

AGENDA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING
Friday, May 20, 2022
11:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Via Webinar

- 1 11:00 Call to Order and Introductions
- 2 11:05 Public Comment
Up to 45 minutes is allocated now for public comment and each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If there are additional requests from the public to address the Committee, time will be allocated at the end of the meeting to complete public comment.
- 3 11:10 Report of the Chair
- 4 11:20 Report of the AAA Director

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5 11:40 Move to Approve Consent Agenda
• Minutes of April 15, 2022
(Attachment A)

ACTION ITEMS

- 6 11:45 Discussion of the AAA Choice Services Voucher Contractor Funding – Sharon Day
7 (Attachment B)
- 8 Discussion to Renew Nymb1 Funding for FY2022-2023 – Sharon Day
(Attachment C)
- 9 12:05 Discussion of the ACA Committee Guidelines – Cathy Noon and Jayla Sanchez-Warren
10 (Attachment D)

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS

- 11 12:25 Legislative Update – Rich Mauro
(Attachment E)
- 12 12:45 Report on the AAA Transitions Program – Jennifer Reeves
(Attachment F)



13 1:00 DRCOG Board Report

14 1:15 County Reports

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

15 **Next Meeting – June 17, 2022**

16 1:25 Other Matters by Members

17 1:30 Adjourn

Attendees can request additional aids or services, such as interpretation or assistive listening devices, by calling 303-480-6723 or emailing mpatton@drcog.org. Please notify DRCOG at least 48 hours in advance so we can coordinate your request.



AAA Acronym Quick List

ACL/AOA	Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging
ACO	Accountable Care Organization
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADRC	Aging and Disability Resource Center
AHC	Accountable Health Communities
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee
CASOA	Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults
CCT	Colorado Choice Transitions
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COA	Council on Aging
DCOA	Denver Commission on Aging
DORA	Department of Regulatory Agencies
DOLA	Department of Local Affairs
DRMAC	Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council
F&B	Finance and Budget Committee
GIS	Geographic Information System
HB	House Bill
HCPF	Health Care Policy and Financing
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HTP	Hospital Transformation Project
I&A	Information and Assistance
JBC	Joint Budget Committee
LTC	Long Term Care
MIPPA	Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASUAD	National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PHI	Personal Health Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
ROD	Record of Decision
RTC	Regional Transitions Committee (Aging)
RTC	Regional Transportation Committee*(Transportation)
SAPGA	Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging
SB	Senate Bill
SHIP	State Health Insurance Assistance Program
SMP	Senior Medicare Patrol
SRC	Seniors' Resource Center
SUA	State Unit on Aging
VDC	Veterans Directed Care
VOA	Volunteers of America

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING
MEETING SUMMARY
Friday, March 18, 2022**

Members Present

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Cary Johnson	Jefferson County
Cathy Noon	Arapahoe County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Houston "Tex" Elam	At Large Arapahoe County
Jim Dale	At Large Jefferson County - Golden
Karie Erickson	Douglas County
Perla Gheiler	City and County of Denver
Phil Cernanec	At Large
Steve Conklin	DRCOG Board, - Edgewater
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board - Lone Tree

Guests Present

Allison Cutting, Douglas County, Charlene Bell, Clear Creek, Connor McCarthy, Douglas County, Debbi Haynie, Castle Rock Senior Center, Mark Levine, DRCOG Consultant, Valerie Robson, Jefferson County

DRCOG Staff Present

AJ Diamontopoulos, AHC Manager, Alma Avelar, SHIP Counselor, Ana Lila Lahowetz, Case Manager, Cindy Grainger, ADRC Administrative Assistant, Desiree Boelte, SHIP Program Manager, Doug Rex, Executive Director, Fonda Buckles, ADRC Manager, Ines Rosas, Veterans Program Manager, Jayla Sanchez-Warren, AAA Division Director, Jennifer Reeves Transitions & VDC Manager, JR Goodwin, Senior Graphic Designer, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Mindy Patton, AAA Division Assistant, Rich Mauro, Director Legislative Affairs, Roshida Lewis-Johnson, Case Manager, Steve Erickson, CAM Division Director, Travis Noon, Senior Program Specialist

Cathy Noon Committee Chair – Called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Public Comment Period (Non-ACA Members)

Report of the Chair – Cathy Noon

- The first County Commission on Aging summit committee met prior to the ACA meeting
- The committee will meet again in May
- They are currently planning the event

Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

- Jayla attended the DRCOG Board of Directors workshop. During the DRCOG five-year strategic plan discussion, Jayla told the Board that the older adult population will grow by 63 percent population growth by 2050 and federal funding is not anticipated to grow to

accommodate the growth. Jayla will be finding ways to build partnerships to bring more funds to the AAA for community-based services.

