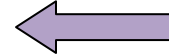


Board Officers

Jackie Millet, Chair
Elise Jones, Vice Chair
Bob Roth, Secretary
Herb Atchison, Treasurer
Sue Horn, Immediate Past Chair
Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director

AGENDA
METRO VISION ISSUES COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 4, 2015
4 p.m.
1290 Broadway
First Floor Boardroom



1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
The chair requests that there be no public comment on issues for which a prior public hearing has been held before the Board of Directors.
3. Summary of February 4, 2015 Meeting
(Attachment A)

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

4. Presentation on key elements from the *Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern* and *A Vibrant Regional Economy* element of *Metro Vision*
(Attachment B) Brad Calvert, Metro Vision Manager, Regional Planning & Operations

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

5. Other Matters
6. Next Meeting – April 1, 2015
7. Adjournment

***Motion Requested**

Persons in need of auxiliary aids or services, such as interpretation services or assisted listening devices, are asked to contact DRCOG at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting by calling (303) 480-6701

We make life better!



METRO VISION ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
February 4, 2015

MVIC Members Present: Bob Roth – Aurora; Sue Horn – Bennett; Bob Fifer – Arvada; Tim Plass – Boulder; Elise Jones – Boulder County; George Teal – Castle Rock; Cathy Noon – Centennial; Rick Teter – Commerce City; Robin Kniech, Anthony Graves – Denver; Roger Partridge – Douglas County; Ron Rakowsky – Greenwood Village; Tom Quinn – Lakewood; Phil Cernanec – Littleton; Jackie Millet – Lone Tree; Ashley Stolzmann – Louisville; Joyce Downing – Northglenn; John Diak – Parker.

Others present: Jeanne Shreve – Adams County; Eugene Howard – Douglas County; Daniel Dick – Federal Heights; George Heath – Firestone; Kent Moorman – Thornton; Brad Weinig, Enterprise Community Partners; Andrew Grimaldo, Citizen; Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director, and DRCOG staff.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.; a quorum was present.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Summary of January 7, 2015 Meeting

The summary was accepted as submitted.

Presentation on key elements from the *Healthy, Inclusive and Livable Communities* element of *Metro Vision*

Brad Calvert, Metro Vision Manager, provided a briefing on the *Healthy, inclusive and Livable Communities* element of *Metro Vision*. He noted two issues that will be previewed at this meeting, community wellness and housing. He noted recurring themes derived from numerous public involvement activities.

Members expressed support for including community wellness, and discussed it at length. Some members felt that more should be added, such as drug abuse and suicide rates, and mental health issues in general. Others felt that including some of those items isn't within DRCOG's purview, and the issue of funding is also a concern. Members expressed that many items included in Metro Vision are aspirational, and shouldn't be tied to transportation funding. Jennifer Schaufele pointed out that while DRCOG's federal charge is broader than transportation planning, TIP criteria have in the past been tied to meeting goals established in Metro Vision. Some members agreed with Metro Vision serving as a call to awareness, rather than a call to action.

An overview of the work of the Housing Ad Hoc group was provided. The group met four times, with representatives of 18 communities participating. Affordable housing is seen as a growing issue in the area, with low vacancy rates and high rents.

Members briefly discussed the topic of housing. A request was made for information about how Urban Centers have evolved and characteristics of successful Urban Centers.

Metro Vision Issues Committee Summary

February 4, 2015

Page 2

Other Matters

No other matters were discussed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **March 4, 2015**.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

ATTACH B

To: Chair and Members of the Metro Vision Issues Committee

From: Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director
303-480-6701 or jschaufele@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
March 4, 2015	Informational Item	4

SUBJECT

Staff will provide an overview of two key elements of the Metro Vision plan: *An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern* and *A Vibrant Regional Economy*.

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

No action requested. This item is for information.

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

Background

The DRCOG Board last adopted a major update to Metro Vision in February 2011. For nearly three years, DRCOG staff worked with the Board, member governments, partner agencies, a host of other regional stakeholders and the public to transform the Metro Vision plan into a shared vision for action. Staff will share highlights of two plan elements – *A Vibrant Regional Economy* (new) and *An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern* (updated).

