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## With gratitude

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I'd like to say "thank you" again for the Board's vote of confidence in appointing me to serve as DRCOG's executive director.

During the year I served as acting executive director, my appreciation for the breadth and depth of this organization's work only increased. From the composition of the Board to various ways it serves the region's residents, DRCOG represents both the diversity of our communities and the unique ways each city, town and county contributes to making this an enviable place to call home.

I'm keenly aware of the exceptional effort put forth by the Performance and Engagement committee, legal counsel and Roxie Ronsen, DRCOG's administrative officer, to conduct the selection process. Your work is appreciated.

It is indeed an honor to lead this groundbreaking organization. I look forward to accomplishing great things to "make life better" for our region's residents under the direction of this visionary Board and by maximizing the contributions of DRCOG's talented staff.

## A successful Go-Tober

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Way to Go wrapped up its third annual Go-Tober earlier this week. The Way to Go team coordinated friendly competition among 52 companies within the region, whose employees went head-to-head to log the most smart commutes.

This was the first year that DRCOG participated, and I'm proud to report that our employees logged 1,211 smart commutes and 10,358 miles during Go-Tober. We placed second in the Urban Ultimates category, and second overall.

Congratulations and thank you to all who participated!

## Conklin shares expertise on the region's radio history



At its October lunch-and-learn event for staff, DRCOG welcomed Steve Conklin, DRCOG board director from Edgewater. Director Conklin, who is also president of the Broadcast Pioneers of Colorado, regaled staff with historic photos and audio clips, including a jingle by the Beach Boys for KIMN.

Staff also learned about:

- Denver's first radio station, KLZ, which was started by dentist William "Doc" Reynolds. Reynolds broadcast from his living room near the University of Denver.
- Jean Ruth Hay, the host of "Reveille with Beverly" on KFEL in the early 1940s. Her program inspired the movie of the same name, which starred Ann Miller and featured a musical number by Frank Sinatra.
- Leroy Smith, host of a midnight rhythm-and-blues show in the late 1940s and 1950s on KFEL (which later became KIMN). Smith owned Rhythm Records and Sporting Goods in Five Points.
- Paco Sanchez, who put KFSC on the air in 1954 by buying time from other stations. He was one of the first Spanish-language broadcasters and later served in the Colorado House of Representatives.
- Bill Pierson, the owner of KBPI who saved the Daniels and Fisher tower from demolition in the 1960s.
- Morey DaVolt, who started the area's first country-western radio station in 1955 (KLAK) from a 100-year-old Lakewood house so close to railroad tracks that the microphones picked up the sound of passing trains.

Thanks to Flo Raitano, DRCOG's director for partnership development and innovation, for organizing these monthly learning opportunities for our staff.

And thank you, director Conklin, for bringing your enthusiasm for the region's broadcasting history to share with the staff.

## Transportation Improvement Program spotlight: RTD



This fall, the Regional Transportation District's Southeast Rail Extension project, a 2.3-mile light rail extension from Lincoln Station south to RidgeGate Parkway, reached a key completion milestone.

Construction of the line, which began in May 2016, is now 50 percent complete. The new structures changing the landscape will enable the future extension of the E, F and R light rail lines.

The majority of the civil work, including bridges, walls, utilities and much of the station construction, will be completed by the end of this year. The project includes three bridges (Lincoln Avenue, Interstate 25 and RidgeGate Parkway) and three new stations (SkyRidge, Lone Tree City Center and RidgeGate).

By early 2018 the line will begin to look complete and crews will shift their focus to track work, systems and testing. Service is scheduled to begin in 2019.

## Letter of intent delivered for new DRCOG office space



In late October, DRCOG staff delivered a letter of intent to the management company of 1001 17th St. Although we continue to negotiate the details of our intended agreement, the letter formalizes DRCOG's interest in the building.

The DRCOG board of directors had the opportunity to tour three properties: 1001 17th St., 1700 Lincoln St. and 1225 17th St.

Although we considered many factors, 1001 17th St. was distinguished from the other properties by:

- the opportunity for DRCOG's staff (which is growing due to program expansion) to be located on a single floor
- the quality and accessibility of conference space for board and committee meetings

DRCOG staff anticipates an office move in May 2018.

## In the news

Ready, set, Go-Tober: 52 companies accept commuting challenge ([Nasdaq GlobeNewswire](#))

Transportation panel in Denver inspires Williamson County business leaders ([Brentwood \[Tennessee\] Home Page](#))

## Calendar



Nov. 1	<a href="#">Board work session</a>	DRCOG	4 p.m.
	Performance and Engagement Committee (canceled)	DRCOG	6 p.m.
Nov. 2	Transportation Improvement Program policy work group (canceled)	DRCOG	2:30 p.m.
Nov. 8	<a href="#">Regional Active Transportation Stakeholder Committee</a>	DRCOG	2:00 p.m.

Nov. 9	<a href="#">Denver Regional Data Consortium</a>	DRCOG	10 a.m.
	<a href="#">Future of DRAPP and planimetrics</a>	DRCOG	noon
Nov. 14	<a href="#">Regional Transportation Committee</a>	DRCOG	8:30 a.m.
	<a href="#">Transportation Improvement Program policy work group</a>	DRCOG	2:30 p.m.
Nov. 15	<a href="#">Finance and Budget Committee</a>	DRCOG	5:30 p.m.
	<a href="#">Board of Directors</a>	DRCOG	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 17	<a href="#">Advisory Committee on Aging</a>	DRCOG	noon
Nov. 27	<a href="#">Transportation Advisory Committee</a>	DRCOG	1:30 p.m.
	<a href="#">Transportation Improvement Program policy work group</a>	DRCOG	2:30 p.m.
Nov. 29	<a href="#">Agency Coordination Team/Air Quality Interagency Consultation Group</a>	DRCOG	9 a.m.



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