- DRCOG will be having the Health and Housing Convening on April 27th, 2022. DRCOG will be working with healthcare providers including hospitals and CHAFA to discuss barriers, how to overcome them and build partnerships.
- The Accountable Care Organization (ACO) works with healthcare community providers to coordinate care in certain areas. The AAA was recruited to complete an application to join because of their success with the AHC program. Due to a short time line, the current DRCOG structure, and the need for DRCOG Board approval they were unable to pursue the opportunity in time to submit the application. They will research and work to create a structure for the AAA to pursue these opportunities in the future.
- After some discussion on the ACO, Phil Cernanec made a motion to endorse forming an auxiliary funding vehicle that will allow for the acceptance of money outside of the DRCOG organization. Tex Elam seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
- Jayla was asked to testify on SB185, which is the updated version of SB290 for infrastructure funds. SB290 was funding that was awarded to three of the AAA providers earlier in the year. Jayla testified about how the funds were used. If passed and funded the bill will be for infrastructure projects and innovative pilot projects for AAAs.
- Jayla attended the quarterly Aging Policy Advisory committee. The meeting was regarding new policy and procedures from the federal government for the Ombudsman program. The policy and procedures have become stricter which created some controversy for smaller AAAs. DRCOG AAA is in compliance with all regulations.
- Jayla said that COVID numbers are climbing. Eighty-five percent of the current cases are the BA2 variant, so far hospitalization have not increased. They are encouraging older adults 50+ and those who are immunocompromised to get a second booster shot since they are at higher risk. There is a new recumbent variant which is a combination of the BA1 and BA2 variants, it is affecting several countries with a few cases in the US. They are watching closely as it is fast moving. Jayla is staying prepared for staff with additional PPE being ordered.

Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: Summaries of the March 18, 2022, meeting

Phil Cernanec motioned for approval. Barbara Boyer seconded the motion; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

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.

Action Items

Approval SB290 Funding – Travis Noon

- Travis was seeking a recommendation that the DRCOG Board Finance and Budget Committee approve state funds of approximately \$344,000 from Senate Bill 21-290 and to allocate it to projects as approved by the State.
- The funds are from the Senate Bill 21-290 which is a state grant program for AAAs allocating \$50 million for infrastructure projects. DRCOG sent out an RFP to providers and received 13

proposals. The ACA Funding Subcommittee approved five of the proposals which were forwarded to the state. The state approved three of the five for a total of \$343,875. DRCOG will receive the funds and disburse to Volunteers of America, Senior's Resource Center, and A Little Help.

- Jim Dale motioned for recommendation that the DRCOG Board Finance and Budget Committee approve the allotted state funds from Senate Bill 21-290, Cathy Noon seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved.

Informational Briefings

Introduction of the New AAA Rebranding – Steve Erickson

- Steve Erickson introduced the new logo for the AAA.
 - The reason to rebrand the AAA was to have a stronger external connection to the work the AAA does. Staff believes it will help with employee recruitment and it will be more understandable for clients
 - The AAA is now the largest division within DRCOG and it was time to create its own identity and recognize it is an evolving entity.
- Steve started the process by identifying the audience, developing the brand traits and personality and then began to brainstorm ideas.
- Criteria for the brand was:
 - for it to be accessible and friendly,
 - quick to communicate what the organization is about,
 - still build the DRCOG brand but better support the success of the AAA programs, and
 - communicate the core mission and the evolving nature of the AAA.
- Once Steve's team created several logo choices, he met with the AAA managers and Jayla to get their opinions and narrow down the selection.
- The ACA was very complimentary of the new logo. They felt it supported the AAA well.

Legislative Update – Rich Mauro

- Rich informed the committee that there was a month left in the session and provided these updates.
 - HB-1035 Modernization Of The Older Coloradans' Act - signed by the Governor.
 - SB22-79 Dementia Training Requirements - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Rules – is waiting for the hearing in the House.
 - SB-144 Public and Nonprofit Entities Rideshare Contracts – Rich will testify to support this bill the week of April 18th.

- New bills Rich will be bringing to the DRCOG Board.
 - SB22-154 - Increasing Safety In Assisted Living Residences – 1) Requires a residence to provide written notice to the resident and other specified persons at least 30 days prior to the involuntary discharge unless the reason for the involuntary discharge is because the resident needs a higher level of care than can be provided in the residence or the resident poses a harm to the resident or to other residents. 2) Requires all residence administrators, on and after January 1, 2024, to meet or exceed the minimum educational training, and experience standards established by the state board regardless of the date the administrator was hired. 3) Replaces the \$2,000 annual cap on the amount of fines that may be imposed by the department as an intermediate restriction or condition on a residence license and requires the department to impose a fine for any violation resulting in actual harm or injury to a resident. The bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations the week of April 18th.
 - SB22-185 - Security For Colorado Seniors - The bill renames the Area Agency on Aging grant program to the strategic investments in aging grant program. The grant program administers state assistance to finance projects across the state that are intended to assist and support older Coloradans. The bill extends the grant program indefinitely to continue the support of projects that promote the health, equity, well-being, and security of older Coloradans across the state. (Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)
 - SB22-189 - Colorado Geriatric Provider Pipeline Program - The bill creates the Colorado multidisciplinary geriatric provider pipeline program (program) in the university of Colorado Anschutz medical campus. The program coordinates and expands geriatric training opportunities for clinical graduate students enrolled in participating institutions of higher education who study in the health-care fields of medicine, medicine with a focus on training to be a physician assistant, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, psychology, and social work. The first senate hearing will be on April 18th.
- Other bills:
 - HB22-1205 - Senior Housing Income Tax Credit - Concerning the creation of an income tax credit to help income-qualified seniors afford housing, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation. Requirements are you must be 65 years of age or older at the end of 2022; have federal adjusted gross income (AGI) that is less than or equal to \$75,000; and have not claimed a homestead property tax exemption for the 2022 property tax year. Will be heard in committee the week of April 18th.
 - SB22-203 - Program Of All-inclusive Care For The Elderly - Concerning the department of health care policy and financing's oversight of contracted entities providing services to the program of all-inclusive care for the elderly. 1) No later than June 30, 2023, the bill requires the department of health care policy and financing (state department), in conjunction with the department of public health and environment, to develop a regulatory plan to establish formal oversight requirements for the program of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE). 2) No later than March 1, 2024, the bill requires the state department to establish, administer, and enforce minimum regulatory standards and rules for the PACE program.
 - Jayla is concerned with the amount of time it will take to get this bill put in place. In the meantime, the PACE program is frozen and cannot accept new people. She would like Rich to make legislators aware of this and how it currently effects those who may run out of funds before the program is reinstated and may be evicted.
 - SCR22-002 - Homestead Property Tax Exemption Expansion - Submitting to the registered electors of the state of Colorado an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the expansion of the existing property tax exemption for certain owner-occupied primary

