

BOARD UPDATE



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BOARD APPROVES 2018 BUDGET

At the November Board meeting, directors approved the annual budget for Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2017. Prior to approval, the Board's review process had included an initial presentation at the August board workshop and review of the draft budget at the Finance and Budget committee meeting in September. At its October meeting, the Finance and Budget committee recommended approval of the budget by the Board. The budget is the fiscal guide for fulfilling DRCOG's 2018 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 ELECTS CONKLIN TO SERVE ON NOMINATING COMMITTEE; CHAIR APPOINTS DOZAL

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 DRCOG's Articles of Association, the committee comprises the Board's immediate past chair (Elise Jones), a representative of the City and County of Denver (Robin Kniech), a member selected by the Finance and Budget committee (Roger Partridge) and a member selected by the Performance and Engagement committee (Ron Rakowsky). In addition, the Board and its chair are separately eligible to appoint a member. The Board elected Steve Conklin to the nominating committee, and chair Bob Roth named Rita Dozal to the committee.

DIRECTORS ADOPT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDER SAFETY

In light of recent deaths among first responders at crash sites in the Denver region, and following a presentation at the September Board meeting by Colorado State Patrol deputy chief Mark Savage, directors expressed an interest in recognizing first responders. At the November meeting, the Board adopted a resolution recognizing first responders in the region; commemorating Traffic Incident Response Week, Nov. 13-19; and urging the public to drive safely and follow traffic laws.

BOARD RECEIVES INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING ON REGIONAL GROWTH INITIATIVE

Brad Calvert, DRCOG director of Regional Planning and Development, provided an update regarding creation of a framework for understanding and responding to growth and development within the region. Over the past few months DRCOG staff has worked closely with more than 20 local government partners to draft the initial framework. Calvert briefly described how staff activities such as research and data analysis would form the first pillar of the potential four-pillar framework. He also reviewed the second pillar, which would involve coordinated efforts to develop the region's growth forecast. Calvert invited review and conversation by Board directors of the proposed third pillar, which would involve convening local governments to discuss shared or similar opportunities and challenges, and invite a commitment to action. Discussion was wide-ranging, including conversation related to how the potential regional growth initiative relates to the current urban growth boundary/area program.

BOARD RECEIVES INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING ON VETERAN-DIRECTED HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

Heather Kamper, aging services supervisor for DRCOG's Area Agency on Aging, delivered a presentation on the Veterans-Directed Home and Community-Based Services program which DRCOG has administered in partnership with the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center since 2015. The program provides case management services to 65 veterans who receive a flexible monthly budget from Veterans Affairs to manage their in-home services and support. Through the program, participants avoid nursing home placement. DRCOG case managers monitor program participants' spending, coordinate with a financial management service and connect veterans to community-based services.