

Regional Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 17, 2025

Agenda Item #: 6 (Attachment D)

Community Based Transportation Planning Program Update

Agenda item type: Discussion

Summary

Update on the 2024-2027 Community-based Transportation Planning Set Aside program.

Background

The Community-based Transportation Planning set-aside is a Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)-led planning program in the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The goal of this program is for DRCOG to assist member governments in improving transportation for low-income and marginalized communities in the DRCOG region. \$2,500,000 is available for the full four-year set-aside program, with \$1.25 million expected to be allocated each two-year cycle.

DRCOG staff have recently completed the second of two pilot projects that preceded the formalization of this program as a TIP set-aside, the North Federal Community Transportation Plan and the Edgewater School Transportation Plan.

The [North Federal Community Transportation Plan](#) was a small-area plan with the goal of identifying a preferred mobility solution for residents who are unable to or have difficulty accessing essential services in southwest Adams County due to transportation barriers. The study was a partnership between Adams County, Westminster, Growing Home, and DRCOG. The ultimate recommendation included a microtransit zone.

The [Edgewater School Transportation Plan](#) finished last year and focused on improving safety and traffic around two elementary schools in the City of Edgewater after the closure of nearby Molholm Elementary School impacted the number of students travelling into Edgewater to attend school.

2024-2025 Projects

In spring 2024 the DRCOG board approved five new projects for the Community-Based Transportation Plan. All five have recently kicked off or are about to kick off. These projects include: a [92nd Corridor Study](#) in Federal Heights, the [303 Artway and Montbello Loop Implementation Plan](#) in Denver, a [Brighton Core City Circulation Plan](#), a [Pecos Corridor Study](#), and a Commerce City Microtransit Plan. Lessons learned in the pilot of this program will be invaluable as staff work with partner agencies on these five new projects.



Next Call for Projects

The next Call for Projects for the Community-based Transportation Planning program will be in fall 2025 and be combined with the Livable Centers and Innovative Mobility call for projects.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

[March 19, 2024](#) – Community-Based Transportation Planning Program Selection Recommendations

Recommendation

None

Attachment

Staff presentation

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Nora Kern, Subarea and project planning program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations, 303-480-5622 or nkern@drcog.org.





Community Based Transportation Planning Program Update

DRCOG Regional Transportation Committee, June 17, 2025

Community-based transportation planning

- **Goal:** improve mobility options for low-income and marginalized communities in DRCOG region.
- **Project elements:**
 - Extensive community engagement.
 - Center low-income or historically marginalized communities.
 - Implementation orientated.





Program Structure

- Two pilot projects 2022-2023.
- \$2.5 Million in 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.
- Projects nominated by local or regional agencies.
- Projects, funds, and procurement managed by DRCOG.
- Focus on community-engagement.



Pilot Projects



Edgewater School Transportation Plan

- Safety and traffic plan for Edgewater Elementary and Lumberg Elementary.
- Increased school trips after closure of nearby Molholm Elementary.
- Study concluded in 2024.
- Recommendations included safe routes to schools, infrastructure safety improvements, one-way conversion at Lumberg.