residences, and, in connection therewith, increasing the exempt amount of actual value of the owner-occupied primary residence of a qualifying senior or veteran with a disability and allowing a senior who qualifies for the exemption to move and still claim the exemption without meeting the ten-year ownership and occupancy requirement, so long as the senior has continuously owned residential real property since qualifying for the exemption.

Discussion of ACA Meeting Date Change – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

- Jayla explained to the group that because the ACA meets the third Friday of the month and the DRCOG Board of Directors (Board) and the Finance and Budget Committee (F&B) meets the third Wednesday of the month ACA approvals that need to go to the Board and F&B must wait an additional month before they can be approved. By moving the ACA meeting to the fourth Friday of the month, the AAA would be able to provide the necessary materials for the Board and F&B by the second Monday of the month as required and get funding out faster to those in need. The ACA approved of moving the meeting to the fourth Friday of the month beginning in August.

Review of ACA Committee Guidelines – Cathy Noon and Jayla Sanchez-Warren

Cathy said that it has been more than 5 years since the bylaws have been updated. The previous change was to add more membership representatives for smaller counties. Changes recommended for this revision are as follows and will be edited and brought to the committee for final vote.

- Conflict of Interest section:
 - Members will be asked to sign a Conflict-of-Interest acknowledgement. There were no objections to this addition by the committee.
- Officers section
 - Change election of officers from May to June.
 - Clarification of the term of the office for Chair and Vice Chair to two years, from July 1 through June 30. With the option for an individual to serve a third year in the same office with an affirmative vote of the Committee.
 - It is expected that the Vice Chair move into the Chair position at the end of the Chair's term and a new Vice Chair be elected. This is modeled after the way the DRCOG Board moves their officers into position. Because it takes some time to become familiar with the AAA this also allows for the Vice Chair to become acquainted with the AAA. There was a recommendation by Phil Cernanec to also include that the Chair be a member of ACA for two years prior to being elected if the Vice Chair is not moved into the Chair position. Tex Elam felt that the move of the Vice Chair to the Chair should be a recommendation rather than an automatic move.
- Executive Committee section
 - This section was added *“An Executive Committee is hereby authorized with membership consisting of the AAA Division Director, the ACA Chair and Vice-Chair. The Executive Committee shall set meeting agendas and provide guidance to the AAA Division Director for issues that may arise between ACA meetings. Additional members may be added as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.”* This has been happening in the background for several years and the ACA Executive Committee wanted to officially add this to the bylaws.

- Phil Cernanec wanted to add something under the responsibilities section that would recognize representation on the committee to include the diverse programs that are not guided by the Older Americans Act. Suggested language by Cary Johnson: “represent the needs of persons covered by the AAA programs.” The Executive Committee will review the bylaws and make suggested edits for the ACA to approve at the next meeting for an approval to recommend to the DRCOG Board at their June meeting.

County Reports

City and County of Denver Perla Gheiler

- After over two years of preparation Denver is launching their technology program. It supports 55 older adults that live below the poverty level. Participants receive a Chrome Book a Hotspot and ten weeks of training on how to use it. They will set them up with Gmail accounts, using Zoom, telehealth, ordering groceries and using the Snap card. The program is scheduled to start on April 22nd.

Douglas County – Karie Erickson

- Douglas County has teamed up with the Nourish Meals on Wheels program and can now provide hot meals. It is a collaborative effort with a non-profit helping to support another non-profit. They are currently in a pilot phase from April 1st to June 30th providing 100 meals per day on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays at no charge to low-income clients. The program has been highly successful, and Karie will be looking for funding to support the program after the pilot.

Other Matters by Members

- As follow up to Perla’s technology program, Phil Cernanec mentioned HB22-1306, the Broadband Deployment Board Grant Processes. This concerns the broadband deployment grant processes implemented by the broadband deployment board. The bill addresses the internet speed of rural, frontier counties and islands of slow speed in urban and suburban areas.
- Tex Elam asked Jayla if there was any representation for older adults on fixed incomes to address inflation and the effects it has on that population. Jayla said that the AAA is seeing many clients struggling with housing, utilities, water, and food. The AAA has had several internal conversations regarding how inflation is affecting funding and how to address the legislators when approached about having more funding and less service units. Jayla agreed that we need to get the information out to a broader audience.

