

On Board | July 2018 | Information
for DRCOG Board directors and
alternates.

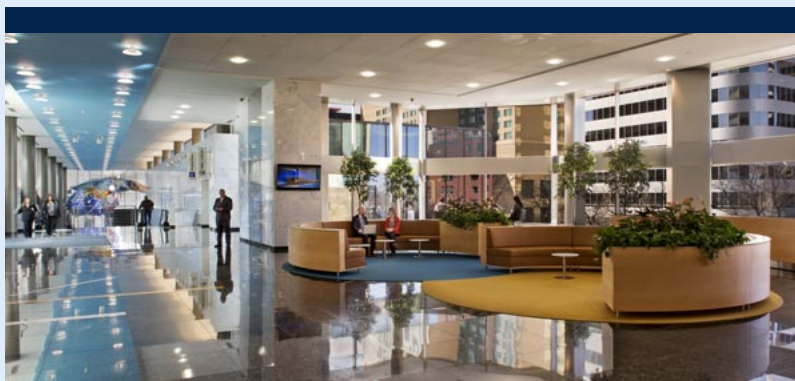
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Happy summer!

I hope you enjoyed some time with family and friends for your Independence Day celebrations. The holiday marked the end of a long stretch of big events for DRCOG. Soon after our awards event in April we pivoted into planning for our office move and Bike to Work Day. You'd think summer would give us an opportunity to slow down, but that's not like us. Rather, we're busily laying the groundwork for this year's Board Workshop and also preparing to conduct our first Citizens' Academy, for which we assumed responsibility when the Transit Alliance closed its doors earlier this year. I'm excited that we can continue the fine tradition of helping our region's residents become more engaged around topics of growth, development and transportation.

Douglas W. Rex
Executive Director



Greetings from our new location

Many of you have had the opportunity to visit us at our new offices at 1001 17th St., Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202. For those who haven't, we look forward to welcoming you to our new space, soon.

Map

Given the complexity of relocation, it went as smoothly as could be expected. As those of you who attended the June Board or committee meetings are aware, we're still ironing out some of the details related to meeting room technology. We expect most of the glitches to be resolved by our July meetings.



You helped make Bike to Work Day a success

We did it again! Thanks to the participation of your communities' residents, organizations and businesses, an estimated 35,277 participants traded their regular commutes for bicycles on Bike to Work Day, approximately a thousand more than last year. I love the energy and excitement of Bike to Work Day, and it was encouraging to see how many of our member governments took part, with **20 jurisdiction-sponsored stations**.

About 300 stations offered breakfast, water and bike-home

parties for participants. Almost 40 percent of riders were first-time participants. Commuters logged an average of 8.8 miles by bicycle, saved 270 tons of carbon dioxide and burned 38.8 million calories.

Nearly 800 companies competed in the Business Challenge, with **Google Boulder** taking first place; **National Center for Atmospheric Research/University Corporation for Atmospheric Research**, second place; and **Davis Partnership Architects**, third place. **Google Boulder** took first place among large businesses, and **VisionLink** among small companies.

Thank you to DRCOG's Way to Go team, as well as your communities' residents, organizations and businesses for making bicycle commuting possible on Bike to Work Day — and every day.

Save the date for next year's Bike to Work Day: June 26, 2019.



Reminder: Board Workshop: Reserve your room

At its June meeting, the Performance and Engagement Committee finalized the [agenda](#) for our annual **Board Workshop** Friday, Aug. 24 and Saturday, Aug. 25.

We'll be meeting — and staying — at Keystone Lodge and Spa. **If you haven't already, it's now time to reserve your room.** To guarantee availability, make your reservation by Tuesday, July 24.

Reserve Your Room

Or call Keystone Group Reservations at 800-258-0437 and mention group code CN8DRC8.

The group room rate is \$129. The resort fee has been waived. There is a \$10 per night fee for parking (valet parking is available for \$15 per night).

Please contact [Connie](#) if:

- you'll be attending **only one day** of the workshop and **don't need a room reservation**
- you'd like **tax exempt** information
- you need **credit card authorization** forms



DRCOG prepares to host Citizens' Academy

Start spreading the word — applications for the Citizens' Academy will open Aug. 1. The seven-week, Thursday evening sessions will begin Sept. 27, and continue the format and curriculum that has brought Citizens' Academy national recognition.

