

# BOARD UPDATE



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## **BOARD RECEIVES BRIEFING ON RTD ACTION RELATED TO MOBILITY CHOICE BLUEPRINT**

Doug Rex, director of transportation planning and operations for DRCOG, briefed the Board on the Regional Transportation District's decision to not participate in the Mobility Choice Blueprint. Bill Van Meter, who represents RTD on the DRCOG Board as a non-voting appointee, provided additional information regarding RTD's decision, including factors such as funding and public-sector representation. At its August meeting, DRCOG had committed to participate in the Mobility Choice Blueprint study by providing \$500,000 in funding, contingent on a governance structure and scope of study that is mutually acceptable to RTD, the Colorado Department of Transportation and DRCOG. Staff plans to meet with Mobility Choice partners and will brief the Board at its October meeting on whether a path forward exists for the study.

## **BOARD APPROVES AMENDMENTS TO GOVERNING DOCUMENTS**

Following a recommendation from its Performance and Engagement Committee, the Board approved amendments to the DRCOG Articles of Association and Committee Policy, Guidelines and Descriptions. Among the changes to the Articles of Association are that the Board chair serves as an ex officio voting member of the Performance and Engagement Committee, and a transfer of the responsibility of executing the employment contract for the DRCOG executive director from the Finance and Budget to the Performance and Engagement Committee. Changes to the Committee Policy, Guidelines and Descriptions include changes for consistency and style. Other changes were to move responsibility for selecting members and alternates for the Regional Transportation Committee from the Metro Vision Issues Committee (which was transitioned to a work session by previous Board action) to the Board. A change related to the Transportation Advisory Committee allows representatives from the Colorado Department of Transportation and Regional Transportation District to send designees in their place.

## **BOARD APPROVES AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY REDETERMINATION**

Following a public hearing and the conclusion of a public comment period at its previous meeting, the Board unanimously approved the redetermination of air quality conformity for the 2015 Cycle 2 2040 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan, and Amended 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), along with the 2015 Cycle 2 Denver Southern Subarea 8-hour Ozone Conformity Redetermination and the 2015 Cycle 2 DRCOG CO and

PM10 Conformity Redetermination, concurrently. The redetermination was prompted by a coding error in the DRCOG travel model, which staff corrected and re-ran, revealing insignificant changes in emissions results compared to the previous conformity analysis. Staff received no public comments.

## **BOARD DIRECTS RELEASE OF METRO VISION DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board directed DRCOG staff to release for public review and comment a draft version of the Metro Vision plan for the region, updated to include all Board-approved components plus narrative elements for readability and historical context. As a result of approval of the release, later in the meeting Chair Elise Jones set a public hearing for the plan for 6:30 p.m., Nov. 16. In the meantime, DRCOG staff will distribute the draft and invite comment. The public hearing will close the comment period, after which DRCOG staff will bring a report including comments and staff responses to the Board prior to action related to approval of the plan, as early as December.

## **BOARD APPROVES AMENDMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS WAITING LIST**

Following unanimous approval by the Regional Transportation Committee, the Board unanimously approved amendments to the 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program and adjustments to its waiting list (Table 5). The approved amendments include corridor improvements along U.S. 85 in Adams County by CDOT Region 1; bicycle and pedestrian access to three FasTracks Stations in Thornton; intersection improvements in Castle Rock; Colfax Route 15L transit improvements by the Regional Transportation District; a multi-use trail in Superior; a National Environmental Policy Act study along 88th Avenue in Commerce City; an operations study in southwest Longmont; and operational improvements along U.S. 85 in Douglas County. Additional amendments include a bridge and trail south of 19th Street in Boulder connecting to the University of Colorado campus; a bicycle and pedestrian underpass under State Highway 157/Foothills Parkway in Boulder; and South Platte Greenway access sidewalk improvements in Denver.

The waiting list was adjusted to reflect removal of partially and fully funded projects and renumbering of remaining projects.

## **DIRECTORS DISCUSS BOARD WORKSHOP**

Doug Rex, director of transportation planning and operations, led a Board discussion of the Aug. 5-6 Board workshop, which 27 directors attended. Conversation included when to hold the workshop next year, how to encourage participation and feedback regarding workshop content.