

# Board update

## Board meeting: February 19, 2025

### Action items



#### [Election of officers](#)

**Presenter:** Nicole Speer, chair of the Nominating Committee

**Background:** After considering all individuals who indicated an interest in serving as Board officers, the Nominating Committee recommended that the Board elect Colleen Whitlow of Mead as vice chair, Richard Kondo of Northglenn as secretary and Jeslin Shahrezaei of Lakewood as treasurer.

Jeff Baker of Arapahoe County will continue to serve as chair for 2025, and Steve Conklin of Edgewater will continue to serve as immediate past chair.

**Result:** The Board elected Whitlow, Kondo and Shahrezaei to the recommended positions.



#### [Selection of representatives to serve on regional committees](#)

**Presenter:** Douglas W. Rex, executive director

**Background:** The Nominating Committee also solicited interest from Board members to represent the Denver Regional Council of Governments on the Regional Transportation Committee, the Statewide Transportation

Advisory Committee, the E-470 Board of Directors, the Advisory Committee on Aging and the new Economic Development District Advisory Committee. After considering all those who indicated an interest, the Nominating Committee recommended Deborah Mulvey of Castle Pines to serve on the Regional Transportation Committee and E-470 Board of Directors; Ray Byrd of Firestone to serve on the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee; and Justin Martinez of Thornton, Jeslin Shahrezaei of Lakewood and Colleen Whitlow of Mead to serve on the Economic Development District Advisory Committee.

At the meeting, several directors and alternates also expressed their interest in serving on each committee, including Tammy Maurer of Centennial as a member of the Regional Transportation Committee; Austin Ward of Broomfield, Claire Carmelia of Westminster and Steve Conklin of Edgewater as alternates to the Regional Transportation Committee; Julie Duran Mullica of Adams County as an alternate to the E-470 Board of Directors; Ward as an alternate to the State Transportation Advisory Committee; and Alison Coombs of Aurora as a member of the Economic Development District Advisory Committee.

The Nominating Committee received no new statements of interest to serve on the Advisory Committee on Aging, so existing directors on the committee will remain in their positions. However, Kathy Henson of Adams County volunteered from the floor to serve on the committee.

**Result:** The Board approved the individuals selected by the Nominating Committee, as well as those who volunteered from the floor, to serve on the respective committees.

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[Discussion of 2025 federal safety and bridge condition targets](#)

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

**Background:** Federal regulations require state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations to set safety targets every year and infrastructure condition targets every four years and report on progress toward achieving those targets. DRCOG can either use the targets established by the Colorado Department of Transportation or establish its own targets for the metropolitan planning organization area.

As in previous years, staff recommended that DRCOG set its own safety targets to reflect a path toward zero fatalities by 2040, in line with the Board’s commitment to Regional Vision Zero. The proposed 2025 targets include:

- 321 fatalities.
- 1.123 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.
- 2,061 serious injuries.
- 7.195 serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.
- 437 nonmotorized fatalities and serious injuries.

For the infrastructure condition targets, DRCOG staff recommended following CDOT’s four-year targets for the percentage of bridges in the National Highway System in good and poor condition. CDOT is slightly revising its target for the percentage of bridge deck area rated “good,” increasing it from at least 36% to at least 38.5%. The target for bridges in poor condition will remain the same, at 4% or less.

**Result:** The Board approved the recommended 2025 safety targets and revised four-year bridge condition targets.



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

**Presenter:** Rich Mauro, director of legislative affairs

**Background:** The 2025 Colorado General Assembly convened on January 8. DRCOG staff and lobbyists compiled bills of interest with comments and recommended positions (relative to the Board-adopted [Policy Statement on State Legislative Issues](#)) for Board consideration. Throughout the legislative session, 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:

House Bill 25-1156 | Make Senior Home Tax Valuation Reduction Permanent

**Position:** Support  
Current status: House Finance

House Bill 25-1162 | Eligibility Redetermination for Medicaid Members

**Position:** Support  
Current status: House Floor

Senate Bill 25-161 | Transit Reform

**Position:** Amend  
Current status: Senate Transportation and Energy

House Bill 25-1198 | Regional Planning Roundtable Commission

**Position:** Oppose  
Current status: House Transportation, Housing and Local Government

## Bills on which the Board previously took positions:

House Bill 25-1007 | Paratransit Services

**Position:** Amend

Current status: House Floor

House Bill 25-1044 | Local Funding for Vulnerable Road User Protection

**Position:** Support

Current status: Postponed indefinitely

House Bill 25-1046 | Increase Maximum Number of Transportation Planning Regions

**Position:** Oppose

Current status: Postponed indefinitely

Senate Bill 25-030 | Increase Transportation Mode Choice Reduce Emissions

**Position:** Amend

Current status: Senate Transportation and Energy

House Bill 25-1022 | Qualified Medication Administration Personnel

**Position:** Support

Current status: Passed both chambers

Senate Bill 25-013 | Senior Housing Income Tax Credit Extension

**Position:** Support

Current status: Senate Appropriations

## Strategic informational briefing



### [Regional Air Quality Council overview](#)

**Presenter:** Mike Silverstein, executive director, Regional Air Quality Council

**Background:** The Regional Air Quality Council develops air quality plans, recommends emission reduction approaches and implements programs to reduce pollution in the regional ozone non-attainment area, which includes both the Denver region and the northern Front

Range. According to Silverstein, summertime ozone pollution remains the region's primary problem; more than 40 days during the summer of 2024 exceeded the federal ozone health standard.

To address this, the Regional Air Quality Council has several planning, education, outreach and incentive programs in place, including anti-idling programs, micromobility projects, auto maintenance and vehicle repair programs, emission source data tracking, and a lawn and garden equipment electrification incentive.

The organization's next federally required ozone plan is due this summer, and technical assessments and emission reduction evaluations for the plan are currently underway. In particular, staff are examining facilities that serve as indirect sources of pollution — such as distribution centers, airports and higher education campuses — and are devising emission-reducing strategies for those locations.

## Informational briefing



### [Parker Road/State Highway 83 Multimodal Corridor Study update](#)

**Presenters:** Jim Katzer, transportation division manager, Arapahoe County; and Stacy

Tschuor, project manager, David Evans and Associates

**Background:** In late 2022, Arapahoe County, the City of Aurora and the Colorado Department of Transportation initiated a study to find ways to improve mobility and safety along Parker Road between Mississippi and Hampden avenues, with an emphasis on improving travel conditions and safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users. After analyzing existing and forecast travel and land use conditions and needs, the study team recommended 16 potential projects along the corridor, categorizing them as high, medium or low priority. High-priority projects include upgraded pedestrian crossings at Ulster Street, Mexico Drive and Jewell Avenue,

plus more extensive safety and multimodal improvements at Florida Avenue, near Havana Steet and Yale Avenue, and between Cornell Avenue and Peoria Street. Medium-priority projects include upgrading shared use paths, installing bike lanes and making transit improvements.

Currently, the study team is preparing a final report and implementation plan. The final report will set the stage to conduct the next step (likely an alternatives analysis study) to plan for and develop bus rapid transit along the corridor, which is a key segment of the Speer/Leetsdale/Parker Bus Rapid Transit corridor designated in DRCOG's 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan.