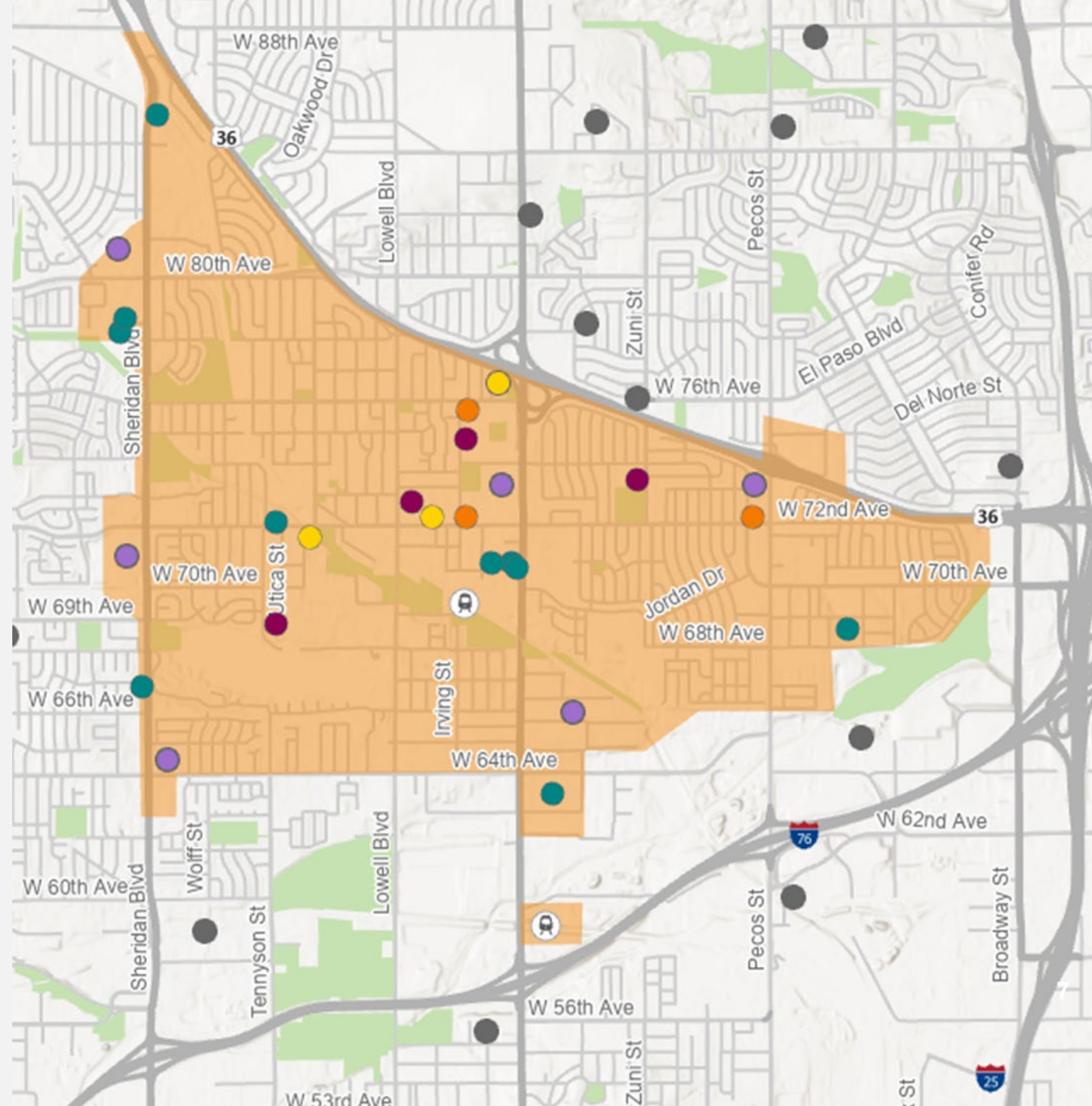


North Federal Community Transportation Plan

- **Partners:** Adams County, Westminster, Growing Home, Fehr and Peers.
- **Goal:** Identify transportation solution for low income and underserved residents in southwest Adams County.
- **Origin:** Food and pharmacy desert due to closure of Walmart.

Recommendation

- **Lead Agency:** Adams County.
- **Model:** Zone Based Microtransit.
- **Types of Vehicles:**
 - SUV or Van.
 - 1-2 ADA Accessible Vehicles.
- **Span of Service:**
 - 6am-8pm.
 - 7 days/week.
- **Ride Request Options:**
 - Mobile App.
 - Call-in Option.
 - English and Spanish.





2024-2027 Projects

2024-2025 Set Aside Projects

- 92nd Corridor Study in Federal Heights.
- 303 Artway and Montbello Loop Implementation Plan in Denver.
- Brighton Core City Circulation Plan.
- Pecos Corridor Study.
- Commerce City Microtransit Plan (starting soon!).

Common Challenges



- Focus on marginalized communities limits effectiveness of traditional engagement.



- Funding for implementing recommendations is a challenge.



- Strong desire for shorter term solutions, in addition to long term recommendations



- Most transportation challenges cross jurisdictional boundaries and require regional collaboration.

Common Opportunities



- Non-profit partnerships.
- Engaging people in community.
- Incentives, child-friendly events, food and other accommodations.
- Engaging non-traditional community partners.
- Pop-up infrastructure and quick wins.



Next call for projects

- October 2025 Call for Projects
 - Due by mid-November.
 - February 2026 DRCOG Board approval.
- Likely combined call with Livable Centers and Innovative Mobility.



Questions?

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