Citizens' Academy was formerly a program of Transit Alliance. Before its dissolution earlier this year, Transit Alliance approached DRCOG to take over Citizens' Academy. DRCOG had long supported Transit Alliance and Citizens' Academy through funding and participation, and agreed to renew our commitment to this important forum for citizen engagement, learning and action.

DRCOG staff, under the direction of Brad Calvert, director of Regional Planning and Development, are busily preparing to recruit participants and conduct the first Citizens' Academy under DRCOG's auspices. Keep your eye on [DRCOG's website](#) for information, and [contact Brad](#) with any questions or suggestions.



DRCOG developing a transportation hub for veterans and older adults

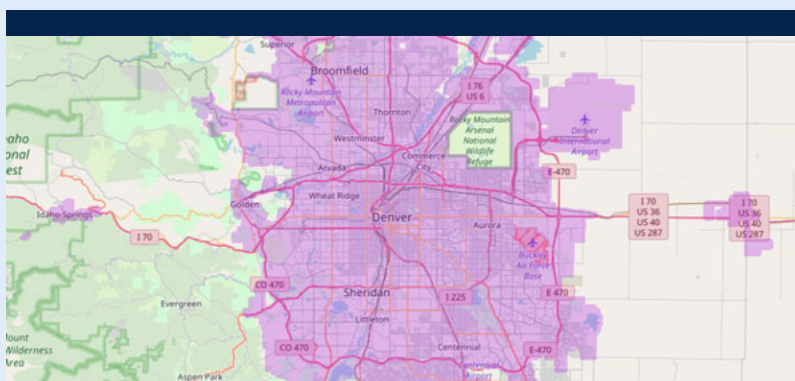
Since last September, DRCOG staff has been leveraging a Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative grant from the Federal Transit Administration to improve access to transportation by veterans, service members, military families, older adults and people with disabilities. Matthew Helfant, senior transportation planner, has been convening monthly meetings of a stakeholder group to provide insight and advice. Under the grant, DRCOG will develop a trip exchange platform for transportation providers to facilitate sharing trips. DRCOG recently executed a contract with RouteMatch to begin development of the application. The stakeholder group meets the third Thursday of the month. Materials are available on the [event calendar at DRCOG's website](#).



Way to Go campaigns recognized for excellence

Three of Way to Go's 2017 public relations and marketing campaigns, executed by Cohn Marketing, were recently recognized with awards. Way to Go is a regional partnership of DRCOG and seven transportation management associations that helps commuters make commuting choices that reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

The Colorado chapter of the Business Marketing Association awarded Way to Go a Gold Key award for its Bike to Work Day public relations efforts. Way to Go received platinum recognition from the international Hermes Creative Awards for its integrated marketing campaign. And the Communicator Awards, also an international competition, honored Way to Go with an award of distinction for its marketing communications plan.



Get the data you need and save money

At the last Board of Directors meeting, Ashley Summers, DRCOG's information systems manager, provided an overview of DRCOG's planimetric data project. As part of her presentation, she highlighted how participation helps local governments obtain the data they need, conserve staff effort and save money.

During her presentation, Ashley provided information about how the following member governments have used DRCOG planimetric data:

- **Aurora** used **building roofprints** to build a custom base map for its web maps. Its **fire department** used the data to create preplan maps for emergency response.
- **Arapahoe County** increased community safety and decreased insurance costs by using **building roofprints** to participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System for national flood insurance.
- **Douglas County** inventoried **sidewalk ramps**, cutting field time in half.
- **Jefferson County** mapped safe routes to schools using **sidewalk data**.

These are just a few examples of how cities, towns and counties are benefiting from DRCOG's regional data efforts, and doing so at a fraction of the cost and staff time. Your community's data staff should have already received estimates for participation in the upcoming planimetrics project, [let Ashley know](#) if we missed you.

Visit the DRCOG website to [download a PDF](#) of Ashley's presentation from the [June 18 Board meeting](#).

Calendar

July 12

[Regional Transitions Committee](#)

DRCOG, noon

July 17

Regional Transportation Committee

DRCOG, 8:30 a.m.

July 18

Performance and Engagement Committee

DRCOG, 5:30 p.m.

Board of Directors

DRCOG, 6:30 p.m.

July 23

Transportation Advisory Committee

DRCOG, 1:30 p.m.

July 25

Agency Coordination Team/Air Quality Interagency
Consultation Group

DRCOG, 9 a.m.

Regional Transportation Operations Working Group

DRCOG, 1:30 p.m.



Denver Regional Council of Governments
1001 17th St., Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202

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