



Broomfield City Council Training and Travel Report

Elected Official Name: City Council Member Wayne L. Anderson

Date of Travel or Training: February 22nd to February 23rd, 2013

Description of Travel or Training: DRCOG Board Workshop

Total Amount Expended: \$183.85
(include airfare, hotel, registration, and **all** other reimbursements)

How this Travel or Training Benefitted the Citizens of Broomfield:

OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOP

The overall purpose of the Denver Region Council of Governments (DRCOG) Board of Directors workshop was to further provide input to the planning and development of the Metro Vision 2040 plan. Metro Vision 2040 is a long-range plan that is designed to “make life better for people of all ages, incomes and abilities within the region” which is also the DRCOG mission. **Broomfield is a participating member in the region.** During the workshop, a number of steps were taken to reinforce and build on the Metro Vision’s role in the region.

The day was split into two parts, a morning session and an afternoon session. The morning session focused on the achievements of DRCOG as it relates to the mission and a current status of the work that is already underway for Metro Vision 2040. The afternoon session was designed to have all of participating members (i.e., Council Members, County Commissioners, Mayor Pro Tem’s and Mayors from around the region) work in break-out groups. The purpose of the break-out sessions was to answer a number of questions that would further assist with the development of the Metro Vision 2040 plan. I personally was the scribe (i.e., note taker) of the group in which I participated.

Some key and critical facts about the region were provided to all of the participants in order to set the stage for the days planning work.

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE REGION

- DRCOG forecasts the population will increase about 50% to more than four (4) million residents by 2040.

- The population over age 60 is growing fast and by 2040 one in four residents will be 60 years or older.
- For the first time in the country's history, the majority of the population lives in urban areas. Leading this charge are the nation's two fastest-growing demographics: the baby boomers (born 1946-1964) and the millennials (born 1981-2000).
- Demand is increasing for mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods, with shopping and other amenities close by.
- Costs to provide transportation infrastructure and social services are increasing, but funding is stagnant; the backlog of needs continue to grow.
- The Denver region does not meet the federal standard for air quality and vehicular travel is a major contributor to air pollution. (Wayne's note: The dilemma that exists is that reducing the vehicular traffic (meaning less cars on the road) also reduces the gas tax revenue which is used to fix the roads)

MORNING WORKSHOP

The morning session began with a review of some of the key aspects of the DRCOG organization as well as a review of the 2012 accomplishments of DRCOG. Some of the key aspects of DRCOG are:

- DRCOG presides over more than half of the State's population
- The DRCOG boundary encompasses nearly two-thirds of the State's economy
- The DRCOG geographical reach encompasses nearly 5,000 square miles
- DRCOG is entrusted to invest the federal transportation funds that are provided to the region
- DRCOG was chosen to support and assist the region's vulnerable older adults

Some of the key 2012 accomplishments were:

- Kicked off the Metro Vision 2040 planning process
- Created a Metro Vision Implementation Task Force
- Approved the following projects:
 - Boomer Bond
 - Coordinating land use and economic development
 - Construction defects legislation
 - Transportation stations
- 4th Annual Regional Data Summit
- Partnership with Metro Mayors Caucus

Status of Metro Vision 2040 Work Underway

- Established Metro Vision 2040 Framework
- Conducted a Metro Vision 2040 Listening Tour
- Conducted Scenario Planning Workshop
- Established New Committees:
 - Metro Vision Planning Advisory Committee (MVPAC)
 - Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

AFTERNOON WORKSHOP

The participants were broken up into multiple break-out groups. The objective of the break-out sessions was to have the “workshop participants provide feedback on the most important areas on which they would like the plan (i.e. Metro Vision 2040) to focus.”

The participants had to follow a four (4) step process in order to accomplish that objective. The follow were the steps to be followed:

- STEP 1:** Identify challenges or opportunities that your local community is currently facing or will likely face in the coming years.
- STEP 2:** From your list, identify the challenges and/or opportunities that are also regional.
- STEP 3:** Select the top three (3) that are most important to focus the Board’s attention on during the Metro Vision 2040 planning process (Rank #1, #2 and #3).
- STEP 4:** For your #1 priority, identify a few initial thoughts on how DRCOG might respond to the challenge or capitalize on the opportunity.

In my opinion, the breakout sessions were very productive. The interesting aspect was to see how most of the counties in the region are faced with the same challenges and opportunities.

The aforementioned topics were just a sample of the wealth of knowledge that was acquired during the workshop. I truly believe that the relationships developed and the knowledge gained from this workshop will help me tremendously in my City Council activities.