



SMART

A Presentation for
Leadership Northern Colorado

What is DRCOG?

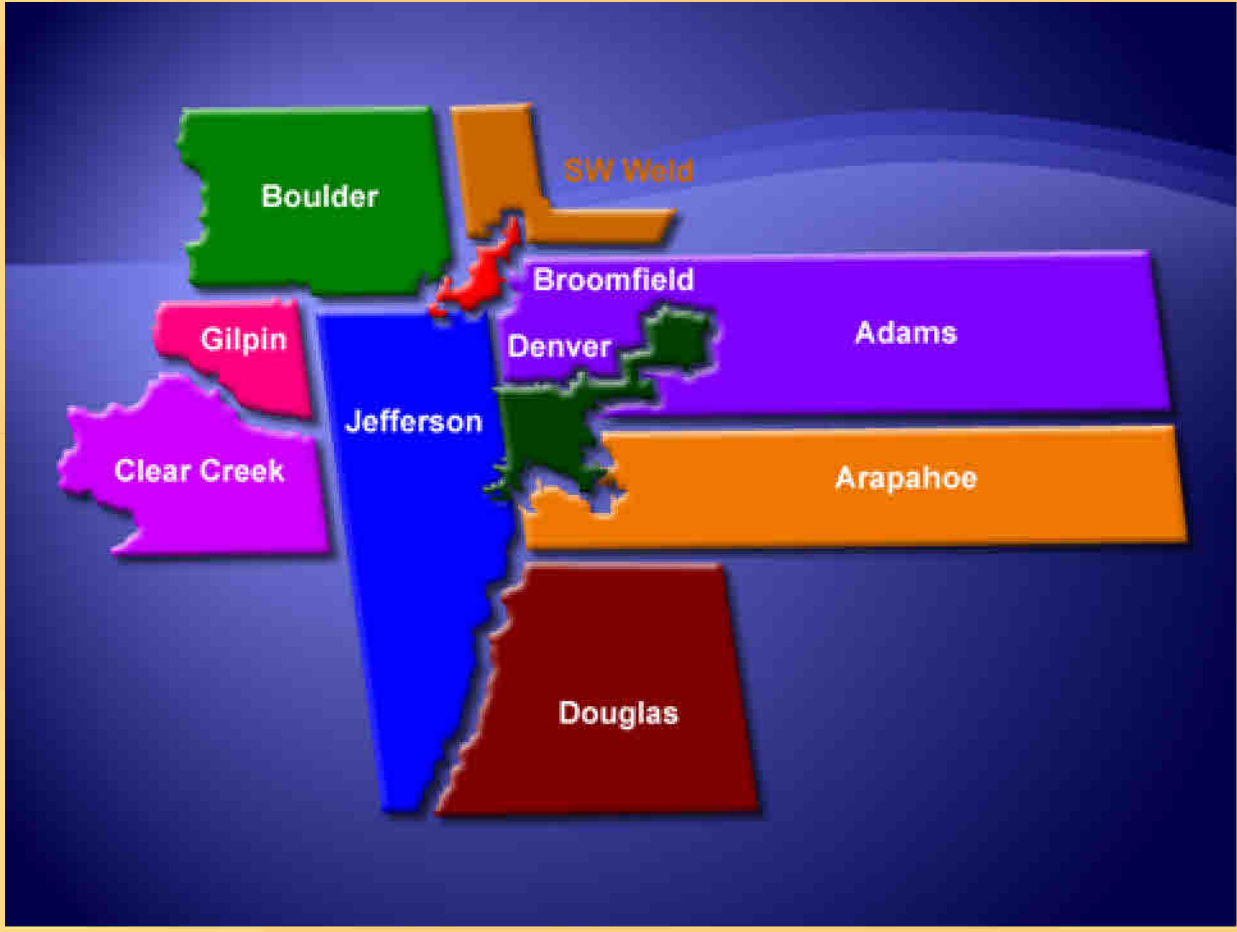
What is DRCOG?

