many people need housing? There really wasn't an overall count that could be given but for just DRCOG CCT program Amy Pulley of the AAA said there is over 300 on their waitlist. A housing development discussion followed.

### **Directors Report – Jayla Sanchez-Warren**

- Jayla had just finished a call with Mission Forward
- Mission Forward is the national work group that Jayla was asked to be on the committee work on the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA)
- This group will be presenting to the N4A Board on the following:
  - What are the core competencies the AAAs need to have such as business acumen?
  - How do we make those things happen throughout all AAAs?
  - The need to partner with other organizations such as hospitals and insurance companies to get additional funding sources
  - The goal is to get all AAAs in a position to compete for some of this funding
- Jayla met with Whitney Bailey from the Administration on Aging she was very excited about several programs the DRCOG AAA is doing
- Jayla presented at the AARP Caregiver Symposium
- National Council on Aging contacted Jayla, would like her to partner with them but grant amounts are small, Jayla suggested the AAA could help them work with other providers so they could apply for funds.
- Attended Vintage and Vibrant event many at the event had housing and information and assistance questions
- Presented at Adams County she enjoyed speaking with the group she has done presentations for them for 30 years and was glad to see a growth in the seniors who attend the meeting

- County Councils on Aging (CCOA) are mandatory under the OAA.
- The AAAs are to assist the counties with setting up a CCOA
- Jayla wants to establish CCOA reports at each of the ACA meetings. She wants to know what the issues are in the counties, what issues are talked about at CCOA meetings, what the challenges are and what events are happening in the area.
- Community Assessment for Older Adults (CASOA) surveys have gone out and Jayla will begin doing the community conversations
  - Jayla would like to use the CCOA meetings for key informant sessions, she and Kelly will be setting those up starting in August the report is due in March of 2019
  - She would like to know of any places where people are living untraditionally such as campgrounds, parking lots, etc.
  - She is looking for those types of people who are most likely to use our services
- Jayla has been working a lot on transportation she said that she has never seen such a time when there has been so much interest at higher levels in transportation for older adults, and willingness to coordinate at the same time that we have funding .
- SAPGA has developed a transportation subcommittee that is looking at the issues and what we need to do now and over the next 10 years
- Biggest problem is medical transportation especially with dialysis transport
  - SRC has stopped taking any new dialysis clients because they are such a drain on their business.
  - Currently SRC has 31 routes and still is unable to keep up with these appointments
- Working with the new DRCOG transportation division director Ron Papsdorf to see how to team up with these issues
- What is the AAA up to?
  - Housing, scams and SHIP are some of the most common complaints staff are receiving
  - There is a lot of need and not a lot of resources for all the AAA programs so we need to continue to look for resources.
  - 3 more Medicaid facilities are closing a total of 9 Assisted Living facilities have closed since the first of the year

### **Program Report – AJ Diamontopoulos and Sharon Day**

#### **AHC**

- DRCOG was the first AHC program to start on time of the 32 who were issued the grant
- They have 22 Navigators (20 clinical and 2 community)
- The program screens for the following 5 needs, food insecurity, housing instability, utility needs, transportation and safety issues
- Aurora Mental Health decided that they will have all 10 of their clinics do the program
- According to the grant. AHC must screen 75,000 clients/year and navigate 3,000 of those clients/year.

- Two weeks into the program they have screened 329 clients with 111 having one of the five needs listed above
  - o 23 had emergency department visits
  - o 68 with food insecurity
  - o 44 housing instability
  - o 34 utility needs
  - o 20 transportation needs
  - o 4 Safety issues

Jayla is hoping that the statistics derived from this grant will help get more funding for AAA programs

### Funding

- Received state funds but have not received notice for federal funds but notice should be going out soon
- We did not receive federal funds until March creating a lot of uncertainty
- Cut providers contracts by 10% to ensure we had enough funds to get through the end of FY18.
- DRCOG will receive 1.4M state pass through funds a 17% increase from previous year
- Federal funding should have an increase in Parts B funds except evidence based, nutrition/caregiver and Part E caregiver

### Making Network of Care Better – Cassie Scott

- Expanding Network of Care, hiring a new person to assist with upkeep of the system
- Highest month ever for visits to the site in April had 38,000 visits last year at this time there were 24,00 which is a big increase
- Cassie showed the new modules added to the program and handed out a survey for the group to complete to see how to improve Network of Care
  - Website address is: [www.drcog.networkofcare.org](http://www.drcog.networkofcare.org)
  - Some suggestions were to change the color combinations because the visually impaired could not see certain combinations and requested a larger font size
  - Wanted pictures to represent a better image of the person who would use the services
  - Recommended a tag line such as “What can I help you find” or “We are here to help”.
  - Site title - Network of Care, provided by the Area Agency on Aging at the Denver Regional Council of Governments

Cassie’s contact information: Cassie Scott, 303-480-6834, [cscott@drcog.org](mailto:cscott@drcog.org).

### Chair Report – Phil Cernanec

- Channels 4 and 7 had report for Cycling Without Age, Littleton is working on getting an affiliate going.
- Phil was in Washington at Capitol Hill

- Phil mentioned online ordering of medications there are 35,000 online and many are not legitimate
  - He gave the group the following information for the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies <https://buysaferx.pharmacy> which is a resource for people to check the legitimacy of an online prescription company.

