

Overarching Theme: An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern

MVIC Recommended Outcome 1 (October 2015):

The region is comprised of diverse, livable communities.

Outcome 1 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The Denver metro region will continue to embrace its diverse urban, suburban and rural communities. Varied housing and transportation options, access to employment and a range of services and recreational opportunities will promote livable communities that meet the needs of people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

Definitions

*Diverse communities*¹: Communities ranging from urban downtown areas to suburban and rural communities.

*Livable communities*²: Communities consisting of varied housing options, access to employment and a range of services and recreational opportunities, and the successful integration of multimodal transportation choices that meet the needs of people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

¹ As defined in MVIC recommended narrative

² As defined in MVIC recommended narrative

Overarching Theme: An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern

MVIC Recommended Outcome 2 (October 2015):

New urban development occurs within the contiguous and designated areas identified in the Urban Growth Boundary/Area (UGB/A).

Outcome 2 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

A defined Urban Growth Boundary/Area (UGB/A) leads to an orderly and more compact pattern of future development. While locally adopted policies and market demand determine the location of urban development, commitment to the UGB/A leads to better use of regional resources for infrastructure, reduced regional vehicle travel and conservation of open land outside the boundary/area.

Definitions

*urban development*³: Residential subdivisions or other groupings of 10 or more residential parcels with an average residential lot size of less than 1 acre; commercial and industrial subdivisions; commercial activity on isolated parcels, not within platted subdivisions, with more than 50 employees; enclaves of other development within the urban area.

*Urban growth boundary/area (UGB/A)*⁴: the urban growth boundary/area defines where urban development will take place in the region over the next 25 years

Locally adopted polices: policies of local governments that shape the location and intensity of development, including comprehensive and area plans, zoning, subdivision regulations, etc.

³ As defined in the Board adopted Metro Vision Growth and Development Supplement

⁴ As defined in Metro Vision 2035

Overarching Theme: An Efficient and Predictable Development Pattern

MVIC Recommended Outcome 3 (September 2015):

Connected urban centers and multimodal corridors accommodate a growing share of the region’s housing and employment.

Outcome 3 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The location and context of each center define its unique character. They are transit-, pedestrian-, bicycle-friendly places that contain a more dense and diverse mix of land uses than the surrounding areas; are designed to allow people of all ages, incomes and abilities to access a range of housing, employment, and services without sole reliance on having to drive. Urban centers provide public spaces where people can gather; aid in reducing per capita VMT, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption; and respect and support existing neighborhoods.

Definitions

*Urban centers*⁵: Urban centers will:

- be active, pedestrian-, bicycle-, and transit-friendly places that are more dense and mixed in use than surrounding areas;
- allow people of all ages, incomes and abilities to access a range of housing, employment, and service opportunities without sole reliance on having to drive;
- promote regional sustainability by reducing per capita vehicle miles traveled, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption; and
- respect and support existing neighborhoods.

*Urban centers*⁶: urban centers include traditional downtowns, transit stations areas, existing and emerging employment centers, and greenfield areas with development plans consistent with the key characteristics of urban centers described in Metro Vision

multimodal: more than one travel mode

⁵ As defined in Metro Vision 2035

⁶ As further defined in the Board adopted Metro Vision Growth and Development Supplement

Overarching Theme: A Connected Multimodal Region

MVIC Recommended Outcome 5 (September 2015):

The regional transportation system is well-connected and serves all modes of travel.

Outcome 5 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The transportation system integrates regional and local roadways and streets, transit (bus and rail), bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and air and freight rail linkages. The transportation system connects the region to the rest of the state and beyond, and will evolve to include future technology and mobility innovations as appropriate.

Definitions

*transportation system*⁷: a system of rapid transit, a regional bus system, a regional roadway system, local streets, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, railroads, and associated system and travel demand management services.

freight rail linkages: e.g. railroad yards, auto/rail transfer centers, similar facilities

mobility innovations: e.g. connected vehicles autonomous/driverless vehicles, other technologies

⁷ As defined in Metro Vision 2035

Overarching Theme: A Connected Multimodal Region

MVIC Recommended Outcome 6 (October 2015):

The transportation system is safe, reliable and well-maintained.

