May 17, 2017

SEVERAL JUNE MEETINGS CANCELED

Due to the annual meeting of the Colorado Municipal League (June 20-23), several mid-June meetings have been canceled, including the June 20 Regional Transportation Committee meeting, the June 21 Board of Directors meeting and the June 21 Finance and Budget Committee meeting.

BIKE TO WORK DAY IS JUNE 28

Board directors and their communities are encouraged to participate in Bike to Work Day, the second-largest event of its kind nationwide. Organizers expect 34,000 riders to commute to work by bicycle on June 28. Board directors can get involved by registering at the Bike to Work Day website, by visiting breakfast or water stations (or attending bike parties) in their communities. Board directors can also make sure their jurisdiction has a team in the Business Challenge and encourage local businesses to sign up (as company teams, sponsors or station organizers).

SAVE THE DATE FOR BOARD WORKSHOP

Mark your calendars! This year’s Board Workshop will take place Aug. 25-26 at the Colorado Springs Marriott (5580 Tech Center Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80919). Agenda items will include mini courses (Area Agency on Aging, Metro Vision and Transportation Planning), discussion of 2018 strategic initiatives, transportation for older adults, focus areas for the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and scenario planning. In addition, you’ll have plenty of opportunities for casual conversations with your fellow Board directors and alternates.

BOARD APPOINTS FINANCE AND BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

DRCOG’s Board of Directors appointed members to its Finance and Budget, and Performance and Engagement committees. All appointees were unanimously proposed by the nominating committee.

Finance and Budget Committee
Doris Truhlar, Centennial
Wynne Shaw, Lone Tree
Ashley Stolzmann, Louisville
Connie Sullivan, Lyons
John Diak, Parker (Chair)
Performance and Engagement Committee
Bob Fifer, Arvada (Chair)
Bob Roth, Aurora
Aaron Brockett, Boulder
David Beacom, Broomfield
Phil Cernanec, Littleton
Colleen Whitlow, Mead
Herb Atchison, Westminster

The nominating committee comprised Elise Jones, George Teal, Robin Kniech, Roger Partridge, Ron Rakowsky and Shakti.

ERICKSON DELIVERS PRESENTATION ON WAY TO GO
Communications and Marketing Division Director Steve Erickson provided an overview of the Way to Go partnership, outlined program focus areas and approaches and provided highlights of campaigns and initiatives. He also shared priorities and plans for 2017. Goals for 2040 include reducing single-occupant vehicle trips from 75 percent to 65 percent and reducing vehicle miles traveled per capita by 10 percent.

BOARD RECEIVES PRESENTATION ON METRO VISION SCOREBOARD
Director of Organizational Development Jerry Stigall provided a preview of the Metro Vision Scoreboard, a strategy software application developed by staff following Board approval of the Metro Vision update. Stigall noted that the Scoreboard represents an opportunity to share measure data, and that “if we can do this more deliberately, we can bring you better information for decision-making.”

BOARD HEARS LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP
In his wrap-up of the legislative session, DRCOG Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst Rich Mauro described the legislative session as having been successful in surviving potential budget cuts, passage of a rental notice bill, and various protections for older and at-risk adults. Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell from Lobby Colorado Associates provided their perspective on the session, particularly Senate Bill 17-267 (Sustainability of Rural Colorado).

A revised bill matrix will be posted in early June.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING STAFF DELIVER PRESENTATION ON $4.5 MILLION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
Area Agency on Aging Director Jayla Sanchez Warren and Business Development Coordinator AJ Diamontopoulos delivered a presentation about the Accountable Health Communities funding opportunity from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services totaling $4.51 million. Among 32 organizations awarded the funding opportunity nationwide, DRCOG was just one two non-health-care-industry recipients. The grant will help the agency bridge the services provided in health care systems with services provided in the community. By partnering with medical and community-based providers, DRCOG will collect data on community needs, cost savings and health outcomes, improve referral processes and streamline access to services. The data is essential for understanding future demand for services, for obtaining funding for these services and lowering health care costs. The funding opportunity commenced May 1, and affords a nearly nine-month ramp-up period for DRCOG to align committed partners and providers with
new processes and operational procedures. Funding will be paid out at approximately $902,000 per year for five years.

**BOARD RECEIVES FASTRACKS ANNUAL STATUS REPORT**

In accordance with DRCOG Board-adopted Resolution No. 14 (September 2013), which modified the FasTracks annual review process, RTD Assistant General Manager for Planning Bill Van Meter provided the Board with the FasTracks annual status report. He provided a status update on the N Line (North Metro), for which a new schedule is being determined. Van Meter reported that the Federal Railroad Administration has granted RTD approval to begin limited testing on the G Line, for which RTD is working with partners and the Colorado Public Utilities Commission to select a start date. He noted that the University of Colorado A Line is operating under a Federal Railroad Administration waiver, which has been extended through July 31, and that flaggers are stationed at every at-grade crossing. RTD is working with the Federal Railroad Administration and the Public Utilities Commission to get out from under that waiver to provide full regular operation. The A Line is operating at 95.6 percent on-time performance. “Early startup problems have been substantially resolved,” Van Meter said. “It’s improving quite strongly and dramatically.” Van Meter also provided a FasTracks cost update through 2019.