Next meeting – **May 20, 2022**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

ATTACH B

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Sharon Day, Program Manager, AAA Business Operations
(303) 480-6705 or sday@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
May 20, 2022	Action	6

SUBJECT

This item is regarding approval to allocate funds to contractors for the AAA Choice Services program in state fiscal year 2022-2023 (SFY23).

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

DRCOG staff recommends approval to allocate funds to contractors for the AAA Choice Services program in SFY23.

ACTION BY OTHERS

May 11, 2022 – Funding Subcommittee met to discuss contractors for the Choice Services program.

SUMMARY

DRCOG's Choice Services Program (CSP) provides vouchers to older adults in the AAA region to receive in-home and/or transportation services. DRCOG staff complete assessments and offer consumers choices to receive service among a vetted list of fee-for-service providers. The CSP contrasts with the AAA's grant program, under which funds are passed through to subcontracted providers who manage a program budget to provide Older Americans Act services.

DRCOG staff recommends allocating \$1,262,500 for transportation services and \$630,000 for in-home care services under the CSP. The amounts reflect projected increases in both the volume and costs of services. They also factor additional contractors to the roster of CSP providers. Provider contract limits shall not in total exceed the voucher program budgets for the respective service. Vouchers are administered by DRCOG staff using specialized voucher tracking software that ensures that voucher amounts do not exceed available funds.

The CSP providers were chosen based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, how long they have provided the service, the service area, the quality of the management team, and the agency's ability to comply with DRCOG and State requirements. Additionally, they must have the proper licensure, meet minimum insurance levels, and must be in good standing with the State.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend that the Board Finance and Budget Committee approve issuing contracts with providers for the AAA Choice Services Programs to include up to \$1,262,500 total for transportation services and up to \$630,000 total for in-home care services for the state fiscal year of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

ATTACHMENT

FY2023 CSP Contractors.xls

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director, Area Agency on Aging, at 303-480-6735 or jswarren@aacog.org, or Sharon Day, Program Manager, AAA Business Operations, at 303-480-6705 or sday@drcog.org.

FY2023 Proposed Contractors for Choice Services Program

In-Home Service

FirstLight Home Care Boulder (Britin LLC)
FirstLight Home Care Denver West (Koch LLC)
Alpine Homecare LLC
FirstLight Home Care Denver Southwest

Notes

Serves Adams and Broomfield counties
Serves Denver, Jefferson, Arapahoe counties
Serves greater Denver metro
Serves southwest Denver region

Transportation Service

HopSkipDrive
Uber
Carepool
RTD Bus

Notes

DRCOG's 2nd largest transportation provider
Trips can be directly scheduled by client
New rideshare provider to metro region
Includes ticket books for Access-A-Ride

ATTACH C

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Sharon Day, Program Manager, AAA Business Operations
(303) 480-6705 or SDay@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
May 20, 2022	Action	7

SUBJECT

This item is regarding contract renewal with Nymbl Science, a mobile fall prevention provider, for the state fiscal year 2022-2023 (SFY23).

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

DRCOG staff recommends approval of a contract with Nymbl Science for SFY23.

ACTION BY OTHERS

May 11, 2022 – ACA Funding Subcommittee made a recommendation regarding Nymbl.

SUMMARY

Nymbl is a mobile fall prevention program. Users of the program receive both physical balance training as well as health education. Since contracting with Nymbl in February 2021, the program has successfully enrolled over 15,000 older adults in the AAA region. To help continue its expansion within the region, Nymbl recently hired a program coordinator to conduct outreach to targeted Older Americans Act populations such as minority and lower income populations. DRCOG recently conducted a consumer survey that affirmed users' generally positive experience using Nymbl.

DRCOG staff recommends renewing its contract with Nymbl for the next state fiscal year of July 2022 through June 2023 at an amount not to exceed \$762,300. The contract limit covers annual subscription costs for approximately 10,000 older adults.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend that the Board Finance and Budget Committee approve to extend a contract with Nymbl Science for a mobile fall prevention program in an amount not to exceed \$762,300 for the state fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023.

ATTACHMENT

N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director, Area Agency on Aging, at 303-480-6735 or jswarren@drcog.org, or Sharon Day, Program Manager, AAA Business Operations, at 303-480-6705 or sday@drcog.org.

ATTACH D

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6735 or jswarren@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
May 20, 2022	Action Item	8

SUBJECT

This item is regarding approval of the ACA Committee Guidelines

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

DRCOG staff recommends approval of the ACA Committee Guidelines

ACTION BY OTHERS

At the April 15, 2022, ACA meeting the committee reviewed edits made by the ACA Chair, Vice Chair and Jayla Sanchez-Warren to the current guidelines.

