DRCOG's Boomer Bond

Brad Calvert, Metro Vision Manager (303) 480-6839 / bcalvert@drcog.org DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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August 20, 2014

Aging Demographics



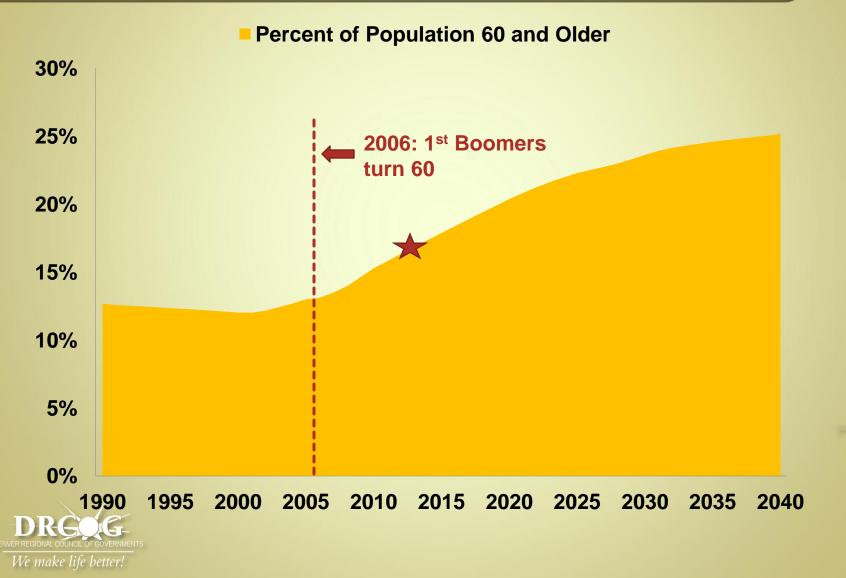
Headlines – State Aging Demographics

- Colorado's growth in 65+ population 4th fastest nationally (2000 – 2010)
 - 85+ fastest growing among that group (44%)
 - 60-64 (86%) & 55-59 (69%) leading the way
- 2010-2020 growth rate will be nearly twice as much 2000-2010
- Growth in older adult population will outpace other age groups for the next 20 years



Older Adult Population Growth

Denver Region



60+ Population (2014 – 2024)

Source: Colorado State Demographer, 2013

County	2014	2024	% Change
Adams	68,470	104,709	52.9%
Arapahoe	108,489	161,094	48.5%
Boulder	56,666	84,062	48.3%
Broomfield	10,124	15,912	57.2%
Clear Creek	2,420	3,040	25.6%
Denver	107,160	137,953	28.7%
Douglas	45,279	80,400	77.6%
Gilpin	1,327	1,824	37.5%
Jefferson	122,157	172,357	41.1%
DRCOG Region	522,092	761,351	45.8%

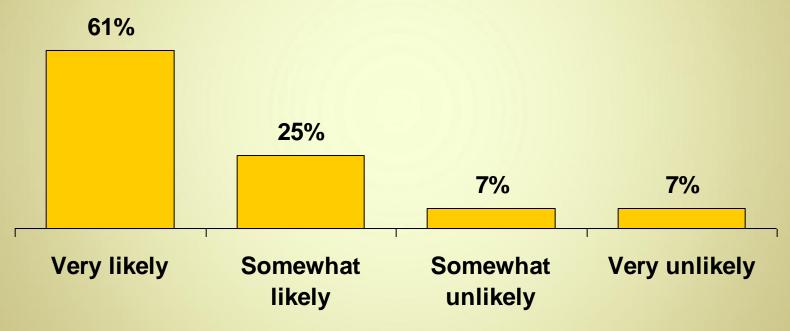
75+ Population (2014 – 2024)

Source: Colorado State Demographer, 2013

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%

Rooted and Staying Put

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



53% have lived in their community for more than 20 years



Boomer Bond Project Overview



Boomer Bond – Key Elements

- 1. A community assessment tool to facilitate local dialogue and identify priorities
- 2. A comprehensive set of policies, strategies and tools for local governments to consider
- 3. A voluntary recognition program to highlight local efforts
- 4. A voluntary regional agreement to meet the growing needs of an older adult population







National Recognition

- AARP NPC Consumer and Livable
 Communities Site Visit
- AARP Foundation / Harvard Joint Center on Housing Studies report
- Governing Magazine: Creating
 Livable Communities for All Ages
 Forum
- N4A National Conference
- APA National Conference







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



Why an Assessment Tool?

- "Conversation starter" at the local level (including partners)
- Provide structure to what might be an otherwise overwhelming conversation
- Resource for local staff leading initiative
- First step in defining "problem statement" and/or local priorities for action





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 Toolkit

- Easy transition from assessment to action (think of documents as a pair)
- Helps with "what next" questions
- Turning a "NO" to "YES"
- Expandable, current, and locally relevant
- Currently developing an online resource directory







Boomer Bond Communities

<u>Pilot Phase</u>: Lakewood, Lyons, Wheat Ridge

<u>Committed</u>: Centennial, Littleton, Sheridan, Englewood, Longmont, Cherry Creek East (Denver), Arapahoe County

Outside DRCOG: Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments







DRCOG's Role

- Connect local partners to assessment and implementation resources
 - Local ownership is critical
- Assist with process design
 - Every community is different
- DRCOG <u>does not</u> evaluate assessment results
- Catalog local best practices for sharing with interested jurisdictions



Early Successes

Littleton

Aging Well Resource Center

- Located in public library
- Opens September 2014

Wheat Ridge

Aging Needs Stakeholder Committee

Aging Population and Needs Assessment Plan







Interested in Participating?

- Schedule DRCOG staff to present:
 - Council/Commission Study Session
 - Planning Commission
 - Senior Commission
 - Citizen Advisory Committee

Schedule time for one-on-one consultation:

- DRCOG Board member / Board Alternate
- Other elected official
- Staff



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