



Agenda

You are Here - Experiences Along the Transit-Oriented Continuum

Wednesday, Feb. 25 9:30 a.m. - noon

DRCOG, 1290 Broadway

Independence Pass Conference Room, First Floor

Meeting Objectives:

- Hear about a recent research-based assessment of existing light rail corridors and recommendations for the future - Outcomes Assessment and Knowledge Sharing (OAKS)
- Learn how communities are responding to varied market realities for transit-oriented development
- Highlight how communities are getting ahead or catching up on needed public investments and strategies

9:30-9:45 Welcome and Introductions

Brad Calvert, Metro Vision Manager, Denver Regional Council of Governments

9:45-10:05 SCI OAKS Overview

Carrie Makarewicz, Assistant Professor, University of Colorado, Denver

10:05-11:05 Guest Speaker Panel

Rob Larsen, Senior Planner, City of Thornton

Mac Cummins, Planning Manager, City of Westminster

David Gaspers, Senior Planner, City and County of Denver

11:05-11:55 Discussion

11:55-noon Wrap-up and Next Steps



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Metro Vision 2040

A program of DRCOG

Speaker Biographies

Carrie Makarewicz

Assistant Professor, University of Colorado Denver
carrie.makarewicz@ucdenver.edu

An assistant professor at the University of Colorado, Denver, in the Department of Planning & Design, College of Architecture and Planning, Carrie's research is on community and economic development, and the consequences for human development and well-being. Some of her current and past studies focus on strategies to include equity in transit planning and nearby developments; developing a household transportation cost model to estimate the combined cost of housing and transport; national policy on surface, rail and air connectivity; business location decisions; and grassroots sustainability programs. She has worked as a practicing planner and researcher in various organizations in Chicago, including the City of Chicago, the Center for Neighborhood Technology, and its partner, Reconnecting America.

She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, a master's degree in urban planning and policy from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and a doctorate in city and regional planning from the University of California, Berkeley.

Rob Larsen, AICP

Senior Planner, City of Thornton
Robert.larsen@cityofthornton.net

Rob is a planner and project manager for Thornton where his responsibilities include producing various data-driven products, such as quarterly population and housing unit estimates, population projections, and future growth trends. He leads the city's ward reapportionment process as warranted and successfully managed the recently adopted 'Thornton Crossroads @ 104th Avenue Station Area Master Plan' process. Rob authored Thornton's historic recognition ordinance and is the city's defacto historic preservation planner. While attending graduate school, Rob worked as an intern with Thornton's current planning division before being stolen by the building department to successfully build and manage the city's \$11M DIA Noise Mitigation Assistance Program.

Rob has an undergraduate degree in environmental science and policy from Clark University. He earned a master's in urban and regional planning and a graduate certificate in historic preservation from the University of Colorado, Denver. Before jumping headlong into local government work, he toiled as an environmental risk analyst and did time as an underwriting manager in pollution legal liability.





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Speaker Biographies

Michael (Mac) Cummins, AICP

Planning Manager, City of Westminster
mcummins@cityofwestminster.us

Mac is the City of Westminster's planning manager, a position he has held since 2008. He oversees current and long-range planning activities for the city, population 106,000. His staff is responsible for the coordination, review, and implementation of City Council policies and goals relating to planning and development in the city. These include coordination and implementation of the comprehensive plan, growth management competition and program, implementation of the PUD zoning process, drafting of long-range planning documents and plans, and overseeing development review for the city. Additionally, Mac oversees zoning enforcement and planning inspections. Before coming to Westminster, he was a principal planner for the City of Scottsdale, Arizona, and managed a team of planners overseeing the planning and development of the city's downtown core. During his four years in Scottsdale, the city oversaw the entitlement of nearly \$1.5 billion of investment in this portion of the city alone. His team managed the implementation of sustainability principles, livable communities, and infill redevelopment; mostly vertical mixed-use buildings. In addition, he was a staff planner for the City of Seal Beach, California, where he worked on local land use plans, CEQA document approvals, and coastal plans for the city.

He has two master's degrees from the University of Southern California (public administration and urban planning) and a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California in public policy and management.

David Gaspers, AICP

Senior Planner, City and County of Denver
david.gaspers@denvergov.org

David, senior city planner for the City and County of Denver, has focused on transportation planning, transit-oriented development and walkable urbanism for the past eight years. He received his master's degree in community and regional planning from the University of Nebraska and has managed transportation and station area plan projects in both Denver and Fort Worth, Texas. He has spoken throughout the Denver region on the city's strategic approach to TOD and participated on TOD panels at the 2013 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference and the 2013 APA Colorado Conference. David recently was project manager for Denver's TOD Strategic Plan update.