SUMMARY

After reviewing the edits made by the ACA Chair, Vice Chair and Jayla Sanchez-Warren, minor changes were recommended by the ACA. These changes have been incorporated into the document and now need a final recommendation to approve to the DRCOG Board.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

The ACA committee reviewed and discussed the ACA Committee Guidelines at the April 15th meeting where minor edits were suggested.

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend that the DRCOG Board approve the revised ACA Committee Guidelines.

ATTACHMENT

Revised ACA Committee Guidelines with suggested ACA edits.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, 720-375-1738 jswarren@drcog.org.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING (ACA)

(Working draft April 2022)

Type: Standing Committee

Authority: Older American’s Act of 1965, as amended, and the Contract between DRCOG and the Colorado Department of Human Services, State Unit on Aging dated February 8, 1974 and revised March 15, 2006.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall include individuals eligible to participate in the program, minority and low-income adults, older individuals, residents of geographically isolated areas, and at least three members of the DRCOG Board who shall be appointed by the DRCOG Chair.

Interested DRCOG Board alternates also may be considered for appointment to the ACA in addition to the minimum Committee membership of three Board members.

Membership on the Committee or changes to membership requires a written request to, and confirmation by, the DRCOG Chair. Membership shall be assessed annually and a member’s attendance at ACA meetings will be considered.

It is the goal of the DRCOG Board that (1) at least one-half of the members should be age 60 and older, and (2) include at least one individual from each of the counties served by the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), and (3) include five community partner representatives from areas including but not limited to: transportation, lifelong communities, foundations, financial institutions, aging, disability, LGBTQ, elder rights, and developmental disability.

Members representing each of the counties served by the AAA shall be recommended for appointment by their respective county council/commission on aging through their respective governing body (board of county commissioners or mayor, as appropriate) and confirmed by the DRCOG Chair. Representation shall proportionately reflect the 60+ population within each county and shall be according to the graph below.

60+ Residents	Number of Representatives
0 – 50,000	2
50,001 – 100,000	3
100,001 and over	4

County population shall be determined using DRCOG’s demographic estimates. There will be a maximum of four representatives per county.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members are expected to be aware of any potential real or perceived conflicts of interest and make them known to the DRCOG AAA Division Director immediately. Members shall abstain from any discussion of, or voting on, any funding issue in which a conflict of interest exists or may arise. Members will be asked to sign a Conflict-of-Interest acknowledgement.

Committee members that are board members of an agency that submit requests for funding are prohibited from taking part in evaluating such requests.

OFFICERS

The ACA elects officers from among the members annually in May/June. The term of the office for chair and vice chair is two years, from July 1 through June 30. An individual may serve a third year in the same office with an affirmative vote of the Committee. It is expected that the Vice Chair move into the Chair position at the end of the Chair's term.

In the absence of the chair, the vice chair assumes the role of the chair.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

An Executive Committee is hereby authorized with membership consisting of the AAA Division Director, the ACA Chair and Vice-Chair. The Executive Committee shall set meeting agendas and provide guidance to the AAA Division Director for issues that may arise between ACA meetings. Additional members may be added as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent the needs of persons age 60 and older, with special emphasis on the needs of those persons in greatest social and/or economic need. Represents the needs of persons covered by the AAA programs.
- Advocate for the enhancement and wellbeing of the region's current and future older adult populations.
- Assist DRCOG staff in assessing the strengths and needs of older adults and their caregivers.
- Assist DRCOG staff in developing and updating the AAA 4-Year Plan; make recommendations concerning the same to the DRCOG Board.
- Assist DRCOG staff in developing policies, procedures, and priorities for planning and funding activities; make recommendations concerning the same to the DRCOG Board.
- Assist DRCOG staff in assessing funding proposals to serve the 60 and older population pursuant to the Older Americans Act and Older Coloradans Act; make recommendations concerning the same to the DRCOG Board.
- Actively become and remain educated on the issues concerning the aging and their caregivers.
- Serve as an ambassador to the community and to the County Councils on Aging by communicating the purposes, responsibilities, and functions of the AAA.

QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of one-third of the members present at a regularly scheduled ACA meeting or at a special meeting called by the Committee chair.

MEETINGS

The ACA meets monthly and shall be open to the public. Summary minutes shall be taken at Committee meetings and shall be available to the public upon request for review.

The ACA, in consultation with the AAA Division Director, may cancel regular monthly meetings

or call for special meetings.

SUBCOMMITTEES

- The ACA, in consultation with DRCOG staff, shall determine the need for subcommittees.
- Duties of subcommittees include making recommendations to the ACA regarding matters pertaining to their specific interest.
- Any ACA member may serve on any of the subcommittees but shall include, whenever possible, at least one member from each county represented.
- Voting is limited to one vote per county.
- Each subcommittee shall appoint a chair and the meeting schedule for the subcommittee shall be determined by the chair and other members in consultation with DRCOG staff.
- All subcommittee activities shall be reported by the subcommittee chair or their designee at the next regular ACA meeting.
- It is the responsibility of the AAA Division Director or designee to develop the monthly agenda. The subcommittee chair may request the agenda be developed in consultation with the subcommittee chair.

ATTACHE

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging
From: Rich Mauro, Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst, 303-480-6778 or rmauro@drcog.org.

