Board update

Board meeting: Dec. 20, 2023

Action items

Discuss draft 2023 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues

Presenter: Rich Mauro, director of legislative affairs

Background: Each year, the Board adopts policy statements on a range of specific state and federal legislative issues. The policy statements provide the DRCOG Board, staff and lobbyists with policy direction on legislative issues during the coming year.

Result: The Board approved an amended version of the 2024 Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues.

Discuss Transportation Improvement Program fiscal year 2023 project delays

Presenter: Brad Williams, programming and project delivery, planner, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: As of September 2023, 35 Transportation Improvement Plan funded projects had phases delayed in fiscal year 2023.

The DRCOG Board has the authority and discretion to direct penalties or action related to twice-delayed projects. Penalties or action can range from establishing a deadline to initiate the phase, canceling the phase and returning the funds to DRCOG for reprogramming or reprogramming the funds to a future year.

DRCOG staff recommended the Board allow the projects to continue while establishing new deadlines for upcoming phases.

Result: The Board approved continuing the delayed projects with new deadlines to initiate the project phases.

Discuss Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan

Presenter: Kalie Fallon, planner, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: The fiscal year 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program includes developing a regional transportation demand management strategic plan as part of an ongoing effort to support transportation demand management and mobility services in the Denver region. The latest transportation demand management plan, developed more than a decade ago, resulted in a short-range plan. To develop the new draft plan, UrbanTrans led the project team in collaborating with a stakeholder steering committee made up of government staff, regional transportation partners and transportation management associations.

Staff presented the final Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan and Toolkit, along with an overview of public comments received during October.

Result: The Board adopted the Regional Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan.
Informational briefings

**Update on the Taking Action on Regional Vision Zero plan**

Presenter: Emily Kleinfelter, planner, Transportation Planning and Operations

**Summary:** In June 2020, the Board adopted the "Taking Action on Regional Vision Zero" plan to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and injuries on regional roadways. The plan, developed in collaboration with stakeholders through the Regional Vision Zero Working Group, includes action initiatives, an implementation timeline and measures to track progress. DRCOG staff are updating the plan holistically, incorporating emerging best practices and ensuring compliance with state accessibility requirements.

The Regional Vision Zero Working Group, active since February 2023, identified regional priorities during a workshop on Oct. 30, 2023. Staff then drafted an updated Vision Zero implementation plan with measurable goals and timelines. Notable achievements since 2020 include a Complete Streets Toolkit, prioritization analysis, and a story map data tool. The updated plan is currently undergoing a 30-day public comment period and is expected for DRCOG Board consideration in the first quarter of 2024.

**Review of the special session and preview of the 2024 legislative session**

Summary: Rich Mauro, director of legislative affairs

**Overview:** DRCOG staff and contract lobbyists Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell of Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs provided a review of the recently completed special session and a preview of the 2024 state legislative session scheduled to commence on Jan. 10, 2024.