



Denver Regional Council of Governments

Presented by:

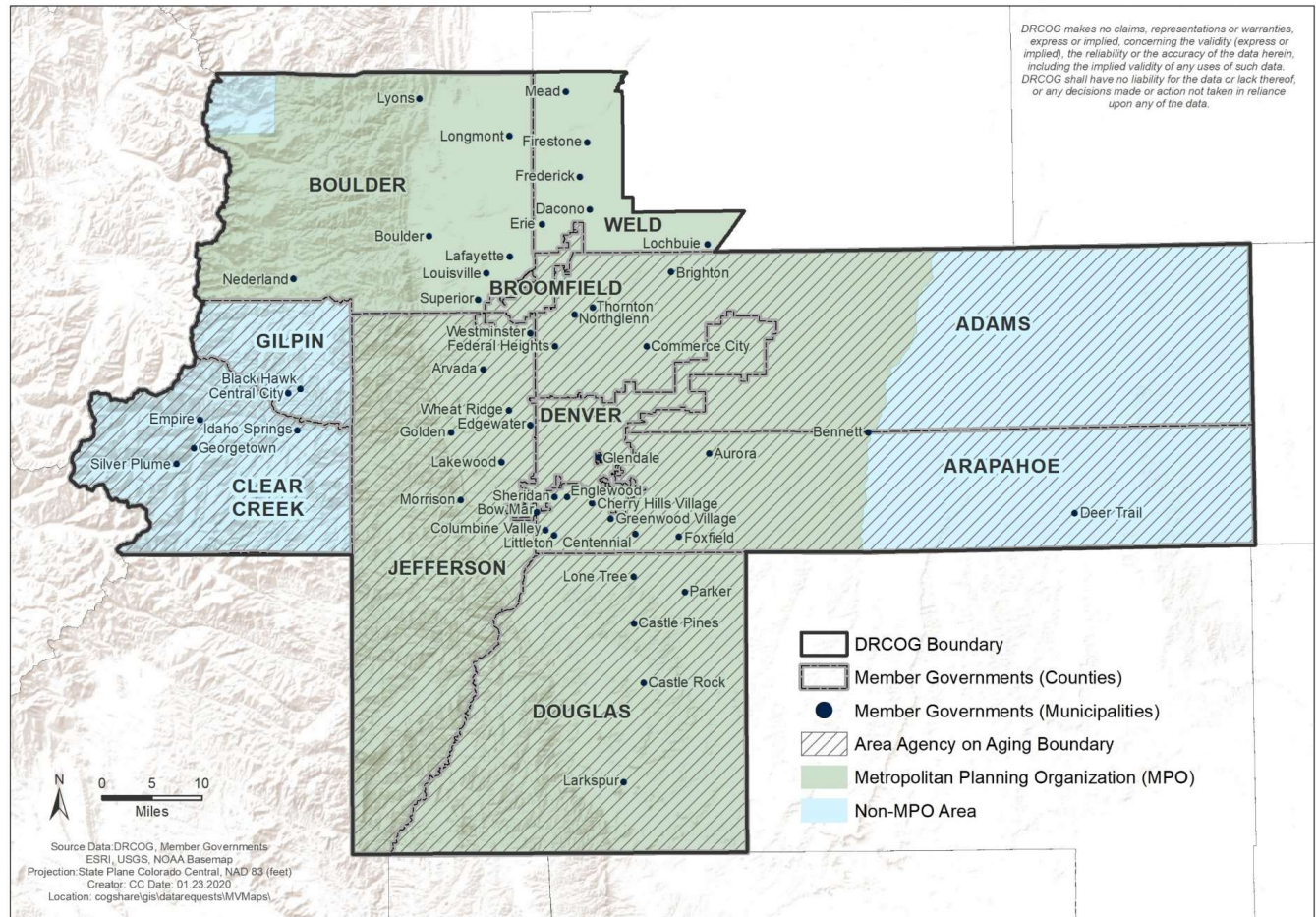
Doug Rex
Executive Director

November 29, 2023

Metropolitan Governance Task Force
Minnesota Legislature

The region

Area	~10 counties (58 member governments)
	5,288 square miles (comparable to Connecticut)
	3.4 million people (comparable to Utah)
	Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapaho peoples (traditional territory)
Elevation	From Grays Peak (14,278 feet)
	To Badger Creek (4,505 feet)
Roles	Regional planning commission (state statute)
	Area Agency on Aging (federal)
	Metropolitan planning organization (federal)