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
May 20, 2022	Informational Briefing	9

SUBJECT

State Legislative Update

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

Staff will provide an update on activities and issues at the Colorado General Assembly. This will include a final status report on bills of interest and an overview of the session.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

Legislative Status Report as of May 11, 2022, and DRCOG Legislative Wrap Up on Aging

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Rich Mauro can be contacted at 303-480-6778 or rmauro@drcog.org.

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
STATUS OF BILLS--2022 SESSION--AGING
As of 5-11-22

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary (as introduced)	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
AGING BILLS							
HB1035	Modernization Of The Older Coloradans' Act- updates the "Older Coloradans' Act", including: reorganizing the Commission on Aging and increasing membership from 17 to 19 in order to coordinate and implement the Strategic Action Plan on Aging and to make recommendations; appointing a state department of human services liaison to act as the primary contact for the commission in order to coordinate commission-related duties with the state department and other state agencies; convening a technical advisory committee comprised of key state agency representatives to direct the implementations of the plan and the commission's recommendations; and creating the Lifelong Colorado initiative within the department's State Office on Aging to coordinate strategies and implementation of the plan with the commission, advisory committee, and key state agencies.	Young and Bradfield/ Ginal and Rankin	Signed by the Governor	Support	FN	The purpose of the Older Coloradans Act is to support older Coloradans through community planning, social services, health and well-being services, and strategies to prepare the state's infrastructure for an increasing older population of Coloradans. Many of the provisions of the bill reflect work DRCOG staff has been involved in with the governor's office and other aging advocates and providers. This includes the creation and operation of the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging and Lifelong Colorado. DRCOG staff also has been involved in the drafting of the bill and amendments. The bill was amended to address DRCOG's concerns regarding clarifying the authority of the Commission and the relationship between the new State Office on Aging and the Area Agencies on Aging. DRCOG staff testified in support of the bill as amended. DRCOG staff testified in support of this bill in the House at the request of the sponsor.	DRCOG supports state legislative and regulatory provisions reinforcing collaboration between the state and area agencies on aging and respecting their respective roles and interests, consistent with state and federal laws; and collaboration and partnerships to better meet the service needs of older adults consistent with DRCOG's responsibilities as an Area Agency on Aging and an Aging and Disability Resource Center.

* FN = Fiscal Note

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STATUS OF BILLS--2022 SESSION--AGING

As of 5-11-22

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary (as introduced)	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
SB22-079	Dementia Training Requirements Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Rules- The bill requires the Department of Public Health and Environment, with regard to nursing care facilities and assisted living residences, to adopt rules requiring these facilities to provide dementia training for staff providing direct-care services to clients and residents of the facilities.	Kolker and Ginal/Young	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	FN	According to the Alzheimer's Association, Colorado falls short of other states and the association's standards regarding dementia training for our direct care workforce. Our current laws and regulations are vague and do not require a sufficient level of skill and knowledge for staff. Training requirements vary among care settings, so a person living with dementia can experience varied levels of care quality. The proposal is to standardize training requirements for all direct care staff who are most likely to care for individuals living with dementia.	DRCOG supports increases in the quality of care and consumer protections for older adults and their caregivers and, in particular, legislation strengthening the role of the long-term care ombudsman and PACE ombudsman as resident and consumer advocates. DRCOG urges the state, when making decisions regarding funding for long-term care programs, to structure such funding to protect the quality of care for residents and participants, including funding for optimal ombudsman staffing.
SB144	Public And Nonprofit Entities Rideshare Contracts- Current law regulates transportation network companies (TNC), which are commonly known as ridesharing companies, and the services they provide. Current law exempts services provided under a contract between a ridesharing company and a school, a school district, the federal government, a state, a political subdivision of a state, or a tax-exempt entity. The bill removes these exemptions, so that ridesharing companies that contract with these entities will be regulated in the same manner as other types of ridesharing companies and services.	Zenzinger	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	FN	DRCOG staff has determined that the ambiguities in statute that this bill is intended to correct are necessary to ensure that the ability of the DRCOG Area Agency on Aging to contract with ridesharing companies is not adversely affected. DRCOG currently contracts with HopSkipDrive and Uber for senior transportation services. The public utilities statute includes conflicting language regarding the regulation of TNC services provided pursuant to agreements with tax exempt entities, like DRCOG's AAA. DRCOG staff testified in support of this bill in the House at the request of the sponsor.	DRCOG supports improvements to transportation services provided to older adults and vulnerable populations to reduce administrative and service duplication; increase coordination among funding sources, providers, jurisdictions and trips; and efficiently uses taxpayer dollars to provide life-sustaining mobility.

