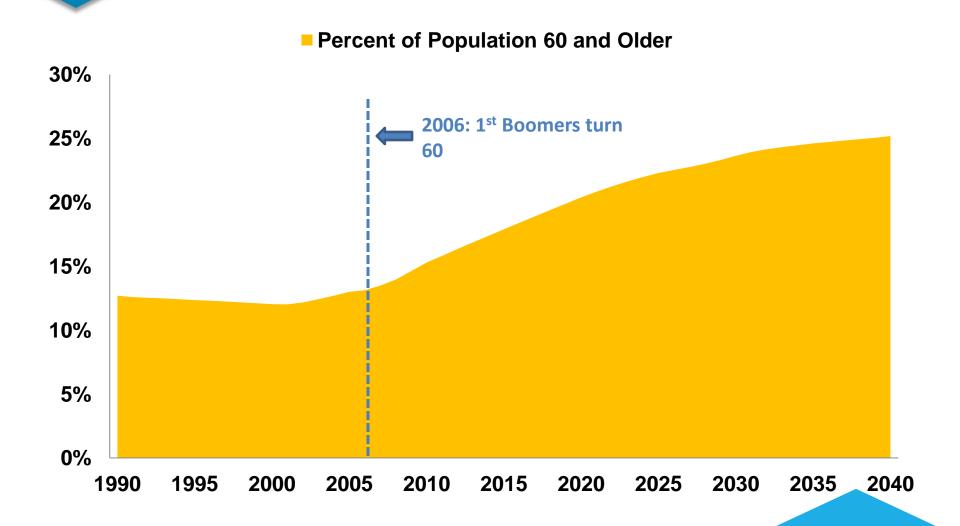


DRCOG's Boomer Bond

Brad Calvert, Director Regional Planning and Development August 17, 2016



Older Adult Population Growth





75+ Population (2014 – 2024)

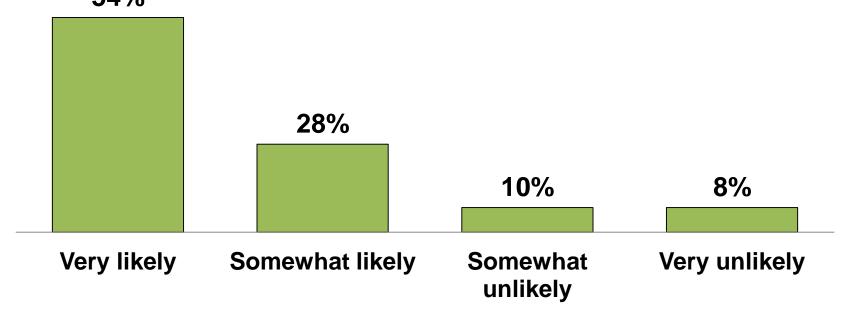
County	2014	2024	% Change
Adams	18,518	30,992	67.4%
Arapahoe	28,915	48,727	68.5%
Boulder	14,646	24,909	70.1%
Broomfield	2,846	4,639	63.0%
Clear Creek	440	882	100.5%
Denver	31,707	44,903	41.6%
Douglas	9,138	20,837	128.0%
Gilpin	181	464	156.4%
Jefferson	33,751	54,115	60.3%
DRCOG Region	140,142	230,468	64.5%

Source: Colorado State Demographer



Rooted and Staying Put

How likely are you to remain in your community throughout retirement?