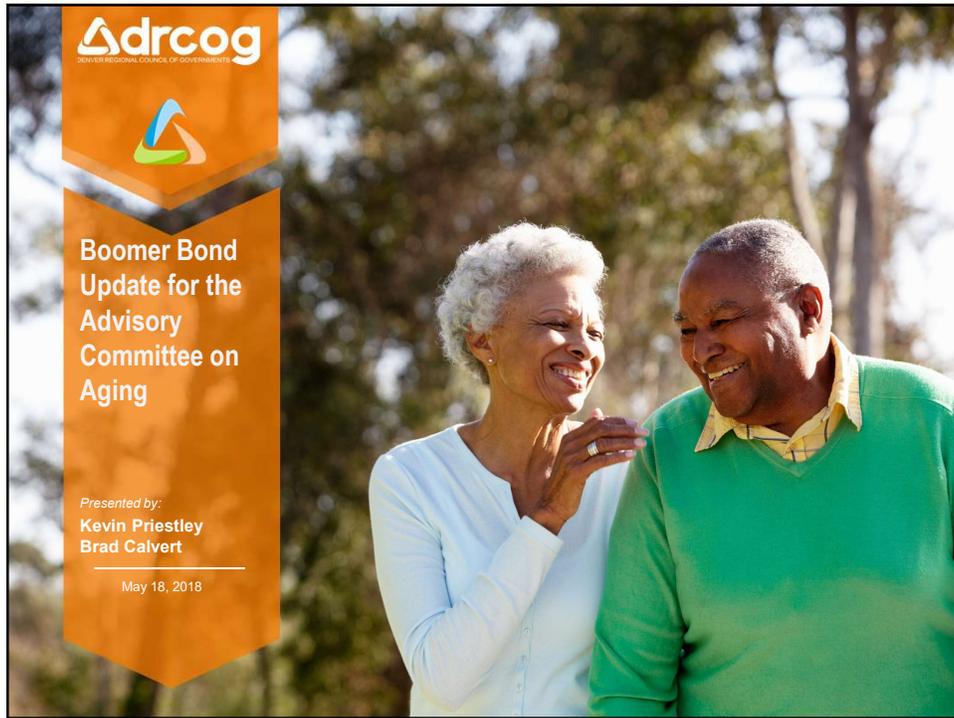
### **Information Sharing – (ACA members)**

Val Robinson

- State implemented the new reporting system Peer Place she thanked Sharon for being a great resource and liaison for the new program helping providers with the new software

### **Adjournment**

Adjourned at 2:58 p.m.  
Next meeting August 17th

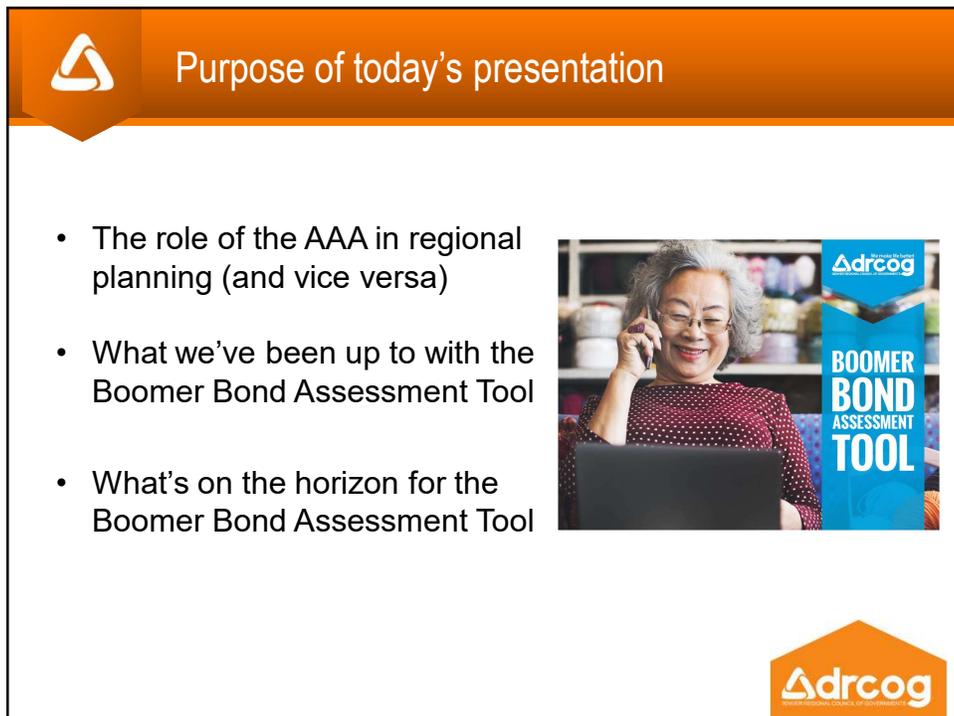


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**Boomer Bond Update for the Advisory Committee on Aging**

Presented by:  
**Kevin Priestley**  
**Brad Calvert**

May 18, 2018



**Adrcog**

## Purpose of today's presentation

- The role of the AAA in regional planning (and vice versa)
- What we've been up to with the Boomer Bond Assessment Tool
- What's on the horizon for the Boomer Bond Assessment Tool



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**BOOMER BOND ASSESSMENT TOOL**