Today's Presentation

As drafted, the *An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern* element of Metro Vision replaces the *Growth and Development* element of Metro Vision 2035. The draft element was shaped by stakeholder input, including surveys, Metro Vision Idea Exchanges, interviews, focus groups and discussions with the Metro Vision Planning Advisory Committee (MVPAC) and the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Outcomes, objectives and strategies in the element emphasize:

- providing a diverse continuum of lifestyle options, including rural, suburban, neighborhoods and urban environments;
- focusing growth within the Urban Growth Boundary/Area;
- accommodating a growing share of housing and employment in urban centers and corridors; and
- the importance of freestanding communities and rural town centers remaining distinct from the larger urban area.

The Board of Directors created an ad hoc committee of Board members and alternates to weigh in on the issue of economic vitality and its potential inclusion in Metro Vision. The Economic Vitality Ad Hoc Committee was comprised of 12 Board members and alternates representing a wide array of communities across the region. In addition to working together to craft a new plan element for Board consideration the committee also consulted key economic development partners from around the region. The committee's *Vibrant Regional Economy* element highlights the importance of:

- the region's residents having access to a range of transportation, employment, housing, education, cultural, and recreational opportunities;
- investing in multimodal infrastructure to ensure the region remains globally competitive; and
- improving mobility and access to and within the region's major employment centers, including first- and final-mile infrastructure.

To help track the region's progress toward the outcomes and objectives identified in each plan element Metro Vision identifies a series of performance measures. Using regular tracking, DRCOG and its local and regional partners can verify whether our collective actions to implement the plan are moving the region toward the desired outcomes. Metro Vision further establishes foundational measures that are critically important – each foundational measure also includes a performance target. The *Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern* element includes three foundational measures and associated performance targets. Staff will share details of performance measures for both plan elements at the meeting.

Next Steps

MVIC and the Board will continue substantive discussions related to Metro Vision throughout early 2015. Plan adoption is currently scheduled for summer 2015.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

July 2, 2014 – MVIC Meeting Summary (Recommendation to form ad hoc committees)
July 16, 2014 – Board Meeting Summary (Approval of ad hoc committees)
February 4, 2015 – MVIC Meeting Summary (Overview of key elements from the *Healthy, Inclusive and Livable Communities* element of *Metro Vision*)

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

Economic Vitality Ad Hoc Committee – Preliminary Outline

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701 or jschaufele@drcog.org; Brad Calvert, Metro Vision Manager, Regional Planning and Operations at 303-480-6839 or bcalvert@drcog.org

Metro Vision Economic Vitality Element Outline

Final Committee Outline – 02/05/15

Outcome 1: Access to opportunity for all residents.

The region's economy prospers when all residents have access to a range of transportation, employment, housing, education, cultural, and recreational opportunities. The region's transportation network plays a critical role in enabling commerce and providing access to basic needs and quality of life amenities that allow the region's residents to succeed and excel.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: ENSURE THE EFFICIENT FLOW OF PEOPLE, GOODS, SERVICES, AND INFORMATION IN AND THROUGH THE REGION

Strategy 1.1(a): Invest in the region's infrastructure to ensure the region remains globally competitive

Develop and maintain connected multimodal infrastructure that businesses depend on to access local, national, and global customers and markets.

Strategy 1.1(b): Connect residents and visitors to cultural, educational, and natural amenities in the Denver region and across the state

Capitalize on regional and state amenities through efforts to promote reliable connections to key destinations. Invest in planning, design and mitigation strategies and approaches that support positive resident and visitor experiences while protecting the character and integrity of the region's natural and cultural resources.

Strategy 1.1(c): Preserve, protect, and enable employment opportunities that are accessible to transit

Concentrate a significant portion of the region's employment in centers accessible via transit. Through multi-sector partnerships develop and implement strategies that safely and conveniently connect workers to final work destinations.