52% have lived in community for more than 20 years







Boomer Bond – Key Elements

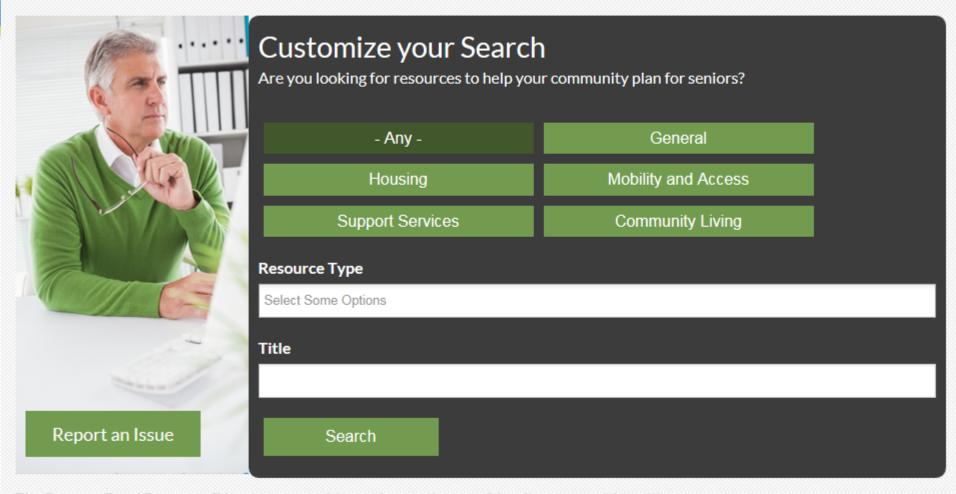
- 1. Community assessment tool to facilitate local dialogue and identify agefriendly/livable community priorities
- 2. A readily-accessible inventory of policies, strategies and tools for local governments to consider





Resource Directory

www.drcog.org/resource-directory



The Boomer Bond Resource Directory can guide you in creating age-friendly communities with guidelines and best practices from Colorado and beyond. If you work for a local government, are an elected official, or a citizen trying to learn more about what might make your community a better place to thrive for people of all ages, this resource directory can assist you. We welcome feedback on the resources curated here.



Why an Assessment Tool?

- "Conversation starter" at the local level (including partners)
- Provide structure to what can be an overwhelming conversation
- Help focus efforts to engage the general public

Boomer Bond Assessment Tool



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				
Minimum sidewalk width of five feet				
ADA ramps at intersections				
Visual and physical cues at ramps				
Level landings where driveways intersect public sidewalks to retain a level path for pedestrians				
Minimal tripping hazards from uneven surface or protruding objects				
Signage to direct pedestrians				
Buffer between sidewalk and street (e.g. planting strips, on- street parking, bike lanes)				