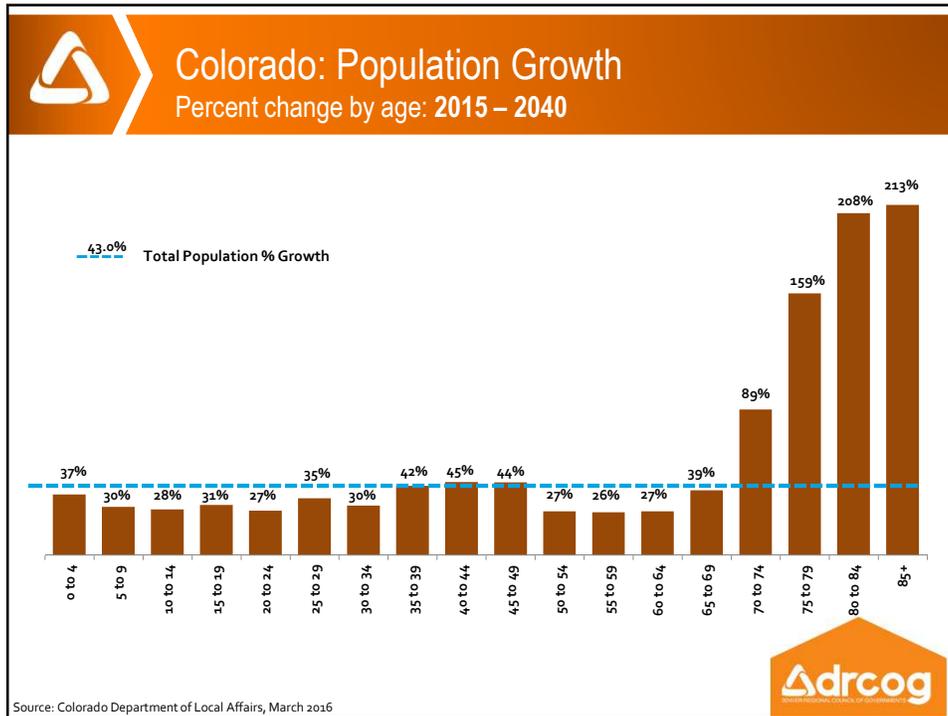
 **Regional Planning & Development**

- Responsible for the coordination of long-range planning, including performance monitoring and reporting for the Denver region.
  - Metro Vision
    - Guides DRCOG's work
    - Establishes a shared aspirational vision with our partners
- Provide high-quality information, tools and resources to internal and external partners and customers
  - Data, information, maps and models
  - Socioeconomic data



Working together to address the

**AGING IN THE REGION AND THE STATE**

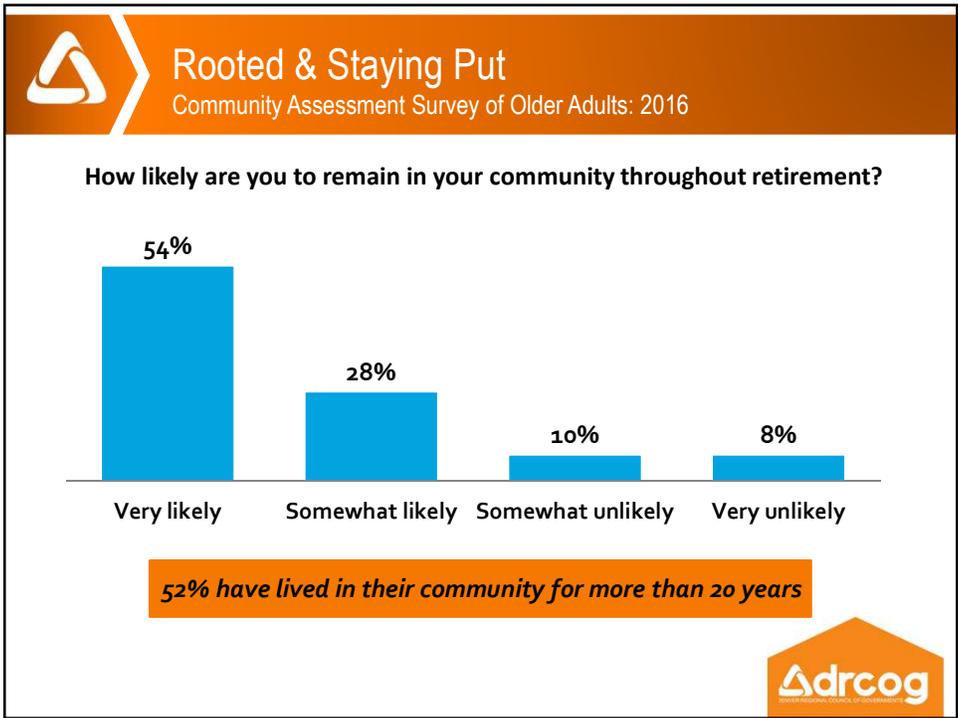


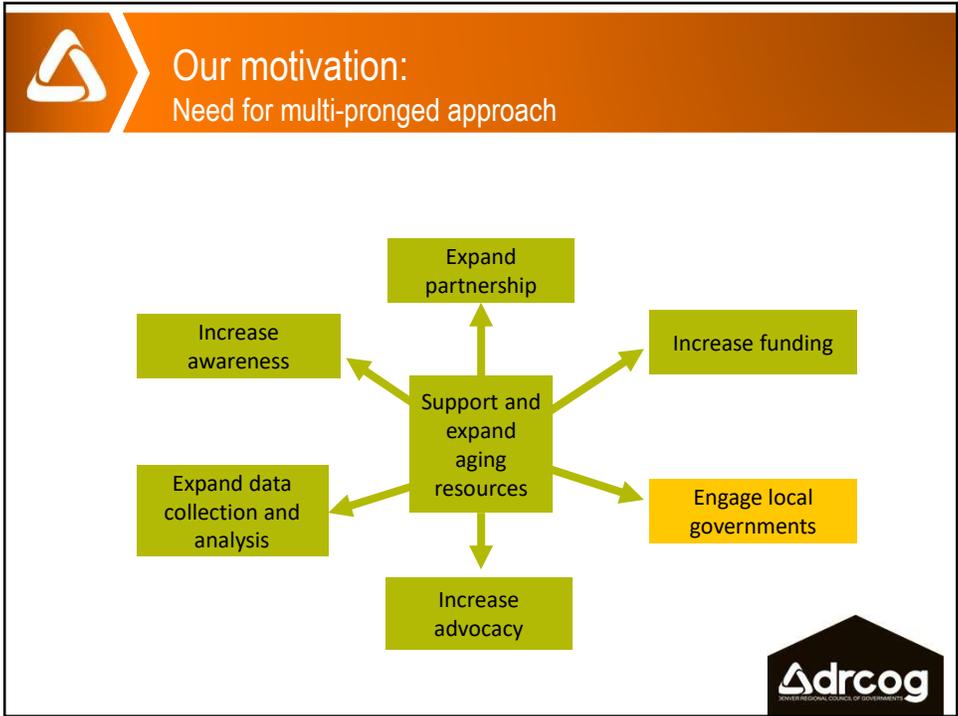
60-plus Population (2015 - 2040)			
County	2015	2040	% Change
Adams	70,918	170,423	140%
Arapahoe	112,823	225,988	100%
Boulder	60,261	114,535	90%
Broomfield	11,360	25,503	124%
Clear Creek	2,678	2,939	10%
Denver	109,128	186,884	71%
Douglas	50,694	131,853	160%
Gilpin	1,418	1,850	30%
Jefferson	125,494	205,689	64%
<b>DRCOG Region</b>	<b>544,774</b>	<b>1,065,664</b>	<b>96%</b>

 <b>75-plus Population (2015 - 2040)</b>			
County	2015	2040	% Change
Adams	18,816	63,285	236%
Arapahoe	30,091	93,285	210%
Boulder	15,286	49,475	224%
Broomfield	3,254	9,747	200%
Clear Creek	517	1,315	154%
Denver	30,857	70,461	128%
Douglas	10,772	50,608	370%
Gilpin	191	797	317%
Jefferson	33,671	98,638	193%
DRCOG Region	143,455	437,611	205%

 <b>Leading 5-Year Cohort Growth Denver Region (2015 – 2040)</b>		
5-Year Cohort	% Change (2015-2040)	Rank
75 to 79	257%	1
90+	219%	2
85 to 89	205%	3
80 to 84	204%	4
70 to 74	88%	5
65 to 69	40%	6







**Resources are not keeping pace with need**

**Expected 96 percent Increase in 60+ Population (2015-40)**

- DRCOG’s federal funding for older adult services essentially flat (FY14-18)
- Federal / State\* share of DRCOG’s AAA funding:

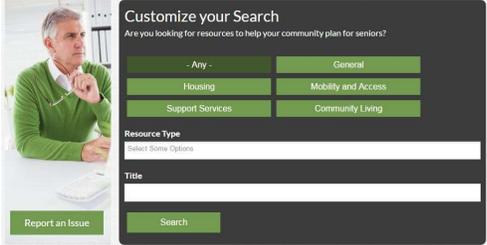
	FY14	FY18
Federal	52%	43%
State	48%	57%

*\* Increasing state funding (General Fund appropriation for “State Funding for Senior Services”) has involved significant legislative efforts over many years.*

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF GERIATRICS

## Boomer Bond – engaging local governments





- A community assessment tool to facilitate local dialogue and identify priorities
- A comprehensive inventory to assist with the future development of policies, plans and strategies.



## Why an Assessment Tool?

- “Conversation starter” at the local level (including partners)
- Provide structure to what can be an overwhelming conversation
- Enhance staff-to-staff and staff-to-stakeholder relationships
- Help focus efforts to engage the general public
- Digitized using Google Forms

EXISTING Public Sidewalk Elements	A LOT of improvement needed	MODERATE improvement needed	A LITTLE improvement needed	Fully accommodated
Continuous sidewalk system providing access to essential services for older adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum sidewalk width of five feet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADA ramps at intersections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual and physical cues at ramps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level landings where driveways intersect public sidewalks to create a level path for pedestrians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimal tripping hazards from uneven surface or protruding objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signage to direct pedestrians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buffer between sidewalk and street (e.g. planting strips, on-street parking, bike lanes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## △ Boomer Bond Assessment Tool

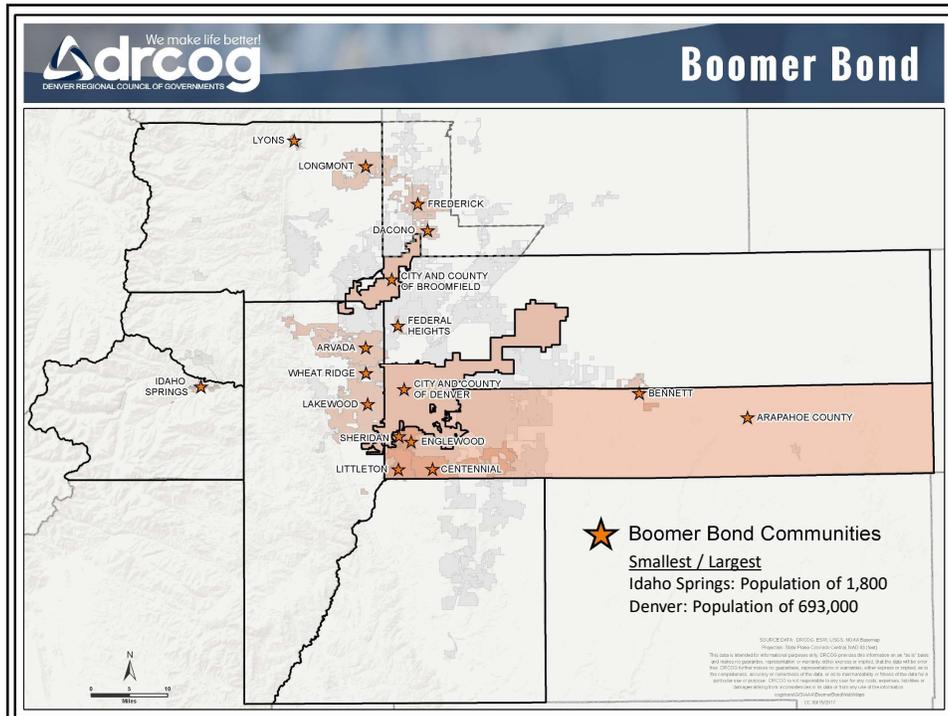
- Initially developed by group of ~60 stakeholders
  - Elected officials
  - Architects
  - Planners
  - Human service professionals
  - Citizens

- Intentionally created an instrument geared toward local government staff/operations
- “Beta-tested” by 3 communities

## △ Boomer Bond Assessment – Topic Areas

**Process Overview**

- Locally owned
- Approximately 4-8 months to complete
- DRCOG roles:
  - Serve as **process designer, connector** and **resource**
  - Serve as **lead facilitator** in smaller communities
  - **Evaluation:** Emphasize process **not** results





## DOLA/Boomer Bond Background



**DOLA**  
 COLORADO  
 Department of Local Affairs



**drcog**  
 DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**FY 2017 Technical Assistance Grant:**

- Provide targeted assistance to smaller communities within the DRCOG planning area
- Facilitate the use of the assessment tool
- Help local staff and community leaders develop actionable strategies to plan for the growth in the older adult population



## Other recent Boomer Bond efforts



- Internal sponsor: City Manager's Office w/ Senior Resources of Broomfield
- Rebranded: Successful Aging Study
- Assessment is complete – finalizing report with CCB



- Internal sponsor: Human Rights and Community Partnerships – Office on Aging
- Age Matters Needs Assessment
  - Completed in 2017
  - New/revised initiatives will begin in 2018



## Example assessment process\*

*\* DRCOG works with every Boomer Bond community to design custom process*

Project Initiation

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**Development Review Committee (DRC)**

- Project background
- Setting expectations
- Developing the timeline

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Assessment Process

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**DRC**

- 4 Topic Areas
- 145 Comprehensive questions

+

**CANDO\*\***

- 4 Topic Areas
- 11 General questions

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Prioritization Process

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**CANDO**

- "sticky dot" exercise

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**DRC**

- Confirmation

*\*\* Existing collaborative: school district, parks/rec district, Tri-County HD, food pantry, libraries, health clinic, etc.*



## Example assessment findings (excerpt)

RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY LEVEL	TIMING (YEARS)	COST LEVEL
Conduct a housing supply/needs assessment for the City of Sheridan.	Medium	3-5	\$\$\$
Strengthen and expand partnerships with external organizations that can assist with housing options for older adults.	High	Ongoing	\$
Consider the adoption of an Accessory Dwelling Unit program similar to those in <a href="#">Portland</a> , <a href="#">Santa Cruz</a> , <a href="#">Denver</a> or <a href="#">Durango</a> • or investigate the potential impact of an education program and how it may help to change opinions	High	1-3	\$
Consider developing or adapting a toolkit for building permit applicants on universal design and visitability such as <a href="#">AARP HomeFit Guide</a> or <a href="#">Flough Foundation</a> .	High	1-3	\$
Consider a voluntary or incentive-based universal design program which could include financial incentives, building certification, streamlined permitting or fee waivers for those who participate.	Low	N/A	\$-\$\$
Consider requiring universal design on new residential construction.	Low	N/A	\$



## Early solutions and immediate benefits



- Reconsidering previous decisions that are barriers to delivering highest quality service
- Collaboration and coordination:
  - multi-community “Snowbuddies” program
- Comprehensive Plan update process:
  - Slowing down to reassess strategies to make sure older adults are included
  - Reassessing the development of goals and strategies that take into account community partnerships
- Immediate benefits:
  - Increased staff-to-staff and program awareness
  - Reengagement of community partnerships (including city-county)
  - Ah-ha moments





## Lessons learned – smaller communities

- Staff capacity is a significant issue even with outside assistance from DRCOG
- Navigating political environment when other issues are getting most of the attention
- External partnerships/community support services can also be challenging to navigate – value of DRCOG as neutral party
- All are facing very similar issues:
  - Funding
  - Housing stock – limited independent and supportive living options
  - Proximity to services
    - may not be within municipal boundary
    - how to influence service provision

RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY LEVEL	TIMING (YEARS)	COST LEVEL
Conduct a housing supply needs assessment for the City of Berkeley.	Medium	3-5	\$\$\$
Strengthen and expand partnership with external organizations that can assist with housing options for older adults.	High	Ongoing	\$
Consider the adoption of an Accessory Dwelling Unit program similar to those in Oakland, San Jose, Denver or Kansas City. or investigate the potential impact of an education program and how it may help to change opinions.	High	1-3	\$
Consider developing or adapting a toolkit for building permit applicants on universal design and visitability such as ADU2, Access2, Guide or Design Handbook.	High	1-3	\$
Consider a voluntary or incentive based universal design program which could include financial incentives, building certifications, streamlined permitting or fee waivers for those who participate.	Low	N/A	\$-\$-\$
Consider requiring universal design on new residential construction.	Low	N/A	\$





## Example success stories

- Flood-impacted community incorporated aging, livable community issues in recovery planning
- New Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance in community with severe housing shortage
- Integration of aging/livable community issues in planning efforts (sub-area/comprehensive)
- New/revised codes: visitability and universal design
- Activation and increased effectiveness of local Senior Commission(s)





## Example success stories (cont.)

- Redesign of community website – clearer path for older adults looking for services
- Implementation of reverse-911 system, and process to encourage older adults to register
- Updated site plan review criteria and guidelines – bicycle and pedestrian connection requirements for older adults
- Revised parks, trails and open space master planning criteria – now include safety, connectivity and ease of use provisions



## Example success stories (cont.)

- Enhanced relationship between law enforcement and older adult community
- Additional senior housing added to housing authority portfolios
- Increased funding for code enforcement – assistance in targeted areas
- Development of community-based resource guide for older adults

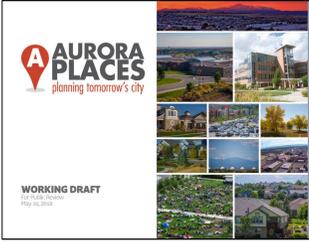




# BOOMER BOND – RECENT EFFORTS AND ON THE HORIZON

## Recent activities

- Aurora focus group – Nov. 2017
- BB communities gathering – Dec. 2017
- Follow Up Survey
  - Pre-DOLA Communities
  - DOLA Communities
- NextFifty grant applications
  - 0 for 2
- Senior Commission research



 On the horizon...?

- Pueblo assessment – served as resource
- Working with partners to explore role for BB assessment tool throughout Colorado
  - Western Slope – Grand Junction (Sept.)
  - APA Colorado Workshop (Oct.)

  
*The power to make it better.®*

 **COLORADO**  
Gov. John Hickenlooper  
Policy & Research







**THANK YOU!**

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## **2017 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP – AGING BILLS**

### **May 9, 2018**

During the Second Regular Session of the 71<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, the DRCOG Board took official positions on 18 bills. DRCOG staff and lobbyists actively monitored or lobbied these bills, including seeking specific amendments to the bills where appropriate and providing input to legislative sponsors, committees and staff on these and related legislative issues.