The Denver Regional Council of Governments ...

functions as a regional planning commission

- per Colorado state statute
- prepares the plan for the physical development of the region

is the federally designated
Area Agency on Aging

serves as the region's
metropolitan planning organization

Brief history of DRCOG

1955 – Denver Mayor convenes regional leaders to discuss **shared issues and concerns** related to post-war growth

1958 - First **transportation plan** for the Denver region

1968 – Inter-County Regional Planning Commission becomes the Denver Regional Council of Governments (**DRCOG**)


1969 – Regional Transportation District (**RTD**) created

1971 – DRCOG, RTD, Colorado Department of Highways **agree to jointly plan the region's transportation**

1973 – designated the **Area Agency on Aging**

1977 – designated as the **MPO** for the Denver region

Regional collaboration among 58 cities, counties, towns and partner agencies



DRCOG is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to **establish guidelines, set policy** and **allocate funding** in the areas of transportation, growth and development, and aging and disability resources.

Regional success depends on partnerships



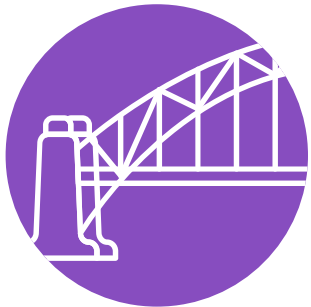
DRCOG **is not** a
regulator.



We are a
convener.



We provide **policy**
guidance.

