

Denver Region Sustainable Communities Initiative



DRCOG

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

We make life better!

SCI

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Group Conversation

www.drcog.org

Question 1: Current Challenges

- What challenges is your community, agency, or organization facing due to changing demographics?
- What public policy or planning actions are you taking (or could you take in the future) to address these challenges?

Question 1

- Pick top challenge and write it on notecard
- Under that challenge, write two actions the group is taking (or could take) to address it
- Repeat for more challenges if you have time!

Question 1: Challenges and Actions

- ◆ **Serving growing senior population**
 - ◆ Actions: Creating collaborative services
- ◆ **Disconnect between make up of community and elected officials**
 - ◆ Action: Encourage voting, create a pipeline of leaders
- ◆ **Demand for water, other infrastructure**
 - ◆ Action: Comprehensive Master Plans,
 - ◆ Action: Revised zoning
 - ◆ Action: Strengthening suburban cores and community bond
- ◆ **Outreach to Spanish speakers**
 - ◆ Action: Provide translation
- ◆ **Clashes between young and other age groups, particularly around housing**
 - ◆ Actions: ?
- ◆ **Gentrification and Affordable Housing (Five Points)**
 - ◆ Actions: Start to provide smaller, more affordable units
 - ◆ Action: Change community perceptions of multi-family
- ◆ **Transportation**
 - ◆ Action: Increasing TOD, allow higher density, mixed-use
 - ◆ Action: Encourage leaders to give “competitive edge” to affordable housing near transit
 - ◆ Action: More bicycle facilities

Question 2: Collaboration

- What collaborative next steps can/should agencies and organizations in the region take to take advantage of opportunities and address the challenges related to the demographic shifts discussed today?

Question 2

- Pick a collaborative action and write it on a white notecard
- Under that action, write one to two short- to mid-term next steps to accomplish action
- Repeat for more actions if you have time!

Question 2: Collaboration

- ◆ **Encourage thinking of housing + transportation costs**
 - ◆ (E.g., people think suburbs are cheaper)
- ◆ **Think big picture about housing and education links**
 - ◆ (e.g., have housing, but insufficient quality education where it is)
- ◆ **Use examples to address gentrification**
 - ◆ (e.g., single-family rehab grants to keep low income residents in their neighborhoods)
- ◆ **All sectors to the table:**
 - ◆ Create relationships between businesses, leaders, service users
 - ◆ Link land use, water, energy - toward community and individual self sufficiency
 - ◆ Use technology to foster conversation
- ◆ **Public private partnerships**
- ◆ **Regional communication strategy for elected officials**
- ◆ **Better application of case studies and data when planning**
 - ◆ (e.g., mixed use, bike/ped, TOD)
- ◆ **Focus on outcomes**
- ◆ **Government collaboration**
 - ◆ Revenue sharing
 - ◆ More flexible funding streams (Federal, etc.)
 - ◆ Interagency collaboration on housing and service provision
- ◆ **Optimize regional transportation**
 - ◆ Investment leads to truly multi-modal system (more bike, ped, etc.)

Sustainable Communities Initiative



DRCOG

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

We make life better!

SCI

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS