

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING  
MEETING SUMMARY  
Friday, February 19, 2021**

**Members Present**

Anne Gross	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	At Large Denver
Bob Davis	City and County of Broomfield
Cary Johnson	Jefferson County
Cathy Noon	Arapahoe County
Chris Lynn	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Houston "Tex" Elam	At Large Arapahoe County
Jim Dale	DRCOG Board - Golden
Joan Peck	DRCOG Board - Longmont
Perla Gheiler	City and County of Denver
Phil Cernanec	At Large Arapahoe County
Sean Wood	Clear Creek
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board - Lone Tree

**Guests Present**

Debbi Haynie, Director Castle Rock Senior Center, Kristine Burrows, Jewish Family Services, Mary Thuente, Valerie Robson, Douglas County

**DRCOG Staff Present**

AJ Diamontopoulos, AHC Manager, Alejandra Lerma, Case Manager, Alvin-Bidal Sanchez, Planner, Amy Pulley ADRC Manager, Ana Lilia Lahowetz, Case Manager, Annie Rice, Research Assistant, Ashly Johnson, Transitions Program Manager, Caitlin Phillips, Ombudsman, Cassie Scott, I&A Manager, Cindy Grainger, ADRC Administrative Assistant, Douglas Rex, Executive Director, Gina Gentili, Lead Options Counselor, Ines Rosas, Veterans Direct Program Manager, Jacob Rigor, Manager Long Range Transportation Planning, Jayla Sanchez-Warren, AAA Division Director, Jennifer Reeves, Veterans/Transitions Manager, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Lisa Houde, Lydia Dumam, Options Counselor, Mindy Patton, AAA Division Assistant, Rich Mauro, Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst, Sara Beth Ford, Refugee Program Coordinator, Sharon Day, Manager AAA Business Operations,

Cathy Noon, Committee Chair – Called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

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

There was no Public Comment.

**Report of the Chair**

- Cathy sat in on the Funding Subcommittee RFP review.

**Report of the AAA Director**

- Jayla did several media interviews and presentations

- Colorado Public Radio, Colorado Matters, PBS, and channel 8 show with Mayor Hancock, Channel 9, and Channel 4.
- Presentation to Colorado Healthcare Strategy and Management group, Audio Information Network annual meeting.
- Governor’s Lifelong Initiative has laid low for a while but with Jarrett Hughes now working at the Governor’s office it has been reborn. This brings attention to the aging population, makes people more aware at the state and local level which helps with funding.
- Vaccines
  - More vaccines getting out to the public, now able to vaccinate the 65+ population.
  - Participated in the SCL event on February 6<sup>th</sup>, provided transportation to participants through Hop Skip Drive and Via.
  - There are many more hospitals, and other companies that would like to have DRCOG provide transportation.
    - Jayla explained to these organizations that this was a finite resource and is limited.
    - The healthcare organizations are having events at the same times and dates complicating the issue.
    - Additionally, for every vaccine given they receive more vaccine and are receiving money from both the federal government and insurance companies.
  - Jayla, AJ, and Travis met with the DRCOG transportation providers to see how these events could be handled. These rides would be in addition to the normal services they provide. They worked out a different rate for the providers since they need to stay with the client rather than just dropping them off.
  - There will be another large SCL event on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Phil Cernanec mentioned that the rotary volunteers are helping with transportation to vaccinations, he will send Jayla the information.

Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: Summary of the January 15, 2021 meeting.

Cathy asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, Bob Davis made the motion, Dawn Perez seconded the motion. There was unanimous approval of the consent agenda with one change on page 3, the number of seniors should be 300,000.

- 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**

Transportation Committee

ACA formed a Transportation Subcommittee to look at long term sustainability of transportation services as it considers preparing for a growing population, funding sources, and partnering with others

- The subcommittee will decide the makeup of the committee members looking for diverse contributors

Discussion

Doug responded that he would like to have the subcommittee provide innovative solutions, lower the cost per ride,

Sean Wood asked about autonomous vehicles in DRCOG future. Doug said it was on the front burner for DRCOG. Cathy stated that we will still need to address the most vulnerable population who need help getting in and out of a vehicle and may not be for this new technology.

Tex suggested that there be a core committee that would address some of the things that need to be accomplished.

- The core group from ACA who will participate:

Doug Rex  
Rich Mauro  
Karie Erickson  
Jayla Sanchez-Warren  
Jim Dale  
Tex (Houston) Elam  
Cathy Noon

### Regional Transportation Plan

Lisa Houde and Jacob Rigor from the DRCOG Transportation Division presented the 2050 DRCOG Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan

- The Plan is through 2050, DRCOG updates the plan every 4 years.
- Lisa Houde provided an introduction video and can be viewed using this link <https://youtu.be/r802cmpCvig>
- The presentation slides are attached and include some of the survey responses asked during the meeting
- Other helpful links
  - 2050 Plan [https://drcog.org/sites/default/files/resources/2050 RTP.pdf](https://drcog.org/sites/default/files/resources/2050_RTP.pdf).
  - Surveys and discussion boards <https://drcog.mysocialpinpoint.com/2050-rtp>
- There are 6 project and program investment priorities
  - Multimodal mobility – which will provide more ways to travel by car, bus, bicycle, and foot.
  - Freight – maintains efficient movement of goods within & beyond the region.
  - Active transportation – expands travel options for vulnerable and underserved transportation users.
  - Safety – will increase the safety for all users of the transportation system.
  - Air quality – improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Regional transit – expands the region’s rapid transit network.

- The Plan will be out for a 30-day comment period and a public hearing will be held at the DRCOG Board meetings on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Nymbbl Science Update and Demonstration

Nathan Estrada from Nymbbl Sciences told the group that they have partnered with DRCOG in offering a free at-home balance program.

- The program offers:
  - A smartphone app to accommodate an individual’s unique balance needs that will improve balance and provide the freedom to maintain their lifestyle and balance.
  - Users of the app are less worried about falling because they are more confident while walking and have better balance.
  - Can be done at home without having to attend an in-person balance class and engages those who are unwilling or unable to attend traditional balance classes
- People can enroll in the pilot which will end in June.
- Nymbbl would like to get 5,000 participants registered by the end of pilot and hope to become a partner with DRCOG beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A toolkit has been designed and is available to promote the program.
- Links to the smartphone app and toolkit
  - Smartphone application: <https://co.fallsfree.com/>
  - Toolkit: <http://bit.ly/cofallsfree>

During the Nymbbl presentation Cathy received an email from the City of Centennial advertising the DRCOG partnership with Nymbbl.

- Nathan will report back to the group about how people got to Nymbbl, what risk factors affect our population to be able to assess the need, balance improvement.

### County Reports

Jefferson County – Cary Johnson

The county had their annual meeting with Commissioners. It was a very encouraging meeting with two new Commissioners who were former Representatives participating and were very interested in helping the older population.

### Other Matters by Members

Phil Cernanec

Colorado Senior Lobby (CSL) is having a new membership campaign, looking for ACA, County Councils and, providers to spread the word. CSL would like to get items in front of the legislation that were not included in the Governor’s State of the State message regarding older Coloradans.

Next meeting – **March 19, 2021**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.