* FN = Fiscal Note

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STATUS OF BILLS--2022 SESSION--AGING

As of 5-11-22

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary (as introduced)	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
SB154	Increasing Safety In Assisted Living Residences (ALR) - establishes the outlines of a process to be followed regarding involuntary discharge of residents, including requiring the ALR to provide written notice 30 days before the discharge & requiring the ALR to include specified information and documentation; establishes a process for a resident/ representative to appeal the discharge, a requirement for the ALR to respond, the ability for the resident to appeal the ALR's decision to CDPHE, and the ability to request an administrative hearing on CDPHE's ruling; requires all ALR administrators, regardless of hire date, meet the minimum experience standards in state rules; removes the existing \$2,000 annual cap on the total amount of fines that CDPHE may impose, instead allowing CDPHE to determine the amount of a fine based on factors such as size of residence, number of residents impacted by the violation, the actual or potential harm or injury to a resident, prior violations or a pattern of violations, and at a level that will deter future violations.	Danielson/ McCormick & Lindsay	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	FN	This bill addresses areas of concern regarding the operations of assisted living residences particularly the need to improve transparency and resident rights in cases of involuntary discharge, facility administrator competency, and outdated fines for statute and rule violations. In recent years, concerns have increased among state and local long term care ombudsmen and CDPHE regarding the quality of care in ALRs. One action to address this was an updating of state rules for ALRs in 2019. This bill builds on those rules to address remaining areas of concern. The bill was amended several times to address concerns from the industry for clarification. The most significant amendment was to replace the removal of the annual cap with a cap of up to \$20,000 annually. DRCOG staff testified for this bill in the Senate and the House at the request of the sponsors.	DRCOG supports increases in the quality of care and consumer protections for older adults and their caregivers and, in particular, legislation strengthening the role of the long-term care ombudsman and PACE ombudsman as resident and consumer advocates. DRCOG urges the state, when making decisions regarding funding for long-term care programs, to structure such funding to protect the quality of care for residents and participants, including funding for optimal ombudsman staffing.
SB185	Security For Colorado Seniors - renames the Area Agency on Aging Grant Program to the Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program. The grant program administers state assistance to finance projects across the state that are intended to assist and support older Coloradans. The bill extends the grant program indefinitely to continue the support of projects that promote the health, equity, well-being, and security of older Coloradans across the state.	Danielson & Buckner/ Lindsay & Young	Awaiting Governor's Signature	Support	FN	This bill revises the provisions of SB 21-290, which created the Area Agency on Aging Grant Fund with one-time funding for the state's AAAs to implement specified programs and projects. It makes the fund ongoing, with a special emphasis on infrastructure projects, as well as pilot programs. AAAs are still the focus of the grant program but other entities may be eligible for grants. All grants must be aligned with state aging plans. DRCOG staff testified in support of this bill in the Senate at the request of the sponsor.	DRCOG supports increased funding for programs and exploration of programs providing services to older adults, individuals with disabilities, veterans and their caregivers, especially services that support individuals continuing to live independently in their homes and communities, including efforts to improve data collection and analysis of cost effectiveness.

* FN = Fiscal Note

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
STATUS OF BILLS--2022 SESSION--AGING
As of 5-11-22

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary (as introduced)	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
SB189	<p>Colorado Geriatric Provider Pipeline Program- The bill creates the Colorado Multidisciplinary Geriatric Provider Pipeline Program in the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. The program coordinates and expands geriatric training opportunities for clinical graduate students enrolled in participating institutions of higher education who study in the health-care fields of medicine, medicine with a focus on training to be a physician assistant, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, psychology, and social work.</p>	Danielson & Pettersen/	Postponed Indefinitely Senate Appropriations	Support	FN	<p>This bill builds on SB 21-158, which established a loan forgiveness program for geriatric-trained nurse practitioners and physician assistants. This bill creates a pipeline of geriatric trained clinicians to begin to fill the incredible shortage (only 99 geriatric physicians in Colorado). Following training, the trainees would then have an opportunity to take advantage of the SB158 incentive to staff geriatric clinicians throughout rural and underserved Colorado. University of Colorado Springs campus will also be involved in the overall CU System-Wide Geriatric Program. Additional trainee programs from other institutions in the state (University of Denver, Colorado State University etc.) could be added in the future.</p>	<p>DRCOG supports collaboration and partnerships to better meet the service needs of older adults consistent with DRCOG's responsibilities as an Area Agency on Aging and an ADRC.</p>

* FN = Fiscal Note

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
STATUS OF BILLS--2022 SESSION--AGING
As of 5-11-22

Bill No.	Short Title/Bill Summary (as introduced)	Sponsors	Status	Position	*FN	Staff Comments	Legislative Policy
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2022 DRCOG LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP AGING BILLS

May 11, 2022

During the Second Regular Session of the 73rd General Assembly, the DRCOG Board took official positions on 15 bills. DRCOG staff and lobbyists actively monitored and lobbied these bills, including seeking specific amendments to the bills where appropriate and providing input to legislative sponsors, committees, and staff.

These bills were of special interest because of an identified effect on member governments or the regional programs administered by DRCOG. DRCOG staff and lobbyists also actively monitored and, in some cases, provided input and advice on the Long Appropriations Bill and over thirty other bills for potential effect on DRCOG, its programs or its members. Beyond this, DRCOG staff and lobbyists reviewed and monitored approximately 50 additional bills for possible effect on DRCOG.

The most significant pieces of legislation related to aging are summarized below. A final status report on all the aging-related bills on which official positions were taken is attached.

State Budget Issues

Every year there are challenges in balancing the state budget and the 2022 legislative session was no exception. Usually, those challenges involve balancing the budget in the face of a revenue shortfall. This year, the challenge for the FY 2022-23 budget was how to continue the restoration that began with the FY 2021-22 of the budget in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Significantly, it also included settling on priorities for federal relief funds and state surplus funds.

