



In this Issue, September 2017

Sanchez-Warren receives mayor's inclusion award

Office space update

Board wraps up another successful workshop

Schoolpool recognized with national award

Elder refugees celebrate wellness

Transportation Improvement Program spotlight: Longmont

Accountable Health Communities gets strategic

State agency awards Area Agency on Aging a performance bonus

Get ready for Go-Tober

In the news

Calendar

Sanchez-Warren receives mayor's inclusion award



Congratulations to Jayla Sanchez-Warren, director of the Area Agency on Aging, who will be presented with the 2017 Mayor's Diversity and Inclusion Award by the City and County of Denver. Mayor Michael B. Hancock will present this prestigious award to Jayla on Sept. 19 at a ceremony to celebrate her "contribution as a pillar of diversity in the Denver community."

Office space update



As noted at the August Finance and Budget Committee and Board meetings, staff continues to evaluate potential office space for a relocation, due to DRCOG's continued growth. In addition to 1700 Lincoln St. and 1225 17th St., which Board directors and alternates had an opportunity to tour in August, 1001 17th St. is also under consideration.

Please [contact me](#) if you are interested in taking a tour of 1001 17th St.

Board wraps up another successful workshop



40 directors and alternates, representing 34 communities, attended last weekend's Board Workshop to plan, share insights and learn.

The event included time for socializing and networking, and a session on organizational culture.

On display were 27 posters of community highlights from member governments.

Directors, members and guests had the opportunity to attend presentations on Metro Vision, the Area Agency on Aging and the Transportation Improvement Program, as well as mobility for residents of all ages, and DRCOG's tools and services. Directors were briefed on proposed strategic initiatives for 2018 and participated in a session related to TIP focus areas. Rick Sonnenburg of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority, also serving as acting executive director for the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, delivered a lunchtime presentation on the formation of the rural transportation authority.

Schoolpool recognized with national award



In early August, DRCOG's Way to Go program was honored with a national award at the annual Association of Commuter Transportation conference in New Orleans. The association represents transportation demand management programs across North America.

Specifically, Way to Go's Schoolpool program was recognized with a first place award in the commute options category. Congratulations to Mia Bemelen, who oversees the Schoolpool program, and the entire Way to Go team!

Way to Go's Go-Tober campaign was also recognized as a finalist.

Elder refugees celebrate wellness



The Area Agency on Aging elder refugee program recently conducted a cross-cultural traditions of wellness event at the Aurora Center for Active Adults, in partnership with the Colorado African Organization.

Older adult participants with refugee status from Burma, Bhutan, Somalia, Eritrea led sessions on their cultures' traditions of cuisine, dancing, the various uses of turmeric, games for resolving conflict, and health and wellness.

Transportation Improvement Program spotlight: Longmont



In August, the City of Longmont opened the second of two underpass projects.

The first opened in January at State Highway 119 and Hover Street. In addition to providing a safe, grade-separated crossing, it offers a bike share station and an enclosed, secure bike shelter that will be part of Boulder County's bike-and-ride program for transit riders who ride their bikes to the bus.

"Overall we're very excited about this whole area being the centerpiece of that multimodal culture of Longmont," said Dan Greenwald, transportation planner. "So, we've got the bicycle coming through safely underneath the roadway, we've got different components of transit, we've got bike share and we've got the pedestrians, and we're keeping that separated then from the roadway users as well. So this project really is the epitome of the whole piece of Envision Longmont coming together and a lot of the work the citizens of Longmont did to talk about the safety and the multimodal aspects that they want to see in this community."

The second underpass, located at Hover Street and Dry Creek, provides safer travel for bicyclists and pedestrians between a shopping center on the east side of Hover Street and residential areas to the west. It also provides connections to the Dry Creek Greenway trail.

Accountable Health Communities gets strategic

The Accountable Health Communities funding opportunity continues its ramp-up period on-time and within budget. Program managers decided to use the free documentation and client referral data system provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, allowing the reallocation of \$548,000 to pay clinical, behavioral health and community partners for their service to clients who will benefit from this program.

Jerry Stigall, DRCOG's director for organizational development, continues to lead the program's advisory board in developing a strategic plan for Accountable Health Communities participation using the Balanced Scorecard framework.

State agency awards Area Agency on Aging a performance bonus

In August, the Colorado Office of Health Care Policy and Financing awarded the Area Agency on Aging a \$19,000 performance bonus for their efforts to reduce health care costs and help clients live independently. Options counselors with the Colorado Choice Transitions program help clients in nursing homes return to their communities by facilitating housing and community-based services.

A big "thank you" to the employees responsible for this success: Amy Pulley, case management and transitions manager; Heather Kamper, transitions supervisor and Anaya Robinson, aging services supervisor.

In July, the Finance and Budget Committee authorized the Area Agency on Aging to expand the program to provide fee-for-service options counseling estimated at

\$202,500.

Get ready for Go-Tober



Organizations throughout the region are preparing for Go-Tober, Way to Go's annual autumn commuting challenge. The challenge promotes friendly competition among companies to inspire their employees to make the biggest change in commuting behavior. Businesses compete against others within their Regional Transportation District service level area.

[Let me know](#) if you want information about companies competing in your community!

In the news

To thwart DUIs in Colorado, CDOT's handing out personal breathalyzers ([The Denver Post](#))

Schoolpool helps connect Colorado parents and 'simplify life' ([CBS Denver](#))

RTD says these driverless shuttles are the future of public transit ([Denver 7](#))

The Met Council needs to change to meet today's demands; here's a proposal ([Minneapolis Star-Tribune](#); commentary, cites DRCOG as a model to emulate)

Calendar



Sept. 6	Board work session	DRCOG	4 p.m.
	Performance and Engagement Committee	DRCOG	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	Metro Vision Idea Exchange: Keep it Local (canceled)	DRCOG	10 a.m.
Sept. 15	Advisory Committee on Aging	DRCOG	noon
Sept. 19	Regional Transportation Committee	DRCOG	8:30 a.m.
Sept. 20	Finance and Budget Committee	DRCOG	5:30 p.m.
	Board of Directors	DRCOG	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Transportation Advisory Committee	DRCOG	1:30 p.m.
	Transportation Improvement Program policy work group	DRCOG	2:30 p.m.

Sept. 27	Agency Coordination Team/Air Quality Interagency Consultation Group	DRCOG	9 a.m.
	Regional Transportation Operations Working Group	DRCOG	1:30 p.m.



DRCOG, 1290 Broadway, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80203

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by drex@drcog.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today