



Regional transportation operations and technology set-aside call-for-projects

Pre-Application Workshop – April 16, 2026

Workshop Logistics

- Please add your agency to your display name. Right click on your name and click “Rename” to add your agency.
- Feel free to use the chat box.
- Questions will be addressed periodically during the webinar. If necessary, some answers will be addressed by e-mail afterward.
- Please answer the short quizzes throughout this workshop.

Workshop Purpose

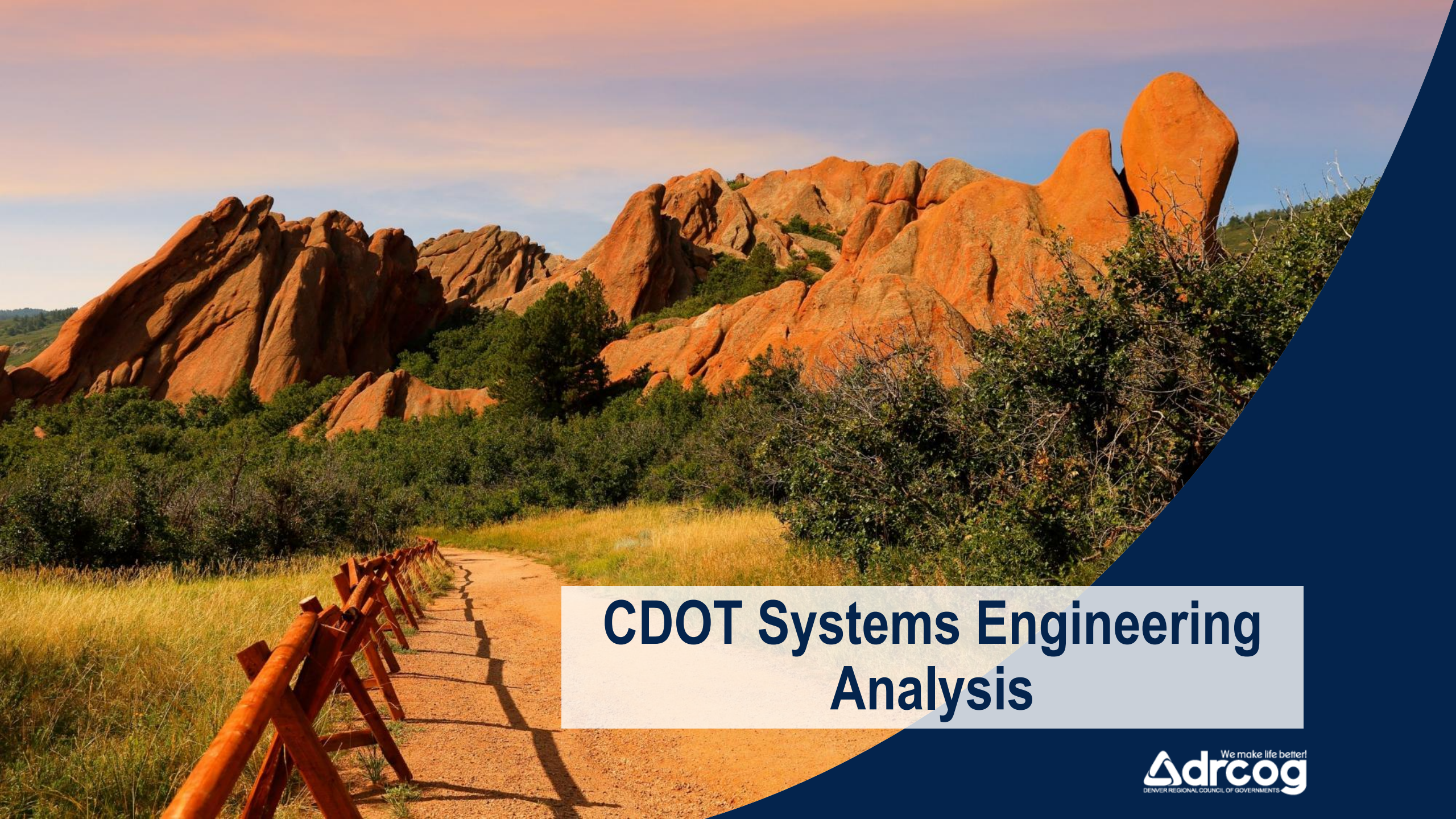
- Initiate the call-for-projects for the Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Set-Aside.
- Support project sponsors' submission of high-quality applications.
- Provide an understanding of expectations and observed pitfalls.
- Highlight the multiagency and multimodal theme of the set-aside program.

Workshop Agenda

- CDOT Systems Engineering Analysis and Utility Account Matrix process and requirements.
- CDOT Local Agency process and requirements.
- DRCOG Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Set-Aside Call-for-Projects Overview.
- Questions.

Presenters

- Emma Boff - Colorado Department of Transportation.
- Caren Cunico - Colorado Department of Transportation.
- Nashat Sawaged - Colorado Department of Transportation.
- Greg MacKinnon - Denver Regional Council of Governments.



CDOT Systems Engineering Analysis



Quiz 1



CDOT Local Agency Process



Quiz 2



Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Set-Aside Call-for-Projects

Program Vision

Transportation systems serving all travel modes across the DRCOG region are interconnected and collaboratively operated, managed, and maintained to optimize safe, reliable and efficient travel for all system users, contributing to the region's economic prosperity and high quality of life.