Particularly after the turbulence of the last two budget years in which DRCOG had to advocate with the Joint Budget Committee to minimize cuts to the State Funding for Senior Services line item (which funds the Area Agencies on Aging) in FY 2020-21 and the restore that funding for FY 2021-22 to its pre-pandemic (FY 2019-20) levels, it was a relief that this budget contained continuation funding for the AAAs.

The budget did set aside \$200 million for “property tax relief” to be allocated by subsequent legislation. One such bill is HB 22-1205. DRCOG did not take a position on this bill as it does not relate directly to our Aging Services Program. The bill is notable, though, as it creates a refundable, means-tested income tax credit for older adult taxpayers at least 65 years old with adjusted gross income up to \$75,000 and who have not claimed the Senior Property Tax Exemption. The tax credit is estimated to cost \$100 million for the one year it will be available.

Older Adults

HB 22-1035. This bill is designed as a modernization of the Older Coloradans' Act by updating state institutional structures and agency policies and duties regarding older adults. It does this by establishing the State Office on Aging as the state leader concerning aging issues and reorganizing the Colorado Commission on Aging, increasing its membership, defining it as the principal advocacy body in the state on behalf of older Coloradans, and directing it to coordinate and guide the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan on Aging. This is timely as the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging (SAPGA), which developed this plan, is sunsetting this year after six years of work.

The bill also provides for involvement of community interests, a liaison with the Colorado Department of Human Services, and a technical advisory committee comprised of key state agency representatives to direct implementation of the plan and commission recommendations. The bill establishes the Lifelong Colorado program within the State Office on Aging to coordinate strategies and implementation of age-friendly, livable communities initiatives.

Many of the provisions of the bill reflect work DRCOG staff has been involved in with the governor's office and other aging advocates and providers for several years. This includes initiating the legislation (HB 15-1033) that created SAPGA and providing meeting space, printing and other support for the group, and collaborating with the governor's office and AARP to create Lifelong Colorado in 2017.

SB-22-185. This bill extends indefinitely, expands and renames the Area Agency on Aging Grant Program created by the DRCOG-initiated SB 21-290 to the Strategic Investments in Aging Grant Program. The grant program may accept funds from a variety of sources and make grants to finance projects across the state that are aligned with the Strategic Action Plan on Aging and the State Plan on Aging (the four-year plan developed jointly by the Area Agencies on Aging and the state). Such projects may include community services, health promotion, home modifications, infrastructure, research and data collection, and pilot programs. While the focus remains on Area Agencies on Aging, the state may award grants to other entities. It is considered a companion bill to SB 22-1035.

SB 22-154. This bill establishes a long-needed process to protect resident rights in assisted living residences regarding involuntary discharges. Similar processes exist for nursing homes and Medicaid Home and Community Based Services but none previously has existed for assisted living. The bill also improves qualifications for residence administrators by requiring at least one year of experience supervising direct care services. The bill increases an outdated, extremely low cap on fines from \$2000 annually to \$10,000 per violation, with the ability for the health department to exceed the cap for egregious violations that result in death or serious injury to a resident. DRCOG staff and lobbyists worked extensively with the bill sponsors to get this bill passed.

Affordable Housing

HB 22-1304. This bill was recommended by the Affordable Housing Transformational Task Force that met last summer. It creates two state grant programs administered by DOLA: the Local Investments in Transformational Affordable Housing Grant Program (\$150 million), and the Infrastructure and Strong Communities Grant Program (\$28 million General Fund). The Affordable Housing Grant Program provides grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to enable investments in their communities or regions. DRCOG worked with sponsors to ensure organizations like DRCOG would be eligible recipients of grant funds and projects and programs for older adults are eligible uses of funds. The Strong Communities Grant Program provides grants to local governments to invest in infill infrastructure projects. This includes accessibility improvements, amenities that make the site of the project age-friendly, and transit-oriented development.

ATTACH F

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Lauren Bell, 303-480-6762 or lbell@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
May 20, 2022	Informational Briefing	10

SUBJECT

Community Options (Transitions) program update

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Informational only

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

Jennifer Reeves, Manager and Lauren Bell, Program Manager will provide a program overview and recent updates for the Community Options (Transitions) team. The program overview will contain pertinent information for understanding the program like what the program does, who qualifies and how to make a referral. Updates will be provided regarding the number of people served and referrals made, as well as barriers and opportunities for the team during the pandemic and going forward. Other updates will be included related to program outreach efforts.

Additionally, an overview will be provided regarding the Department of Justice (DOJ) letter that was delivered to Governor Polis on March 3, 2022. This letter outlines the DOJ's determination that Colorado is violating the ADA and the Olmstead decision by, "Administering its long-term care system in a way that unnecessarily segregates individuals with physical disabilities in nursing facilities and places others with physical disabilities at serious risk of unnecessary institutionalization." Information about how these findings relate to the work of the Community Options team will be provided in this overview.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

https://www.ada.gov/olmstead/documents/colorado_lof.pdf

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Jennifer Reeves, Manager, 303-480-6755, jreeves@drcog.org or Lauren Bell, Program Manager, 303-480-6762, lbell@drcog.org