

Board update

Board meeting: July 16, 2025



Action items



Discussion of fiscal year 2024 Transportation Improvement Program second-year delays

Presenter: Brad Williams,
planner, Transportation

Planning and Operations

Background: At its December 2024 meeting, the Board approved the continuation of 22 Transportation Improvement Program-funded projects that were delayed in federal fiscal year 2024. Of the 22 projects, DRCOG staff have identified six that will be delayed for a second year. Williams provided details on the delayed projects, including which project phase was delayed, the reason for the delay, the project's current status and the jurisdiction's plans for moving forward.

Per the Transportation Improvement Program policy, if DRCOG staff determine that the delays are outside of the project sponsor's control, the Board must decide whether to approve continuation of the delayed projects under new deadlines or request that the funding be returned to DRCOG for reprogramming.

Result: The Board approved the six delayed projects to continue within the deadlines proposed by DRCOG staff.

Informational briefings



Small-area forecast update

Presenter: Zachary Feldman,
program manager, Regional
Planning and Development

Background: In January, Denver Regional Council of Governments staff completed an update to the small-area forecast, which informs both DRCOG's Regional Housing Needs Assessment and travel demand model. The forecast predicts growth across 51,000 census blocks throughout the region. DRCOG staff prepare the forecast using the UrbanSim land-use model to simulate annual changes in households, jobs and real estate markets.

Earlier this year, local jurisdictions and agencies had multiple opportunities to share their perspectives on the preliminary forecast and provide feedback to help staff refine model inputs such as zoning constraints and scheduled developments. Twelve jurisdictions provided 105 comments, which led to capacity changes to 2,829 census blocks and the addition of 169 scheduled developments that represent more than 7,000 housing units. DRCOG staff have published an [updated webmap](#) that reflects the revised small-area forecast.

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Active Transportation Plan update

Presenter: Aaron Villere, senior planner, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: In May 2024, DRCOG staff began a major update to the regional Active Transportation Plan in consultation with local government staff and partners. The update revises the regional active transportation network established in the 2019 version of the plan and addresses needs and innovations that have emerged over the past five years. New plan sections will include a sidewalk delivery guide to give local governments guidance on completing the region's pedestrian network, as well as advice on how to accommodate growing e-bike and micromobility vehicle ridership.

DRCOG staff plan to release a draft of the updated Active Transportation Plan for public comment by the end of July. The draft plan will be open for public and stakeholder comment for 30 days, and DRCOG staff will solicit feedback through multiple channels, including [the project website](#), in-person events, and meetings with stakeholders and community advisors. Staff will revise the plan based on public feedback and submit it for committee and Board consideration this fall.



Annual FasTracks report

Presenter: Susan Wood, environmental project manager, Regional Transportation District

Background: A 2013 Board resolution requires the Regional Transportation District to present an annual status report on FasTracks to the DRCOG Board. To date, 10 FasTracks projects have been completed, and four remain unfinished: the North Metro Rail Line from 124th to 162nd Avenue, the Southwest Rail and L Line extensions, and Phase 2 of the Northwest Rail Line.

Recent legislation (Senate Bill 24-230 and Senate Bill 25-161) requires RTD to report on its plans to complete unfinished FasTracks projects, identifying the North Metro Rail line and Phase 2 of the Northwest Rail Line as priorities. RTD staff are currently preparing the Finishing FasTracks report and expect to submit it to the state by December 1.

RTD staff completed the Northwest Rail Peak Service study in 2024 and continue to work with the Front Range Passenger Rail District to explore ways to combine efforts to deliver rail service between Denver and Longmont.