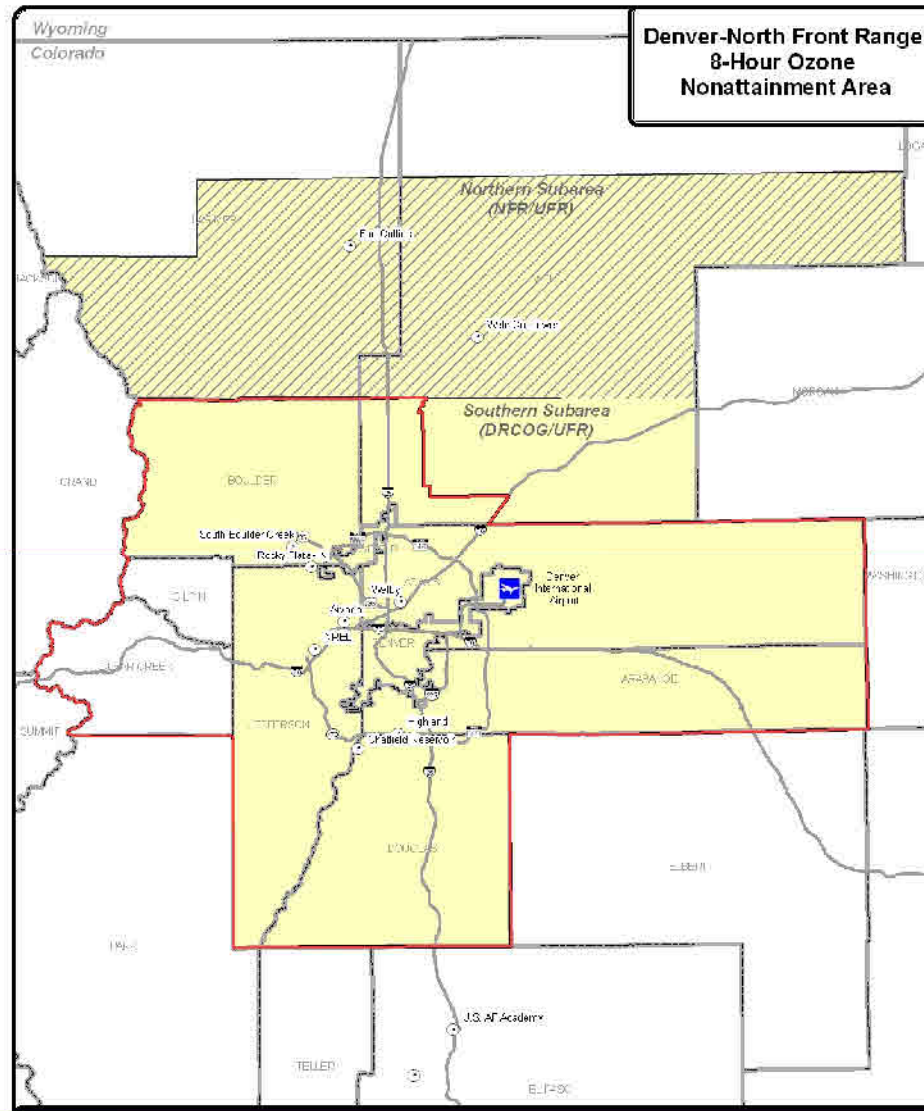
- A collaborative membership association of more than 50 cities and counties in the region
- A place where elected officials come together to solve regional problems

What is DRCOG?

- MISSION -- DRCOG is a place where local officials can work together to solve the region's problems
- VISION -- Enhancing and protecting the quality of life in our region







What is DRCOG?

- Today, DRCOG has many roles, which we sum up with a simple acronym



What is DRCOG?

- Let's take a look at some of the ways DRCOG is thinking "SMART"





Sustainable Growth and Development

Sustainable Growth and Development

- The Metro Vision Plan guides growth and development in the region
- Growth and development
- Transportation
- Environment (air and water quality)

Sustainable Growth and Development

- Metro Vision was developed initially through broad collaboration with partners beyond DRCOG's membership
- Updated regularly to account for a 20-year planning horizon
- Current version is Metro Vision 2035

Metro Vision, Key Elements

- Urban Centers
- Free Standing Communities
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Transportation (roadway, transit)
- Parks and Open Space
- Water Quality





**Model for Regional
Growth and
Development**

Model for Regional Growth and Development

- The Mile High Compact pledges signatories to adhere to Metro Vision's voluntary principles
- 44 of DRCOG's members have signed
- Brokered by DRCOG and the Metro Mayors Caucus
- The first voluntary agreement of its kind in the nation





**Advocate for
Regional Needs**

Advocate for Regional Needs

- DRCOG is the Area Agency on Aging for 8 counties
- Awards millions in funding to service providers through the Older Americans Act
- Creates four-year plans assessing the needs of the region's older adults



Advocate for Regional Needs


- DRCOG houses the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program
- Staff and volunteers visit more than 350 nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Ombudsmen serve as advocates for the most vulnerable residents



Advocate for Regional Needs

- Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
- DRCOG serves as an information clearinghouse for local governments and others
- Planner Idea Exchange
- Who Is TOD in Metro Denver?





