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March 15, 2017

SAVE THE DATE: AWARDS CELEBRATION IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

The Denver Regional Council of Governments seeks sponsors for its annual awards event, Wednesday, April 26, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown. Tables are available for member governments, corporate sponsors and nonprofit sponsors. <u>Learn more</u>.

Registration for the awards celebration is now open. Celebrating the regional partnerships and community accomplishments that result in a vibrant, connected region, the event will feature emcee Amelia Earhart and the Peneplain Jazz Trio. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., program and dinner begin at 7 p.m.

BOARD CONDUCTS PUBLIC HEARING ON TRANSPORTATION

Following presentations by Transportation Planning and Operations staff Jacob Riger and Todd Cottrell, the Board received public comment from three region residents on the proposed 2040 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan, 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program and associated air quality conformity documents. Gail O'Toole and Drew Sweeney of the Landmark Homeowners Association in Greenwood Village and David Ruchman of the Jefferson County Local Coordinating Council provided comment.

BOARD HEARS PUBLIC COMMENT FROM SKYTRAN

During the regularly scheduled time for public comment, R. Paul Williamson of skyTran gave a presentation on its proposed Colorado City Connector.

BOARD CONFIRMS REX'S SERVICE AS ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Schaufele resigned as DRCOG executive director effective Feb. 17. The "Immediate Succession" section of the organization's executive policies require that the executive director designate at least one other member of the management team familiar with Board and DRCOG issues and processes. Schaufele had designated Douglas W. Rex for that role, and he has served in that capacity since Schaufele went on leave beginning in September, and continuing since her resignation. Although the executive policies are self-executing, the Board approved Rex continuing to serve as acting executive director and fulfill the duties of the position until the vacancy is filled. The Board also approved an increase to Rex's salary (commensurate with the salary of the executive director) and a car allowance equal to the executive director's, retroactive to Jan. 1 and until the vacancy is filled.

BOARD OPENS SOLICITATION OF INTEREST FOR COMMITTEE SERVICE

The Board opened solicitation of interest for serving on its Performance and Engagement, Finance and Budget and Regional Transportation committees. Interested Board members may submit their statements of interest to Connie Garcia by March 29, 2017. The Nominating Committee will recommend appointees to the Performance and Engagement, and Finance and Budget committees at the April Board meeting.

BOARD TAKES POSITIONS ON STATE LEGISLATION

Board members were updated on current state legislative issues and bills of regional concern or interest and gave direction to staff regarding DRCOG positions on specific bills. More information on the specific legislation and positions taken by the Board since the General Assembly convened is available in the "2017 March Legislative Summary."

BOARD RECEIVES INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING ON FEDERAL PLANNING CERTIFICATION REVIEW OF THE DENVER-AURORA TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

Every four years the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration conduct a joint review of the transportation planning process carried out by DRCOG and its planning partners, the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Regional Transportation District. The final certification review report was provided to DRCOG in December 2016 and highlights recommendations required to completely implement activities and guidance set by federal agencies, recommendations to enrich current planning activities, and commendations noted during the review. Representatives from both federal agencies provided a summary of the planning certification review at the March meeting.

BOARD RECEIVES INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING ON 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

At its February 2017 work session, the Board requested staff provide a schedule for presentation of topics related to the development of the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program policy to the Board for discussion or action. Doug Rex, acting executive director and director of the Transportation Planning and Operations Division, provided a brief overview of the policy document development schedule, topical discussion by the TIP Policy Work Group, opportunities for input at Board work sessions and subsequent Board action.