Outcome 6 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

Educational, enforcement, and engineering approaches enhance safety to reduce crashes, serious injuries, and fatalities. Coordinated operations and management of the system maximizes capacity and reliability for all users. Transportation system physical components are well-maintained to extend their useful life and provide a quality travel experience.

Definitions

reliable: consistent and dependable travel time

well-maintained: related to transportation systems, the physical components are maintained to meet federal and state condition requirements; potholes, transit vehicle problems, and other deterioration impacts on the traveling public are minimized.

enforcement: the act of compelling observance of or compliance with a law, rule or obligation

operations and management: including signal timing, ramp-metering, Intelligent Transportation Systems, and similar strategies related to day-to-day operation of all components of the transportation system

physical components: the infrastructure making up the transportation system– pavement, striping, bus stops and transit vehicles, sidewalks, etc.

useful life: the amount of time a physical component of the transportation system can be used and maintained before it must be replaced or rebuilt

quality travel experience: an experience where the user is infrequently subject to potholes, bumps, gaps, and poor condition of the infrastructure.

Overarching Theme: A Safe and Resilient Built and Natural Environment

MVIC Recommended Outcome 8 (October 2015):

The region has clean water and air, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Outcome 8 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The region meets or exceeds applicable federal, state, and local requirements and regional targets for air and water quality.

Definitions

greenhouse gas (GHG): a gas that contributes to the earth’s greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation. In the transportation sector these gases are typically carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O)

Overarching Theme: A Safe and Resilient Built and Natural Environment

MVIC Recommended Outcome 9 (October 2015):

The region values, protects, and connects people to its diverse natural resource areas, open space, parks and trails.

Outcome 9 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The region’s protection and restoration of its diverse natural resource areas—its mountain backdrop, unique prairie landscapes, extensive riparian corridors, and other open space areas, parks and trails and is essential as the region continues to grow. Access to these areas provides the opportunity to participate in a variety of recreational pursuits that support community health and wellness.

Definitions

*natural resource areas*⁸— resource areas that include the region’s mountain backdrop, riparian corridors, and other key open space and wildlife habitat. Natural resources include surface waters, riparian areas, wetlands, forests and woodlands, prairie grasslands, wildlife and wildlife habitat, other environmentally sensitive lands and commercial mineral deposits.

riparian corridors: Plant and wildlife areas near a river, stream, lake, or other natural body of water, delineated by the existence of plant species normally found near freshwater.

restoration: renewing and restoring degraded, damaged, or destroyed natural resource areas to meet current and future needs

⁸ As defined in Metro Vision 2035

Overarching Theme: A Safe and Resilient Built and Natural Environment

MVIC Recommended Outcome 10 (November 2015):

The region’s working agricultural lands and activities contribute to a strong regional food system.

Outcome 10 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

Working agricultural lands are essential to the region’s heritage, health, and economic and cultural diversity. Livestock feeding and production, growing feed and forage crops for livestock, food production, or greenhouse and nursery crops, agricultural lands and operations of all sizes create jobs in the region, support economic vitality, and promote healthier communities by bringing people closer to their food source.

Definitions

*working agricultural lands*⁹: lands used for livestock feeding and production, growing feed and forage crops for livestock, food production, or greenhouse and nursery crops.

*regional food system*¹⁰: a system of place-specific clusters of agricultural producers of all kinds – farmers, ranchers, fishers – along with consumers and institutions engaged in producing, processing, distributing, and selling foods.

⁹ As defined in the narrative of the draft Metro Vision plan (March 2015 version)

¹⁰ United States Department of Agriculture (*Trends in U.S. Local and Regional Food Systems – Report to Congress*)

Overarching Theme: A Safe and Resilient Built and Natural Environment

MVIC Recommended Outcome 11 (October 2015):

The risk and effects of natural and human-created hazards is reduced.

Outcome 11 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

Hazard mitigation planning reduces injuries and loss of life; trauma; and damage to property, equipment, and infrastructure. Communities are more resilient when planning also accounts for disaster response and recovery.