**Regional
Approaches to
Problem Solving**

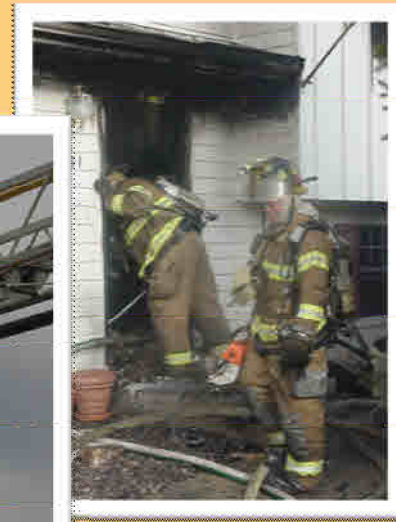
Regional Approaches to Problem Solving

- DRCOG provides shared services and programs for its member governments



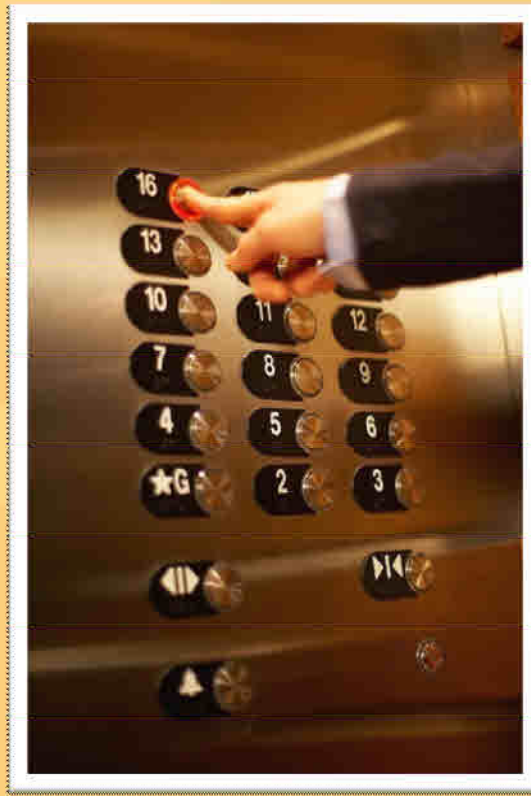
Regional Approaches to Problem Solving

- FIRE Testing
- Applicants take one test to be considered for open positions in any member department



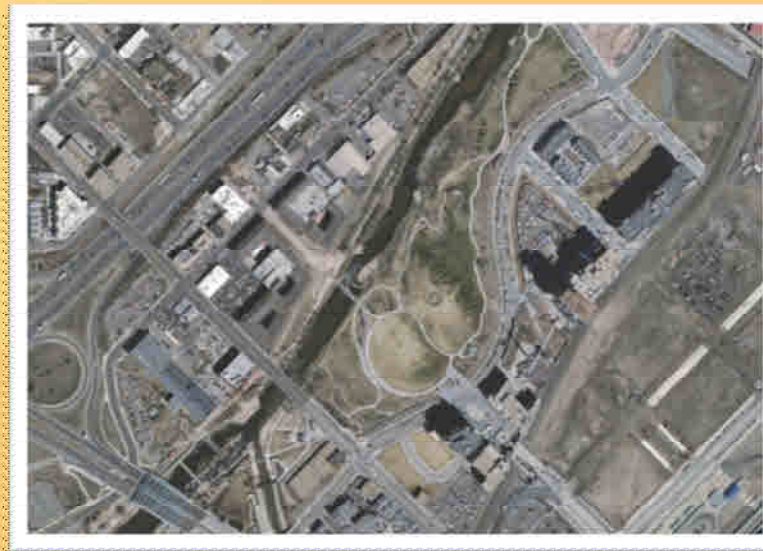
Regional Approaches to Problem Solving

- Elevator/escalator inspections
- Members pay for the services of an independent inspector



Regional Approaches to Problem Solving

- Denver Regional Aerial Photography Project (DRAPP)
 - Shared costs allow all participants access to high-quality images at greatly reduced cost
 - Public/Private Partnership



Regional Approaches to Problem Solving

- DRCOG supports Metro Vision and local planning by producing
 - Annual population estimates
 - Forecasts of population and employment growth
 - Census data
 - Demographics
 - Transportation statistics



Transportation
System that Serves
the Region

Transportation System that Serves the Region

- DRCOG and the planning process
- Fiscally constrained Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Transportation System that Serves the Region

RideArrangers gives commuters options

- Carpool
- Guaranteed Ride Home
- Schoolpool
- Telework
- Vanpool



Transportation System that Serves the Region

- Traffic signal program
- Working with local governments and CDOT, DRCOG coordinates signals throughout the metro area
- Improves air quality, saves commuters time and money, reduces congestion





**What Does This
Mean to the Board?**

What does this mean to the Board?

- The Board debates regional issues, cooperatively solves regional problems and sets regional policy.



What does this mean to the Board?

- Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- At its regular meetings, the Board discusses and comes to consensus on regional issues
- Directs the work of DRCOG staff
- Holds frequent public hearings on a variety of issues
- A time for public comment at each meeting

What does this mean to the Board?

- Evaluate the impact of decisions on individual jurisdiction and its neighbors
- Advocate for the region to federal and state agencies, the media and public
- Come ready to debate, discuss and resolve issues
- Make important and lasting contributions for the benefit of all people in the region