

# Board update

Board meeting: April 15, 2026

## Action items



### [Metropolitan planning organization boundary expansion](#)

**Presenter:** Jacob Riger, Transportation Planning and Operations director

**Background:** As part of the federally mandated metropolitan planning organization boundary review process, Denver Regional Council of Governments staff have been meeting with staff and elected officials in Clear Creek and Gilpin counties to discuss joining the MPO. Both counties are already located within DRCOG's transportation planning region, and both are members of DRCOG and part of the Area Agency on Aging and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy service areas.

After securing Board approval for the expansion, staff will submit a letter and required documentation to the Colorado Department of Transportation for review and delivery to the governor, who makes the final determination. Staff will then update the [Memorandum of Agreement for Transportation Planning and Programming](#) and begin incorporating the revised MPO boundary into the agency's maps, documents and planning processes.

**Result:** The Board approved the expansion of the MPO boundary to include Clear Creek and Gilpin counties.



### [Power Ahead Colorado Innovation Pilot Program policy](#)

**Presenter:** Mac Prather, program manager, Power Ahead Colorado

Ahead Colorado

**Background:** Power Ahead Colorado's [Innovation Pilot Program](#) will award \$4 million to fund targeted, community-driven projects that test new approaches to building electrification. The program will prioritize projects that can generate practical insights and have the potential to be applied across the region. Projects should address one of four ways to eliminate barriers to electrification:

- Making electrification easier to deliver.
- Demand flexibility and technical performance.
- Coordinated deployment and planning strategies.

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- Expanding access, health and trusted delivery.

The [proposed program policy](#) outlines key elements, including eligibility requirements, allowable project types, award structure, and the application and evaluation process.

There will be three rounds of funding for the program; for the first round, Power Ahead Colorado staff expect the average award to be around \$200,000, with a maximum of \$350,000 per project. Program contractor VEIC will score all applications, and a selection panel composed of DRCOG staff and regional stakeholders will select the final awardees. The proposed scoring rubric places the greatest emphasis on feasibility and budget, alongside innovation, scalability and equitable market transformation. Staff estimate that projects funded during the first round will launch in fall 2026 and run for approximately 12 to 16 months.

The Innovation Pilot Program policy was previously approved by the Power Ahead Colorado Technical and Oversight committees.

**Result:** The Board approved the Power Ahead Colorado Innovation Pilot Program policy.



[\*Discussion of state legislative issues: new bills for consideration and action\*](#)

**Presenters:** Rich Mauro, director of legislative affairs; Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell, partners, Bowditch & Cassell Public Affairs

**Background:** The 2026 Colorado General Assembly convened on January 14. Throughout the legislative session, DRCOG staff and lobbyists compile bills of interest with comments and recommended positions for Board consideration. Mauro offers opportunities for the Board to take new positions on bills and provide feedback on established positions.

**Result:** The Board took positions on the following bills:

Senate Bill 26-150 | Modernizing Regional Transportation District

**Position:** Amend

Current status: House Transportation, Housing and Local Government

**Bills on which the Board previously took positions:**

House Bill 26-1065 | Transit and Housing Investment Zones

**Position:** Support with amendments

Current status: House Appropriations

House Bill 26-1102 | Funding for Colorado DRIVES Account

**Position:** Oppose

Current status: Senate Appropriations

House Bill 26-1237 | Transportation Safety Modifications

**Position:** Support

Current status: Passed both chambers

House Bill 26-1399 | Eliminate General Fund Transfer to Multimodal Transportation Fund

**Position:** Oppose

Current status: Conference Committee

House Bill 26-1398 | Retail Delivery Fee Revenue Allocation

**Position:** Amend

Current status: Passed both chambers

House Bill 26-1018 | Long-Term Care Services for Nursing Home Residents

**Position:** Support

Current status: House Appropriations

House Bill 26-1107 | Health Care in Regulated Facilities

**Position:** Support

Current status: Passed both chambers

House Bill 26-1001 | Housing Developments on Qualifying Properties

**Position:** Oppose

Current status: Governor signed

Senate Bill 26-001 | Workforce Housing and Housing Tax Credit

**Position:** No position

Current status: Governor signed

