

Board update

Board meeting: November 5, 2025

Action items



[Discussion of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan](#)

Presenter: Robert Spotts, program manager, Power Ahead Colorado

Background: In August 2023, the Denver Regional Council of Governments received a \$1 million planning grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop a Priority Climate Action Plan and a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan for the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Metropolitan Statistical Area. DRCOG staff submitted the Priority Climate Action Plan to the Environmental Protection Agency in April 2024 after securing Board approval; the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan is due to the agency on December 1.

The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, a draft of which was presented to the Board at the October 1 work session, includes a climate pollution emissions inventory, reduction targets, a workforce planning analysis, an overview of public and stakeholder feedback, and 12 interconnected climate pollution reduction measures that local governments can implement.

DRCOG staff worked with the public, a stakeholder steering committee, an equity subcommittee, a waste working group and project consultants to identify climate pollution reduction measures for the transportation, building and waste sectors. DRCOG's Power Ahead Colorado program expects to implement the four building measures, and several of the transportation measures intersect with ongoing DRCOG-led initiatives such as the Regional Bus Rapid Transit Network and transportation demand management.

Result: The Board approved the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan for submission to the Environmental Protection Agency by December 1.



[Continued discussion of programming year adjustments to the Transportation Improvement Program](#)

Presenter: Todd Cottrell, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations

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Background: The Board revisited the staff proposal (last presented at the October 15 Board meeting) to make two one-time adjustments to the Transportation Improvement Program process to prevent overlap with the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan update.

The first adjustment shifts the 2028-2031 Transportation Improvement Program to 2029-2032, which would allow the updated Regional Transportation Plan to be adopted before the next call for projects. After the one-time shift, the Transportation Improvement Program would return to its regular schedule of updates every two years and calls for projects every four years. The second adjustment reallocates funding for federal fiscal year 2028 to cover the gap left by the schedule change.

Result: The Board approved the two one-time adjustments to the Transportation Improvement Program process.

Informational briefings



[Update on 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan candidate project submittals and public engagement](#)

Presenter: Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, program manager, Transportation Planning and Operations

Background: The call for projects for the 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan

update closed on October 17. DRCOG staff received 133 project submissions, including 109 through county transportation forums, 14 through the Colorado Department of Transportation, eight from DRCOG and two from the Regional Transportation District. (Projects from the current Regional Transportation Plan that have funding for, or are in the process of, a National Environmental Policy Act review or construction are automatically carried over into the updated plan.)

DRCOG staff scored the submitted projects against the six adopted Regional Transportation Plan priorities: multimodal mobility, freight, active transportation, safety, air quality and regional transit. Staff will submit the project scores to a Regional Review Panel composed of DRCOG, CDOT and RTD staff, as well as a representative from each county transportation forum. DRCOG staff will also provide the review panel with information on congestion mobility scores, an Equity Index analysis, county forum prioritization and public feedback.

Following the Regional Review Panel meetings, CDOT, RTD and DRCOG staff will review the outcomes, along with the draft financial plan, to develop draft program and project investment priorities. The draft priorities will go to the Transportation Advisory Committee, the Regional Transportation Committee and the Board for consideration in December and January before they are finalized.

DRCOG staff have been conducting public engagement throughout the plan update, collecting 320 survey responses, connecting with nearly 1,500 people at local events and

convening meetings of the Civic Advisory Group and Youth Advisory Panel.

The engagement efforts revealed that people prefer improving transit (30%), expanding active transportation (21%) and maintenance (20%) over adding new lanes (13%) and new roads (8%). Fifty-four percent of residents surveyed ranked expanding transit as a high priority, and 58% put a high priority on increasing the frequency of transit. Active transportation was consistently a top-three priority highlighted at engagement events.



State requirements for regional housing plans

Presenter: Sheila Lynch,
Regional Planning and
Development director

Background: The [Sustainable Affordable Housing Assistance Act](#) (formerly known as Senate Bill 24-174), in addition to requiring local jurisdictions to create a housing needs assessment, requires county, municipal and regional plans (such as Metro Vision) to be amended by the end of 2026 to address water supply and strategic growth. The law also requires local governments with a population of at least 5,000 to develop a housing action plan by January 1, 2028.

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs has established a Housing Planning Grant Program to help organizations complete the law's requirements. DRCOG staff plan to seek grant funding to support the addition of the required

water supply and strategic growth elements to Metro Vision, as well as to provide technical assistance to local governments in developing housing action plans. The funding would enhance DRCOG's Regional Housing Strategy efforts and support member governments in meeting state requirements.

