

BOARD UPDATE



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DECEMBER BOARD MEETING MOVES TO DEC. 7.

The December meeting of the DRCOG Board of Directors has been rescheduled for 4 – 6 p.m., Dec. 7 (the time usually reserved for the Board work session).

BOARD OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 1, 2017

During the report of the executive director (delivered by Doug Rex, Transportation Planning and Operations director), the Board was advised that the next Board open house (previously held in December), will take place Feb. 1, 2017, following the regularly scheduled Board work session.

JOHN V. CHRISTENSEN AND METRO VISION AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

During Chair Elise Jones' report, nominations were opened for the Metro Vision and John V. Christensen awards. Submissions for both awards may be made at drcog.org/annualawards until Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017.

The John V. Christensen Memorial Award has been presented since 1972 and is regarded as one of the region's most prestigious awards. Established in memory of John V. Christensen, one of DRCOG's founders and an Arapahoe County commissioner, it recognizes individuals who promote cooperation and collaboration for the benefit of the region.

The Metro Vision Awards recognize regional projects, programs and plans exemplifying coordinated efforts between local governments, state and federal partners; the business community; philanthropic and not-for-profit organizations. Successful applications will detail community examples that foster local innovation around transportation and personal mobility, growth and development, community resiliency, promoting access to opportunity and aging and disability resources.

DIRECTORS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON METRO VISION DRAFT

At the beginning of its November Board meeting, the Denver Regional Council of Governments held a public hearing on the draft Metro Vision plan. Five individuals representing member governments and community organizations offered testimony of three minutes or less. All speakers represented organizations which had also submitted written public comment. Staff estimates that 24 sets of public comments were received electronically (by email and via drcog.org). Staff will summarize the public comments and provide responses to the Board of

Directors for discussion at the Jan. 4, 2017 Board of Directors work session. Action related to adoption of the plan will occur no earlier than the Jan. 18, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

BOARD APPROVES 2017 BUDGET

Following a two-month budget review by the Finance and Budget committee, the Board unanimously approved the annual budget for Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2017. The budget is the fiscal guide for fulfilling DRCOG's 2017 Strategic Initiatives Plan, which highlights work activities in the DRCOG Metropolitan Planning Organization Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Area Agency on Aging, Communications and Marketing, Executive Office and Administration and Finance divisions.

BOARD SELECTS NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Each November, DRCOG's Board of Directors selects its nominating committee, which will recommend a slate of Board officers to be seated in February. Under its recently revised Articles of Association, the committee comprises the Board's immediate past chair (Lone Tree Mayor Jackie Millet), a representative of the City and County of Denver (Council Member Robin Kniech), a representative of the Finance and Budget committee (Douglas County Commissioner Roger Partridge) and a representative from the Performance and Engagement Committee (Greenwood Village Mayor Ron Rakowsky). In addition, the Board and its chair are separately eligible to appoint two members each. The Board elected Castle Rock Council Member George Teal to the nominating committee, and Chair Elise Jones named to the nominating committee Lakewood Council Member Shakti.

BOARD HEARS ABOUT CDOT EXPRESS LANES HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE TRANSITION

Megan Castle of CDOT's High Performance Transportation Enterprise, provided information regarding the transition on all CDOT High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Express Lanes from HOV2+ to HOV3+ on January 1, 2017. Castle's presentation included details of the transition and information regarding the number of switchable transponders issued (113,000 as of mid-November). Motorcycles can use the express lanes for free, and carpoolers who have only used their transponder in high-occupancy vehicle mode may apply for refunds for switchable transponders. Revenue from the change will offset cost for transportation infrastructure, ongoing operations and maintenance.

BOARD RECEIVES DRAFT STATE LEGISLATIVE POLICY FOR REVIEW

Included in the Board's agenda packet was the draft Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues for 2017. Rich Mauro, senior policy and legislative analyst, indicated that DRCOG staff was not recommending any changes to the previous policy statement. Board Directors who have suggested changes to the draft are encouraged to contact DRCOG staff by Nov. 23. The draft will be on the agenda for consideration at the Dec. 7 Board meeting. With Ed Bowditch of Lobby Colorado Associates, Mauro responded to Board Director questions regarding issues related to housing, older adults and transportation that may be considered during the 2017 legislative session.

BOARD RECEIVES PRESENTATION ON TRAFFIC CRASHES

DRCOG periodically conducts a crash analysis to raise awareness of traffic safety concerns in the Denver region. Steve Cook of DRCOG's Transportation Planning and Operations division presented select data from the analysis and a preview of information that will be contained in the forthcoming Traffic Crashes in the Denver Region, which is expected to be available at the December Board meeting. Cook's presentation included information on crash trends, fatalities and serious injuries, crash causes, pedestrian and bicyclist involvement in traffic crashes, truck-related crashes and wildlife-vehicle collisions.