REGIONAL ACTIONS

- Identify and analyze current and future travel and mobility trends including:
 - commuting patterns in employment and urban centers
 - freight and commercial vehicle travel
 - technological advances
 - recreation and tourism
- Identify best practices to support manufacturing and production businesses in areas served by transit.
- Identify best practices to support mixed use development, including a range of employment and housing options in areas served by transit
- Evaluate, promote and encourage the use of and investment in, our region's transit system - including first and final mile solutions.
- Provide and analyze data on the region's demographic, travel and economic conditions.
- Identify gaps and strategies in regional transportation infrastructure.

Metro Vision Economic Vitality Element Outline

Final Committee Outline – 02/05/15

LOCAL ACTIONS

- Engage economic development and planning professionals in efforts to align community-wide goals.
- Develop strategies that focus a range of employment opportunities directly adjacent to transit stops and stations.
- Develop plans to address potential conflicts between conservation of natural resources and public use and enjoyment.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: IMPROVE ACCESS TO AND FROM THE REGION’S DEVELOPED AND EMERGING EMPLOYMENT CENTERS

Strategy 1.2(a): Track, assess and respond to the mobility needs of major employment centers

Analyze commute data for major employment centers to understand specific patterns and mobility needs. Align public and private investment to create a diverse portfolio of mobility options and strategies including new and/or enhanced infrastructure and transportation demand programs in these centers.

Strategy 1.2(b): Facilitate public/private partnerships to improve first and final mile connections to the region’s high-capacity transit services

Develop first and final mile strategies that consider local conditions around stations including: street layout, bicycle and pedestrian network, property ownership, infrastructure opportunities and barriers, existing and future development, and operational needs for transit.

REGIONAL ACTIONS

- Establish a technical committee to identify best practices in addressing first and final mile barriers.
- Develop and track metrics that measure qualitative and quantitative urban design characteristics, and quantitative market and economic performance measures at transit stations.

LOCAL ACTIONS

- Partner with transportation management organizations and/or improvement districts to determine travel needs of employees.
- Work with property owners, developers, transportation service providers, and RTD to implement first and final mile strategies in employment centers.
- Prioritize investments that will contribute to mobility enhancements in employment centers.

Outcome 2: Investments in infrastructure and amenities allow people and businesses to thrive and prosper

The Denver region’s economic vitality depends on providing a high quality of life in diverse communities. Quality of life is a major factor in the location decisions of businesses and individuals. Our region’s weather, recreational and cultural assets, and diverse living settings have contributed to our

Metro Vision Economic Vitality Element Outline Final Committee Outline – 02/05/15

success attracting talented labor. The region must also focus on efforts to promote economic advancement for our communities so that all residents share and contribute to sustained regional prosperity.

OBJECTIVE 2.1: INCREASE AWARENESS OF KEY REGIONAL GROWTH, TRANSPORTATION, RESOURCE AND ECONOMIC TRENDS BASED ON THE REGION'S SHARED VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Strategy 2.1(a): Assess whether the infrastructure our communities and residents depend on now and in the future will support the region's near- and long-term economic vitality

Encourage coordinated economic and community development activities aimed at assuring the region's infrastructure will maintain and grow the economic health and vitality of the region. Expand dialogues and partnerships that examine the role of the built environment in connecting residents to opportunities for economic stability and advancement.

Strategy 2.1(b): Develop monitoring and reporting programs to assess progress toward shared local and regional goals

Track key metrics and indicators that measure changes in economic vitality and progress toward achieving Metro Vision outcomes. Foster collaboration between planning, economic, and community development partners including efforts to develop and share data, information and analysis tools.

REGIONAL ACTIONS

- Create an annual progress report on regional land use and transportation measures and targets that influence the region's economic vitality.
- Consolidate regional data, analysis, and information to a "one-stop shop" accessible to a wide-variety of audiences.
- Develop informational products that highlight key trends that may impact the region's ability to achieve desired outcomes.

LOCAL ACTIONS

- Collect and share local development data and trends that can inform regional analysis and modeling.
- Develop measures and indicators to assess progress towards local goals.
- Regularly assess the regional impact of local policies, programs and investments.