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DRCOG HONORS DENVER'S DOCKLESS MOBILITY PILOT PROGRAM

May 7, 2019 (DENVER) – The City and County of Denver received a 2019 Metro Vision Award from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) at its annual awards celebration on May 3 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center.

In May of 2018, several companies deployed hundreds of electric scooters onto Denver sidewalks, launching a new unlicensed and unregulated service in our region. It was immediately apparent that there was not only significant demand for this new mobility option, but that there were also significant concerns about safety and shared use of public right of ways including sidewalks and bike lanes.

The City was recognized for responding quickly to develop a dockless mobility pilot program, the first of its kind in our region. The City began by focusing on citywide goals for increasing access to public transit and reducing single occupant vehicle use, and with safety as a paramount concern they developed an innovative approach to guide deployment and use of dockless scooters and bicycles. Among other things, the program encourages deployment near transit stations and popular amenities, resulting in more usage for first and last mile trips utilizing transit. It also limits the number of units each provider may deploy and requires companies to help educate riders on safe and acceptable use.

“The first-mile, last-mile issue has been a hurdle for transit agencies and potential transit users for years,” said Douglas Rex, executive director for DRCOG. “Dockless scooters and bikes show promise to address the issue, and this pilot program will serve as a model for other communities in the region to follow.”

The region’s plan for growth and development, Metro Vision, calls for a well-connected transportation system that serves all travel modes. This pilot program represents how a thoughtful, responsive approach to new technologies and mobility options can ultimately improve how we get around our region.

(more)

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DRCOG's Metro Vision Award program recognizes exemplary projects, plans and initiatives that significantly improve the quality of life in the Denver region and its communities. The regional council has been honoring outstanding achievements for more than 30 years.

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The Denver Regional Council of Governments is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy and allocate funding in the areas of transportation and personal mobility; growth and development; and aging and disability resources.