Boomer Bond Assessment Tool

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



"Beta-tested" by 3 communities



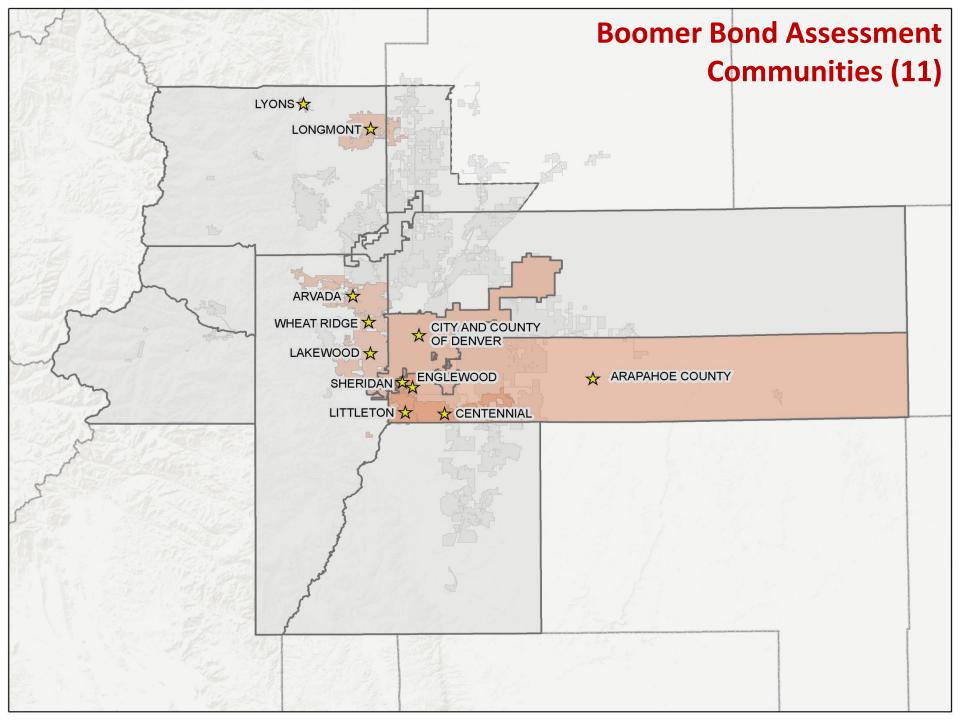




Boomer Bond Topic Areas

Topic Area	Brief Description		
Mobility and Access	Design of public sidewalks, streets, and intersections; available transportation options; access to mixed use districts; and driver safety		
Housing	Availability of a variety of affordable housing options; visitability and universal design; programs to support development of housing options		
Community Living	Accessible gathering spaces and parks; engagement and volunteer activities; programs to assist in remaining/reentering workforces; safety and security; emergency preparedness		
Support Services	Programs to maintain independence; preventive health care; home maintenance and chore services		







Community Commitment Overview

- Typical organizational commitment to complete assessment: 4 – 8 months
- Lead staff person(s) can/has come from any department – key qualities:
 - Capacity to commit time and energy
 - Cat herding / effective pest
 - Willing to learn about items outside their usual purview





DRCOG Roles in Assessment

- Assessment is "locally owned"
- DRCOG roles:
 - Process design
 - Community connector
 - Resource for local staff leading initiative

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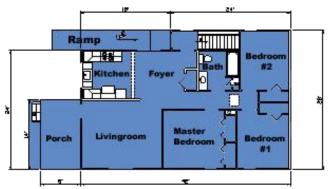




A Few Key Messages

- Not just about services programs provided by city or county
- Important to balance the identification of needs with current successes
- The assessment is not the deliverable
- DRCOG will not review/evaluate results









Financial and Legal

Recreation needs

Caregiver burden

37%

25%

14%

Best Practice — Pair with CASOA



Together: Opportunity to move toward effective implementation



28%

40%

Availability of quality affordable

housing

■2015 ■2010





Early Success Stories

- New Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance in community with severe housing shortage
- Additional senior housing added to housing authority portfolios
- Redesign of community website clearer path for older adults looking for services
- Activation and increased effectiveness of local Senior Commission





Early Success Stories (cont.)

- New/revised codes: visitability and universal design
- Enhanced relationship between law enforcement and older adult community
- Increased funding for code enforcement assistance in targeted areas
- New community resource center for older adults and caregivers





Recent Recognition

- Numerous requests for Boomer Bond information/presentations
- Co-hosted symposium with AARP on the role of COGs/MPOs in advancing agefriendly efforts
- 2016 Aging Innovations Award n4a









Current Activities and Next Steps

- Support for Denver's Age Matters Needs Assessment
 - Joint fundraising effort
 - Strategic, tactical and technical assistance

- DENVER THE MILE HIGH CITY
- DOLA grant to assist small communities
 - Identify/recruit small communities interested in assessment
 - In partnership, design and facilitate local initiative
 - Assist with policy and implementation strategies
- "Status of Age-Friendly Report"







Lessons learned so far...

- Aging conversation more personal than most planning topics
 - May alienate some and be a great motivator for others
- Comprehensive assessment can be overwhelming
 - Few (if any) instances of single staff capacity
 - Small steps, incremental change and the aging "lens" are key successes
- Every community/circumstance is different
- Regional resources can advance local initiatives – but not without challenges





Interested in Learning More...

Brad Calvert bcalvert@drcog.org 303.480.6839





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