These bills were of special interest because of an identified effect on member governments or the regional programs administered by DRCOG. DRCOG staff and lobbyists also actively monitored and in some cases provided input and advice on the Long Appropriations Bill and over thirty other bills for potential effect on DRCOG, its programs or its members. Overall, DRCOG staff and lobbyists reviewed and monitored approximately 90 additional bills for possible effect on DRCOG.

The most significant pieces of legislation for DRCOG are summarized below. A final status report on all the bills on which official positions were taken is attached.

### **State Budget Issues**

Every year there are challenges in balancing the state budget and the 2018 legislative session was no exception. While the FY 2018-19 budget marked the sixth year in a row the General Assembly had additional revenue available to fund state priorities, various factors converged to create a situation where the March revenue estimate, which is used to finalize the Long Bill identified significantly more revenue than expected in December before the session began. This situation enabled the General Assembly to set aside money for transportation and additional investments in PERA, K-12 education, higher education, and various human services, including the opioid crisis.

This also was a good budget year for senior services. DRCOG's budget request for a \$4 million increase for senior services was approved (more on that in the Older Adults section below). Funding for other senior-related programs that DRCOG supported also passed: \$55,000 for the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging to continue its important work; \$165,000 for the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to increase staff for the first time in over twenty years; and \$362,880 for adult comprehensive services for the Community Choice Transitions (CCT) program, which provides some funding for community transition services provided by DRCOG.

### **Older Adults**

**State Funding for Senior Services (SFSS).** A DRCOG-led effort that began last summer to increase "State Funding for Senior Services" achieved success when the governor included our request for a \$4 million increase in his budget proposal. DRCOG subsequently worked with Joint Budget Committee members and staff to ensure the \$4 million was included in the Long Bill (HB 18-1322). DRCOG typically receives about 40 percent of these state funds. This makes the fourth year out of the last six that DRCOG was successful in achieving a \$4 million increase in State Funding for Senior Services.

**Long-term Care Ombudsman.** DRCOG worked closely with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment to amend SB 18-054, which originally would have severely restricted the state’s ability to implement the its oversight responsibilities regarding assisted living residences. DRCOG’s Ombudsman Program Supervisor had an instrumental role in a two-year stakeholder process that modernized the over twenty-year-old rules. The bill was amended to allow CDPHE to move forward with the new rules and the necessary funding.

**Senior Tax Relief.** DRCOG also worked closely during the session with the Colorado Senior Lobby and Representatives Chris Kennedy and Mike Weissman on their efforts to address issues with the Senior Property Tax Exemption and the Senior and Disabled Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate (PTC Rebate). Ultimately, the legislators decided not to introduce a bill on the exemption but Representative Weissman did introduce HB 18-1380, which would have indexed the rebate amounts to inflation. The bill passed the House but was postponed Indefinitely by the Senate State Affairs Committee. These are issues we expect to be back before the General Assembly next year.

**Mandatory Reporting.** A DRCOG-initiated bill – HB 18-1405 – was successful in amending the statute for mandatory reporting of abuse of at-risk adults to correct an oversight in the language. That language inadvertently made attorneys and their staff who provide legal services to older adults or disabled persons under contract to an Area Agency on Aging into mandatory reporters in contradiction to their professional responsibility to maintain attorney/client privilege. The bill, which passed unanimously through the General Assembly, corrected that oversight.

## **Housing**

This was a busy year for affordable housing legislation. DRCOG supported SB 18-007, which renewed the Affordable Housing Credit. DRCOG also supported SB 18-010, which requires landlords to provide tenants upon request with a copy of their lease or a receipt for a cash payment. Several other “renter’s protection” bills were considered during the session but failed to pass. This is another area where we expect the legislation to be back next year.

## **Transportation Funding**

After much debate and many iterations, the General Assembly finally passed one of the first bills introduced – SB 18-001 – on the second-to-last day of the session.

The bill provides significant funds for multimodal projects, some of which will benefit seniors and disabled persons. It defines “multimodal projects” as “capital or operating costs for fixed route and on-demand transit, transportation demand management programs, multimodal mobility projects enabled by new technology, multimodal transportation studies, and bicycle or pedestrian projects.” The legislative declaration also states. “benefits seniors by making aging in place more feasible for them” and “provides enhanced mobility for persons with disabilities.”

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STATUS OF AGING BILLS--2018 SESSION

As of 5-9-18

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
<b>AGING BILLS</b>							
<a href="#">SB18-054</a>	<p><b>Cap Fee Increases Assisted Living Residences</b> - Under current law, the State Board of Health is authorized to establish a schedule of fees for health facilities, including assisted living residences, which fees must be sufficient to meet the Department of Public Health and Environment's direct and indirect costs in regulating health facilities. With regard to most department-regulated health facilities, the board cannot increase fees by more than the inflation rate.</p> <p><u>As introduced, the bill imposed the inflation rate limitation on fees assessed against assisted living residences, effective immediately.</u></p> <p><u>As amended, the effective date of the bill is 8-1-19. This will give the department time to implement a round of fee increases before the inflation limitation takes effect.</u></p>	Crowder/ Liston	Signed by the Governor	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	<p>Staff was concerned the bill as introduced would inhibit the department's ability to implement Colorado's assisted living regulations. Recently updated regulations are tied to an increase in fees to fund the additional oversight the regulations will require, including hiring additional surveyors to inspect facilities. Based on that concern, DRCOG opposed this bill as introduced. <u>With the amendment to the bill, DRCOG moved to a monitor position.</u></p>	<p>With regard to long term care facilities, DRCOG supports increases in the quality of care and consumer protections for older adults...DRCOG urges the state, when making decisions regarding funding for these programs, to structure such funding to protect the quality of care for residents and participants.</p>
<a href="#">HB 18-1315</a>	<p><b>Manufactured Home Sales Tax Exemption</b> - The bill entirely exempts qualified manufactured homes (MHs) from the state sales and use tax. Under current law, 48% of the purchase price of a new manufactured home constructed in compliance with the federal National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 is exempt from state sales and use tax.</p>	McLachlan & J. Becker/ Kefalas & Lundberg	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	<p>MHs provide a critical source of unsubsidized affordable housing for roughly 100,000 working Colorado families. The average sales price of a new MH in Colorado in 2016 was \$66,100 and the nationwide median income for MH households in 2015 was \$30,000. The state sales tax significantly raises the final price for the families that traditionally purchase them. All MH owners pay property taxes annually in the same manner as conventional homeowners. This bill would NOT affect local revenues.</p>	<p>DRCOG supports: Policies and programs that support the private and public sectors in the creation and maintenance of an adequate supply of affordable rental and ownership options and providing a variety of housing sizes and types integrated with the community to meet the needs of people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.</p>

