

Board Work Session Summary

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Meeting held via Zoom

Members/Alternates Present

Richard Kondo, Chair	City of Northglenn
Julie Duran Mullica	Adams County
Claire Levy	Boulder County
Rebecca Lloyd	Clear Creek County
Kevin Flynn	City and County of Denver
Susan Berumen	Gilpin County
Andy Kerr	Jefferson County
Sharon Davis	City of Arvada
Nicole Speer	City of Boulder
Greg Mills	City of Brighton
Tim Dietz	Town of Castle Rock
Christine Sweetland	City of Centennial
Robert Eber	City of Cherry Hills
Charles Dukes	City of Commerce City
Craig Kim	City of Commerce City
Steve Conklin	City of Edgewater
Emily Baer	Town of Erie
Chuck Harmon	Town of Idaho Springs
Saul Tapia Vega	City of Lafayette
Robert Reichardt	City of Littleton
Marissa Harmon	City on Lone Tree
Judi Kern	City of Louisville
Colleen Whitlow	Town of Mead
Kathleen Bailey	Town of Mountain View
Justin Martinez	City of Thornton
Sarah Nurmela	City of Westminster
Rachel Hultin	City of Wheat Ridge

Others Present: Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, Melinda Stevens, Executive Assistant, DRCOG; Michele Riccio, Katie Keefe, Adams County; and DRCOG staff.

Chair Kondo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Randall Loeb urged Board members to take responsibility for protecting their communities. He warned that without leadership and protection of voting rights in 2026, vulnerable residents risk losing their safety and voice.

Jurisdictional Support Subaward Round Two Policy

Greg Miao provided an overview of the policy to the members. The Round 2 Jurisdictional Subaward Program is being introduced as a discussion item now, with the goal of bringing it back for board action later this month. This program builds on the success of Round 1, which distributed \$26.25 million (about 75% of available funds) to 27 jurisdictions, reaching about 85% of the DRCOG region's population. The funding primarily supports staffing, technical assistance, training, system upgrades, and community engagement to help local governments adopt and implement building decarbonization policies. Round 1 results showed strong alignment with program goals, including widespread interest in reducing emissions from both

new and existing buildings, and demonstrated that jurisdictions effectively used funds to expand capacity and advance policy work.

For Round 2, approximately \$8.55 million remains, and the program is being refined based on jurisdictional feedback. A key shift is the addition of regional “set-aside” investments to provide shared services such as enhanced policy coordination, utility engagement support, and development of tools like home energy scoring for residential buildings. The remaining funds will be distributed through a competitive process that maintains prior eligible uses while introducing new ones to encourage innovation, broader participation, and more impactful projects. These include support for demonstration projects, permitting reforms, affordability considerations, and resiliency planning. The program also introduces adjusted funding tiers to better meet the needs of smaller jurisdictions and expand participation, with the goal of maximizing regional impact, equity, and scalability of building decarbonization efforts.

Power Ahead Colorado Incentives Policy

Mac Prather provided an overview of this policy to the Directors. This policy will be launching a \$40 million regional incentive program focused on accelerating adoption of heat pump technologies for building heating, cooling, and hot water. Working with program administrator Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), staff have been developing the program since late last year, and are now finalizing the detailed design, processes, and operational structure. The policy being discussed establishes the guardrails for implementation while allowing flexibility to adapt to Colorado’s complex and uneven incentive landscape, where available rebates and programs vary widely by utility territory. A key goal is to simplify and stabilize incentives to build trust with contractors, encourage participation, and stimulate market demand, while ensuring high-quality installations and supporting broader market transformation.

The program will offer incentives through multiple channels (including direct rebates to property owners, midstream incentives to distributors, and custom incentives for larger projects) targeting residential, multifamily, and commercial buildings. Initial incentives will focus on cold-climate air source heat pumps and heat pump water heaters, with combined equipment and contractor incentives generally ranging from a few hundred to several thousand dollars per unit. The policy allows staff to adjust incentives within set ranges, with oversight, notification, and reporting requirements to maintain transparency and responsiveness. Ongoing monitoring will track financial performance, geographic distribution, and participation, with tools such as targeted outreach, bonus incentives, or caps available to address inequities in uptake. The program is on track for board consideration in March, with internal readiness by April 1 and a public rollout shortly thereafter.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.