Coordination with State Agencies

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Background

This document is meant to serve as a record of coordination between the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) and various state agencies, including the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Air Pollution Control Division (APCD). This coordination is regarding greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) compliance for the update to the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Timeline

- **October 2025**: APCD provides DRCOG with the initial GHG database.
- **October 2025**: CDOT provides DRCOG with the updated GHG analysis area boundary.
- **December 2025**: DRCOG modeling team provides CDOT with some feedback regarding the updated GHG analysis area boundary.
- **February 2026**: APCD provides DRCOG with the revised GHG database.
- **March through May 2026**: DRCOG modeling team tests models with the revised GHG database.
- **May 2026**: DRCOG modeling team runs all scenarios for GHG compliance.
- **June 2, 2026**: DRCOG presents RTP and GHG compliance to CDOT.
- **June 4, 2026**: DRCOG shares modeling results with APCD.
- **June 11, 2026**: APCD completes analysis of results, concurs that DRCOG modeling alone fell short of reduction requirements for 2030 and 2040 benchmarks, and met requirements for 2050.
- **July 8, 2026**: APCD sends DRCOG the finished conformity analysis confirming all years are under budget for GHG emissions.

Attachment

The following memo is provided to reflect action by the Interagency Consultation Team related to electric vehicle shares.

COLORADO
Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation Development

To: Interagency Consultation Team (IACT) & Statewide Modeling Coordination Group (SMCG)
From: Darius Pakbaz, Director, Division of Transportation Development; Erik Sabina, Deputy Director, Division of Transportation Development DRP
Date: July 17, 2025

Subject: IACT May 5th decision on electric vehicle percentage for GHG analysis

At its meeting on May 5th, 2025, the IACT received a presentation from staff concerning assumptions/forecasts of electric vehicle (EV) shares of the Colorado light-duty fleet, to use as inputs to the EPA MOVES air pollutant emissions model. In greenhouse gas (GHG) rule compliance exercises to date, all MOVES runs used a forecast of EV share that was developed by CDOT modeling staff, based on a Colorado Energy Office goal of 940,000 light-duty EVs in Colorado in 2030, and 100% of the light-duty fleet in 2050. For GHG compliance analyses in the future, CDOT leadership felt that IACT should provide guidance on what EV assumptions should be used.

Several projects have been undertaken in the last two years that have required EV forecasts as necessary inputs:

- The Colorado Energy Office's GHG Roadmap 2.0. The light-duty EV forecast in this project exceeded 1M in the year 2030.
- The EV forecast used to this point in GHG compliance analysis (described above).
- CDOT's recent revenue forecast. CDOT's Division of Accounting and Finance (DAF), as part of CDOT's 10-Year Plan development, created a forecast of expected revenue through the year 2050. As part of their revenue forecasting effort, DAF also generated a forecast of light-duty EV fleet growth in Colorado (since revenue from EVs is different from revenue from fossil-fueled vehicles). DAF's forecast estimated 950,000 light-duty EVs in Colorado in 2031, with an estimate of 95% of light-duty vehicles being EVs in 2050.

The IACT discussed these three options, and their effects on GHG emissions estimates, as it considered which should be used in upcoming GHG compliance work by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and CDOT. Ultimately, the IACT unanimously decided to select the CDOT DAF forecast. CDOT and MPO modeling staff will work together to develop the MOVES input files that are consistent with these figures, and use them in future GHG analysis efforts.