Definitions

*natural hazards*¹¹: include but not limited to avalanches, drought, earthquakes, floods, hail, heat wave, landslides, land subsidence, thunderstorms and lightning, tornados, severe storms and winds, winter storms and freezing, wildfire and public health hazards

human-created hazards: include but not limited to hazardous materials, power service disruption, terrorism, war, structural collapse, fire, transportation incidents (air, rail, road)

resilient: related to a community or local jurisdiction, possessing the attributes and ability to minimize community disruptions, by preparing for, responding to, and recovering from such events.

¹¹ Hazard types as identified in 2010 Denver Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (prepared by DRCOG)

Overarching Theme: Healthy, Inclusive, and Livable Communities

MVIC Recommended Outcome 12 (October 2015):

The built and natural environment supports healthy and active choices.

Outcome 12 Narrative - Recommended by MVIC (December 2015):

A deliberate focus on the built environment's influence on physical activity, mobility choices, access to healthy food, and the natural environment supports the opportunity to lead healthy and active lifestyles throughout the region.

Definitions

built environment: features that have been constructed and modified by people that form the physical character of a community

natural environment: conditions and settings occurring naturally, including all living and non-living things present in or produced by nature

Overarching Theme: Healthy, Inclusive, and Livable Communities

MVIC Recommended Outcome 13 (September 2015):

The region’s residents have expanded connections to health services

Outcome 13 Narrative - Recommended by MVIC (December 2015):

Expanded connections to health services improve the health and wellness of residents in the Denver region. Connections to health services are expanded through improved multimodal transportation access, the location of new health services, and other innovative approaches resulting in more convenient access to health services.

Definitions

*health services*¹²: the full spectrum of health care facilities and service providers, including, but not limited to, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, emergency rooms, urgent cares, community clinics, doctors’ offices, and social service providers

¹² As defined in the draft Metro Vision plan (March 2015 version)

Overarching Theme: Healthy, Inclusive, and Livable Communities

MVIC Recommended Outcome 14 (October 2015):

Diverse housing options meet the needs of residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

Outcome 14 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

Housing choices allow individuals and families to find desirable housing affordable and accessible to them in communities throughout the region and stay in their community of choice as their economic or life circumstances change. A range of housing options across the region benefits both individuals and families, and can improve the economic vitality and diversity of local communities.

Definitions

*housing options*¹³: housing choices allow individuals and families to find desirable housing affordable and accessible to them in the communities where they want to live and stay in their community of choice as their economic or life circumstances change

abilities: the physical and cognitive functions of a person

economic or life circumstances: circumstances that limit the kinds of choices available to individuals and households, could include changes to available resources, persons in household, physical abilities, etc.

¹³ As defined in the narrative of the draft Metro Vision plan (March 2015 version)

Overarching Theme: A Vibrant Regional Economy

MVIC Recommended Outcome 15 (October 2015):

All residents have access to a range of transportation, employment, commerce, housing, educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities.

Outcome 15 Narrative – Recommended by MVIC (November 2015):

The region's economy prospers when all residents have access to a range of transportation, employment, housing, education, cultural, and recreational opportunities. The region's transportation network plays a critical role in enabling commerce and providing access to basic needs and quality of life amenities that allow the region's residents to succeed.

Definitions

*access to opportunity*¹⁴: residents have access to a range of transportation, employment, housing, education, cultural, and recreational opportunities

basic needs: the physical requirements for human survival, such as air, water, food, clothing, and shelter, as well as public safety, health services and economic opportunity

amenities: the civic elements of a community with which residents and visitors engage (e.g. arts, entertainment, cultural attractions, recreation areas, educational institutions, etc.)

¹⁴ As defined in the narrative of the draft Metro Vision plan (March 2015 version)

Overarching Theme: A Vibrant Regional Economy

MVIC Recommended Outcome 16 (October 2015):

Investments in infrastructure and amenities allow people and businesses to thrive and prosper.

Outcome 16 Narrative - Recommended by MVIC (December 2015):

The region's continuous investments in infrastructure support a globally connected economy and offer opportunities for all residents to share and contribute to sustained regional prosperity. Vibrant and thriving communities, accessible and protected natural resources, and diverse cultural amenities are considered economic assets and make our region a highly desirable place to live, work and raise a family.