



2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program

Regional Transportation Committee: August 19, 2025

What is the UPWP?

Required document that sets the priorities and work tasks DRCOG and its partners will engage in over the next two-year period. It's important for:

- Compliance – how federal transportation planning funds are spent.
- Transparency – what DRCOG staff is working on.
- Coordination – lining up our efforts with CDOT, RTD and locals.





UPWP pre-development

- Federal direction.
 - Existing or new laws, regulations, directives, planning factors, etc.
 - Quadrennial Certification.
- State direction.
 - Legislation.
 - Coordination with CDOT and other state agencies.
- Local direction.
 - Staff, committee and partner feedback.

Pre-development: funding

- FHWA and FTA federal planning funds are used as the primary funding for UPWPs.
- **Carryover balance** (previous unused funds) is going down per state directive – results in less reserves to fall back on.
- **Impacts?**
 - Funding projected to be **slightly lower** than the last two years.
 - No reduction in staff capacity, but more reliance on in-house efforts.
 - Potential to incorporate **other funding sources** into the mix in the future.

2026-2027 UPWP development overview

- Gathered internal and external feedback (next slides).
- Internal review of current tasks and proposals for adjustments.
- New ideas based on feedback.
- All changes reviewed for readiness, priorities and resource availability.
- Results incorporated into the document.
- Public comment and partner review.
- Final draft for consideration.



What we heard

Key priorities which emerged in feedback, and which align with our federal and state directives include:

- Air quality and resilience.
- Housing and land use.
- Safety.
- Transit.
- Funding.





Air quality and resilience

- Finalize Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.
- Regional Transportation Plan update.
 - Air quality conformity.
 - Environmental analysis.
 - Greenhouse gas analysis.
- Continued planning activities centered around active transportation, TDM, Complete Streets, and transit.

Housing and land use

- Complete the Regional Housing Strategy.
- Update to Metro Vision.





Safety

- Updated High Injury Network and regional crash profiles.
- Vision Zero Operational Toolkit.
- White papers on improved crash reporting.
- Conduct analysis of active transportation network gaps.

Transit

- Bus rapid transit planning.
- Create trip exchange hub.
- Explore regionwide microtransit systems coordination.





Funding

- Explore cost of service analysis.
- TIP and set-aside calls for projects.



Proposed motion

- Move to recommend to the Board of Directors the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program.



Thank you! Any questions?

Josh Schwenk
Senior Planner,
jschwenk@drcog.org

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