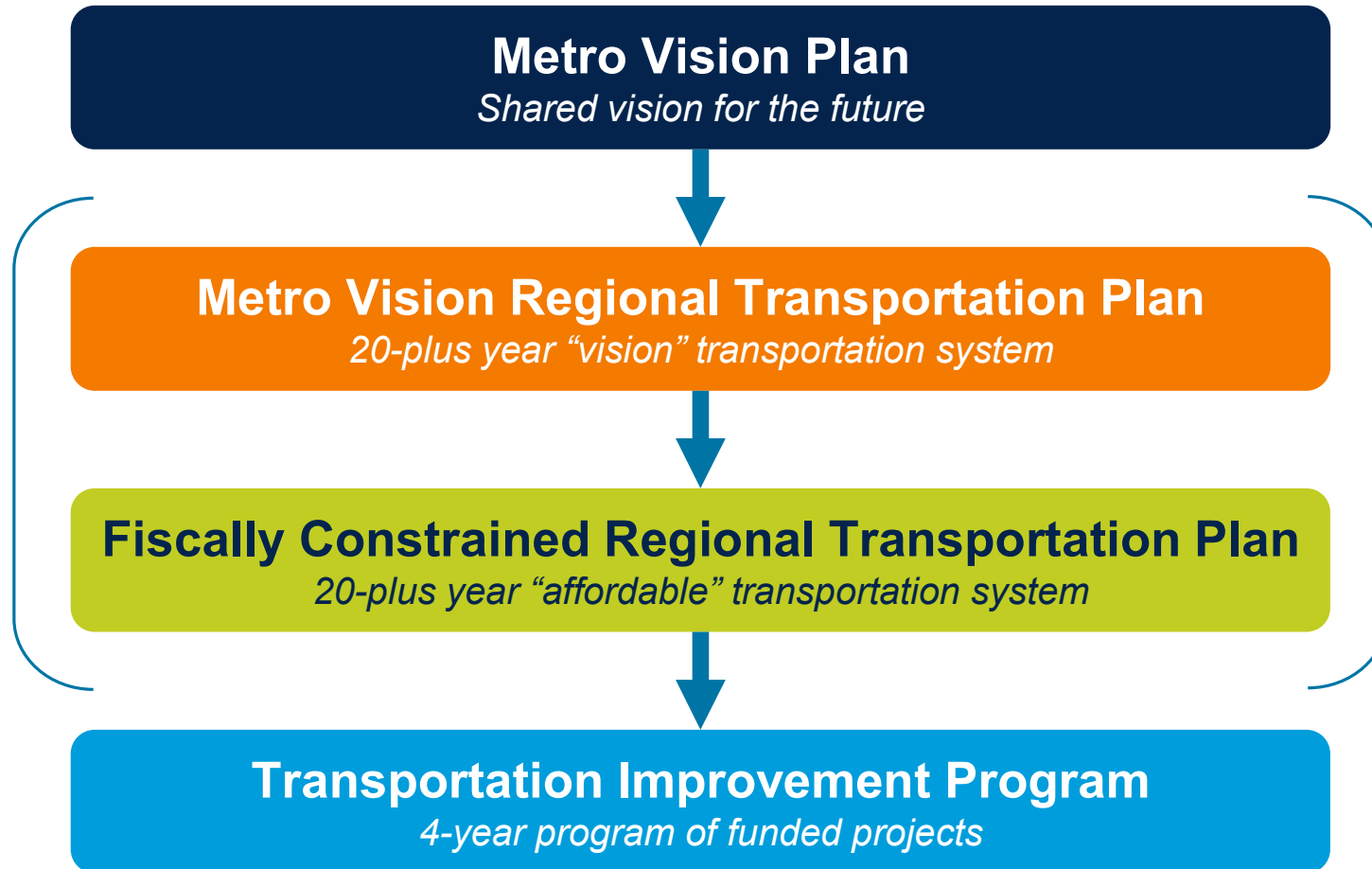


We are a **bridge between**
partner jurisdictions and
agencies.



We identify
best practices.

Regional planning process

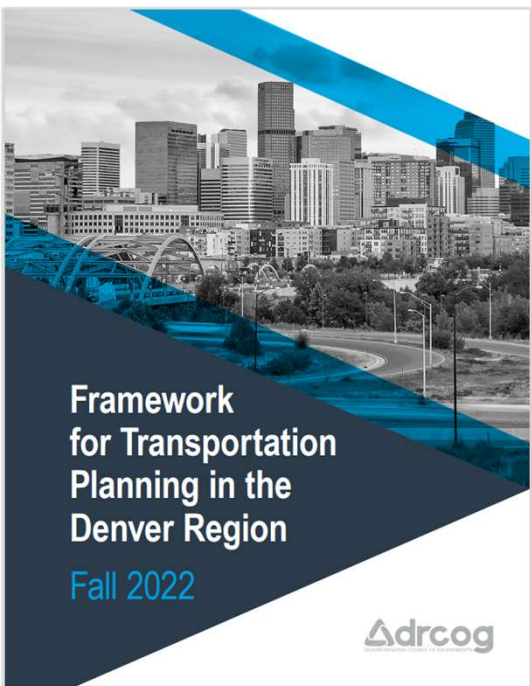


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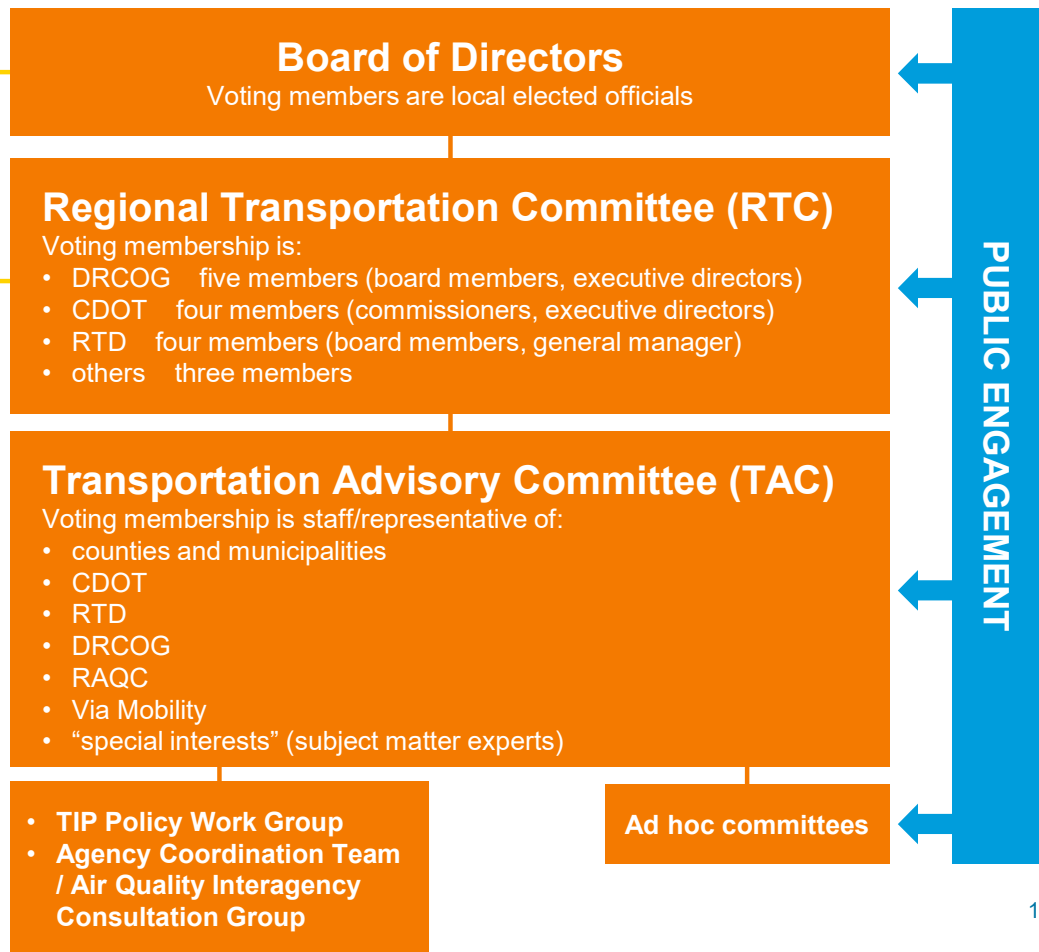
The **region's plan** to ensure a **high quality of life** for all ages, **incomes** and **abilities**.