\* FN = Fiscal Note

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<a href="#">SB 18-1380</a>	<p><b>Grants For Property Tax Rent and Heat -</b> Under current law, the eligible income amounts to qualify for these assistance grants are annually adjusted for inflation. This bill adjusts the grant amounts claimed for 2018 for inflation and requires they be adjusted for inflation in the future. For grants claimed for 2018, the bill increases the: Maximum property tax and rent assistance grant from \$700 to \$753; maximum heat assistance grant from \$192 to \$206; and minimum grant amount from \$227 to \$244 for the property tax and rent assistance grant and from \$73 to \$78 for the heat assistance grant. All of these increases reflect inflationary growth since 2014, and all of these amounts will continue to be adjusted annually for inflation. The bill expands the Property Tax and Rent Assistance Grant by repealing the requirement that rent must be paid to a landlord that pays property tax.</p>	Weissman/ Kefalas	Postponed Indefinitely Senate State Affairs	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	A low-income senior or individual with a disability is currently eligible for 2 types of annual state assistance grants administered by the Department of Revenue related to his or her property: A grant for their property taxes or rent paid, with the latter being deemed a tax-equivalent payment (property tax and rent assistance grant), and a grant for heat or fuel expenses (heat assistance grant). Together these are commonly known as the 'PTC' rebate. The grant amounts have not been increased since 2014. These grants help low-income seniors and persons with disabilities to remain living in their homes or apartments in community settings.	DRCOG supports: property tax relief to help reduce a tax liability that especially burdens low income seniors and seniors on fixed incomes. policies, programs and services that preserve existing affordable housing stock, promote access to diverse housing options in diverse geographic locations, and provide consumer protections that enable older adults and persons with disabilities to age in place.
<a href="#">SB 18-1405</a>	<p><b>Providers Of Legal Services Reporting Exception -</b> The bill creates a mandatory reporter exception for attorneys at law providing legal assistance to individuals pursuant to a contract with an Area Agency on Aging, the staff of such attorneys at law.</p>	Lee/ Gardner	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	This is a bill DRCOG initiated and took the lead on passing. Under current law, staff, and staff of contracted providers, of area agencies on aging are mandatory reporters of the mistreatment of an at-risk elder or an at-risk adult with an intellectual and developmental disability. This language unintentionally makes attorneys and their staff who provide legal services to such persons under contract to an Area Agency on Aging into mandatory reporters in contradiction with their professional responsibility to maintain attorney/client privilege.	DRCOG supports: increases in the quality of care and consumer protections for older adults.

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Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
<b>HOUSING BILLS</b>							
<a href="#">HB 18-1054</a>	<b>Affordable Housing Plastic Shopping Bag Tax</b> - The bill submits a ballot question to the voters at the November 2018 election to establish a plastic shopping bag tax, which would be imposed beginning January 1, 2019. Stores meeting certain criteria are required to collect a 25 cent tax from the customer, unless the customer is enrolled in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Net tax revenue is deposited in the Housing Development Grant Fund. The Division of Housing in the Department of Local Affairs is required to use the money for the existing purposes of the fund, which is to improve, preserve, or expand the supply of affordable housing in Colorado.	Rosenthal & Court/	Postponed Indefinitely House Local Government	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	With the lack affordable housing being such a major challenge throughout the state, legislators are looking for funding sources for existing and new affordable housing programs. Using new sources avoids the problem of taking funding away from other existing programs.	DRCOG supports: Policies and programs that support the private and public sectors in the creation and maintenance of an adequate supply of affordable rental and ownership options and providing a variety of housing sizes and types integrated with the community to meet the needs of people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.
<a href="#">HB 18-1125</a>	<b>Tax Credit Employer-assisted Housing Pilot Program</b> - Creates a 20% state income tax credit pilot program for a donation to a sponsor that is used solely for the costs associated with an employer-assisted housing projects in rural areas, for income tax years 2018- 2022. The bill defines 'sponsor' to mean the Colorado housing and finance authority, a housing authority operated by a county or municipality, or a nonprofit corporation that has been designated as a community development corporation under the federal tax code. The aggregate amount of the credit awarded to any one taxpayer is limited to \$400 in any one income tax year.	J. Wilson	Postponed Indefinitely House Finance	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	With the lack of affordable housing being such a major challenge throughout the state, legislators are looking for funding sources for existing and new affordable housing programs. While the bill applies statewide, it has its origins in the housing issues faced by mountain communities.	DRCOG supports: Policies, programs and services that preserve existing affordable housing stock, promote access to diverse housing options in diverse geographic locations, and provide consumer protections that enable older adults and persons with disabilities to age in place.

