METROVISION

IDEA EXCHANGE

AGENDA

Holding the Line: Preserving Attainable Housing in a Strong Market

10 a.m. to noon
Dec. 13
Denver Regional Council of Governments
1290 Broadway; Denver, CO 80203
Independence Pass Conference Room, first floor

Meeting Objectives:

- Hear about demographic shifts and housing challenges throughout the region
- Learn about what local communities and community partners are doing to address housing challenges

10 to 10:15 **Welcome and Introductions**
Anna Garcia, Denver Regional Council of Governments
Brad Calvert, Denver Regional Council of Governments

10:15 to 11:30 **Guest Speaker Panel**
Jennifer Newcomer, Gary Community Investments and The Piton Foundation/Shift Research Lab
Dace West, Mile High Connects
Beth Truby, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
Shelley McKittrick, City of Aurora
Amy DeKnikker, City of Lakewood

11:30 to 11:55 **Discussion**

11:55 to noon **Wrap-up and Next Steps**

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Jennifer Newcomer

Gary Community Investments and The Piton Foundation/Shift Research Lab
jnewcomer@garycomunity.org

Jennifer is the director of research at Gary Community Investments and The Piton Foundation where she manages the team charged with the coordination, development and analysis of information to support decisions on philanthropic investments. She also directs the Data Initiative, which focuses on providing neighborhood level data and analytic reports to support organizations working to support community change. The focus of her applied work is conducting research on social and built environment issues impacting child well-being. Previous projects include the development of a built environment measure for child well-being; investigating new methodologies for supporting socially responsible investment decision-making tools in real estate applications, and supporting and managing the development of community information tools such as the Denver Regional Equity Atlas and a regional community facts tool, both of which are powered by Piton's open data platform, the Colorado Data Engine (codataengine.org).

Dace West

Mile High Connects
dwest@denverfoundation.org

Dace West is executive director of Mile High Connects, a broad-based collaborative organization working to ensure that the Metro Denver regional transit system fosters communities that offer all residents the opportunity for a high quality of life. Dace provides leadership and partner support around the organization's research, policy advocacy, organizing, grant-making and integration efforts. Prior to her work at Mile High Connects, Dace served as director of the Denver Office of Strategic Partnerships, an office created by Denver's mayor in 2004 to serve as a liaison between the city and its nonprofit sector. While there, Dace was instrumental in creating the Denver Transit Oriented Development Fund, an acquisition fund to preserve affordable housing near transit; coordinated more than $10 million of direct investments while leveraging an additional $50 million for energy efficiency upgrades for affordable housing and commercial facilities; and managed multiple large-scale collaborative efforts. Throughout her career, Dace has brought high-level expertise in pulling together diverse partners across a variety of issues to work toward common, comprehensive goals and create real change for stronger communities.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Beth Truby

Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
btruby@chfainfo.com

Beth Truby is the preservation program manager at the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) and has 30 years of experience in affordable housing and community development. At CHFA, Beth focuses on preserving existing affordable housing units statewide. Prior to joining CHFA, Beth worked for Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver and the City and County of Denver Office of Economic Development where she managed more than $100 million in affordable housing, economic and community development projects and led multiple strategic planning initiatives, including authoring the city's first housing plan. Beth earned a master's in urban planning from the University of Colorado and is on the board of the Colorado Community Land Trust.

Shelley McKittrick

City of Aurora
smckitr@auroragov.org

Shelley McKittrick serves as the City of Aurora's first homeless program director. She leads efforts to develop the city's comprehensive approach to homelessness, including collaboration among the city's departments, other government agencies and local nonprofit organizations. Prior to joining the City of Aurora, Shelley was director of programs for the Homeless Services Center in Santa Cruz County, California.

Amy DeKnikker

City of Lakewood
amydek@lakewood.org

Amy DeKnikker is a principal planner and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program manager for the City of Lakewood. She is responsible for all aspects of the planning, management and oversight of the CDBG program. She works extensively with nonprofits, government agencies, affordable housing developers and regional groups tackling issues that affect disadvantaged populations. She currently chairs the Jefferson County Heading Home supportive housing subcommittee and serves as staff to the West Line Corridor Collaborative. Amy holds a bachelor's degree in planning, public policy and management from the University of Oregon, as well as a Colorado real estate broker license.