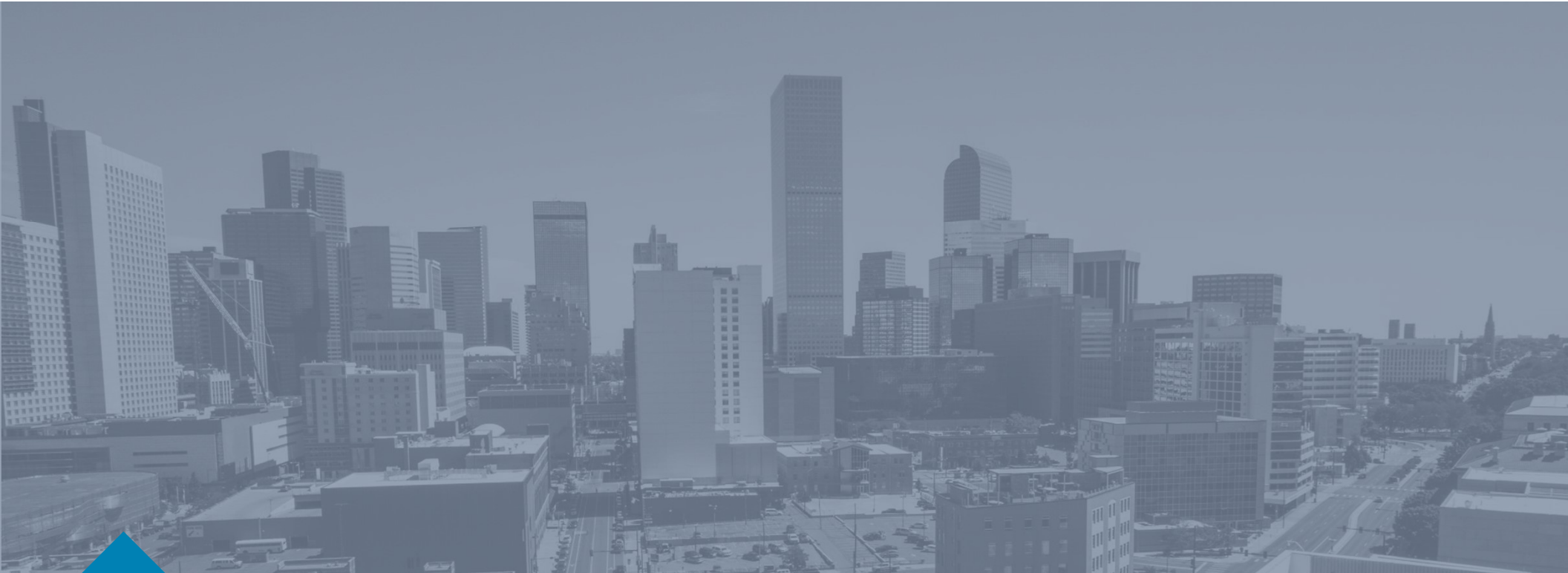
Five overarching **themes** in the areas of development, transportation, natural and built environment, livable communities, and economy.

- 58 participating member governments and each has an elected official as its representative
- The governor appoints three non-voting representatives to the Board
- The Regional Transportation District has a non-voting representative
- Meets monthly
- Appoints Executive Director
- Adopts the agency budget
- Approves or adopts plans, policies, funding allocations



Metropolitan planning agreement requires that the Board and Regional Transportation Committee concur





Thank you!
Questions?