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<a href="#">HB 18-1127</a>	<p><b>Residential Landlord Rental Application</b> - The bill: limits the fee to cover a landlord's costs for a personal reference check or for obtaining a consumer credit report or tenant screening report; requires a landlord to provide each prospective tenant with written notice of the landlord's tenant selection criteria and the grounds upon which a rental application may be denied before accepting an application or collecting an application fee; and requires a landlord to provide a prospective tenant with an adverse action notice if the landlord takes adverse action on a prospective tenant after reviewing the prospective tenant's rental application.</p>	Jackson & Kennedy/	Postponed Indefinitely Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	This is another in a series of bills being introduced this year attempting to provide protections for renters to better enable them to remain in housing they can afford. This is especially important for older adults and persons with disabilities, particularly those on fixed incomes. Keeping these people living in the community is a core principle of DRCOG's Area Agency on Aging and is reflected in Metro Vision.	DRCOG supports: The principle that renters and homeowners (including manufactured home owners) have appropriate protections from discrimination and displacement. Policies should emphasize the rights of residents and minimize disparities in treatment under the law.
<a href="#">HB 18-1195</a>	<p><b>Tax Credit Contributions Organizations Affordable Housing</b> - For income tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2019, but prior to January 1, 2030, the bill creates a state income tax credit for a donation of cash or securities a taxpayer makes to an eligible developer to be used solely for the costs associated with an eligible project.</p>	D. Pabon/ Tate	Postponed Indefinitely Senate State Affairs	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	With the lack of affordable housing being such a major challenge throughout the state, legislators are looking for funding sources for existing and new affordable housing programs.	DRCOG supports: Policies, programs and services that preserve existing affordable housing stock, promote access to diverse housing options in diverse geographic locations, and provide consumer protections that enable older adults and persons with disabilities to age in place.

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<a href="#">SB 18-006</a>	<b>Recording Fee to Fund Attainable Housing</b> - The bill allows counties to impose an increased surcharge in the amount of \$5 for documents received for recording or filing on or after January 1, 2019. The county is required to retain one dollar to be used to defray the costs of an electronic or core filing system and transmit the other \$4 for the new Statewide Attainable Housing Investment Fund. The Colorado Housing And Finance Authority is to administer the fund. Of the money transmitted to the fund, not less than 25% must be expended to support new or existing programs that provide financial assistance to persons in households with 80% of the area median income to finance, purchase, or rehabilitate single family residential homes, as well as to provide financial assistance to any nonprofit entity and political subdivision that makes loans to persons in such households to enable such persons to finance, purchase, or rehabilitate single family residential homes.	Zenzinger/ Winter	Postponed Indefinitely Senate State Affairs	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	Currently, each county clerk and recorder collects a surcharge of one dollar for each document received for recording or filing in his or her office. The surcharge is in addition to any other fees permitted by statute. With the lack of affordable housing being such a major challenge throughout the state, legislators are looking for funding sources for existing and new affordable housing programs. Using new sources avoids the problem of taking funding away from other existing programs.	DRCOG supports: Policies, programs and services that preserve existing affordable housing stock, promote access to diverse housing options in diverse geographic locations, and provide consumer protections that enable older adults and persons with disabilities to age in place.
<a href="#">SB 18-007</a>	<b>Affordable Housing Tax Credit</b> - The bill changes the name of the existing Low-Income Housing Tax Credit to the Affordable Housing Tax Credit. It also extends the period during which the Colorado Housing And Finance Authority may allocate affordable housing tax credits from December 31, 2019, to December 31, 2024.	Guzman & Tate/ J. Becker & Duran	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	This is an existing tax credit for developers of affordable housing. It has an expiration date of December 31, 2019. This bill extends the credit another five years.	DRCOG supports: Policies and programs that support the private and public sectors in the creation and maintenance of an adequate supply of affordable rental and ownership options and providing a variety of housing sizes and types integrated with the community to meet the needs of people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

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<a href="#">SB 18-010</a>	<b>Residential Lease Copy and Rent Receipt</b> - The bill requires a residential landlord to provide each tenant with a copy of a written rental agreement signed by the parties and to give a tenant a contemporaneous receipt for any payment made in person with cash or a money order. For payments not made in person with cash or a money order, the landlord must provide a receipt, if the tenant requests it. The landlord may provide the tenant with an electronic copy of the agreement or the receipt unless the tenant requests a paper copy.	A. Williams & Martinez Humenik/ Exum	Signed by the Governor	Support	<a href="#">FN</a>	This is the first in a series of bills we expect to be introduced this year attempting to provide protections for renters to better enable them to remain in housing they can afford. This is especially important for older adults and persons with disabilities, particularly those on fixed incomes. Keeping these people living in the community is core principle of DRCOG's Area Agency on Aging and is reflected in Metro Vision.	DRCOG supports: The principle that renters and homeowners (including manufactured home owners) have appropriate protections from discrimination and displacement. Policies should emphasize the rights of residents and minimize disparities in treatment under the law.
<a href="#">SB 18-057</a>	<b>Use Of Criminal Records With Respect To Housing</b> - The bill: adds to the definition of 'restrictive covenant' limitations on the transfer, rental, or lease of housing based on records of any arrest or charge that did not result in a conviction and the criminal case is not actively pending (arrest records) or criminal justice records that have been sealed or expunged; makes it an unfair housing practice to inquire about or take an adverse action based on arrest records or sealed or expunged criminal justice records; prohibits landlords from requiring an applicant to disclose any information contained in sealed criminal records; prohibits housing authorities from denying or terminating dwelling accommodations, or taking adverse action against a person, on the basis of arrest records or certain conviction records; requires a landlord to provide applicants with access to records that are used as the basis for denying a rental application; prevents certain tenant criminal records from being admitted as evidence in a civil case against a landlord that is based on the tenant's conduct.	Kagan/	Postponed Indefinitely Senate State Affairs	Monitor	<a href="#">FN</a>	Under current law, it is an unfair housing practice to honor or exercise, or attempt to honor or exercise, any "restrictive covenant" pertaining to housing. The bill is intended to prohibit housing discrimination based on arrest or sealed records or a case that is otherwise inactive. Under current law, the definition of "restrictive covenant" means any specification limiting the transfer, rental, or lease of any housing because of disability, race, creed, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, national origin, or ancestry. This bill adds to existing law any record of arrest or charge that did not result in a conviction. It also adds landlords to the law that prohibits employers, educational institutions, state and local government agencies, officials, and employees, in any application or interview or in any other way, from requiring an applicant to disclose any information contained in sealed records.	DRCOG supports: The principle that renters and homeowners (including manufactured home owners) have appropriate protections from discrimination and displacement. Policies should emphasize the rights of residents and minimize disparities in treatment under the law.

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