Program Goals

Safe operations – operational improvements to reduce crashes and achieve zero fatalities.

Efficient, seamless travel – systems interconnected across jurisdictions and modes operated cooperatively.

Travel time reliability – multimodal travel times monitored and managed cooperatively.

Equitable access – all travelers have access to safe and reliable mobility options.

Environmental sustainability – reduce energy consumption and harmful emissions.

Project Sponsor Eligibility

- Project sponsors must be eligible to be subrecipients of federal transportation funds, administered through the Colorado Department of Transportation.
- Private, for-profit companies (e.g., contractors, suppliers, or consultants), nonprofits and transportation management associations/organizations (TMA/Os) are **not eligible** sponsors.
- Project sponsors must pledge local matching funds (depending on the type of project).

Project Eligibility

- Must be an operational improvement project.
- Must be in or benefit DRCOG region's nonattainment or maintenance areas and focus improvements on the 2050 Regional Roadway System.
- Must meet [federal eligibility guidelines](#).
- Must be represented in the DRCOG Regional ITS Architecture (23 CFR §940.11)
- Not eligible:
 - Routine maintenance and rehabilitation projects.
 - Dynamic message signs.
 - Equipment and technology evaluations.

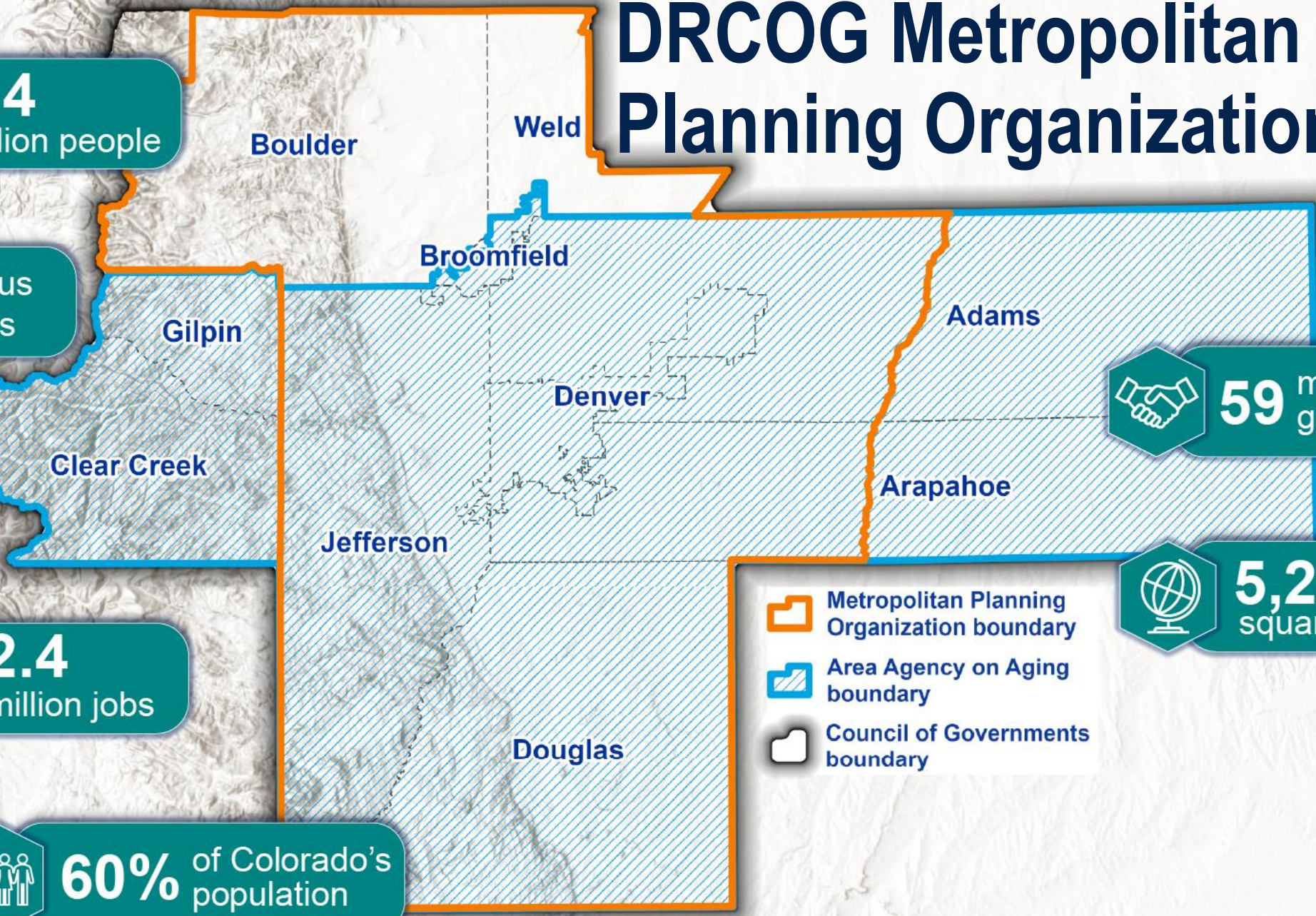
DRCOG Metropolitan Planning Organization Area

 **3.4** million people

 **Nine-plus** counties

 **2.4** million jobs

 **60%** of Colorado's population

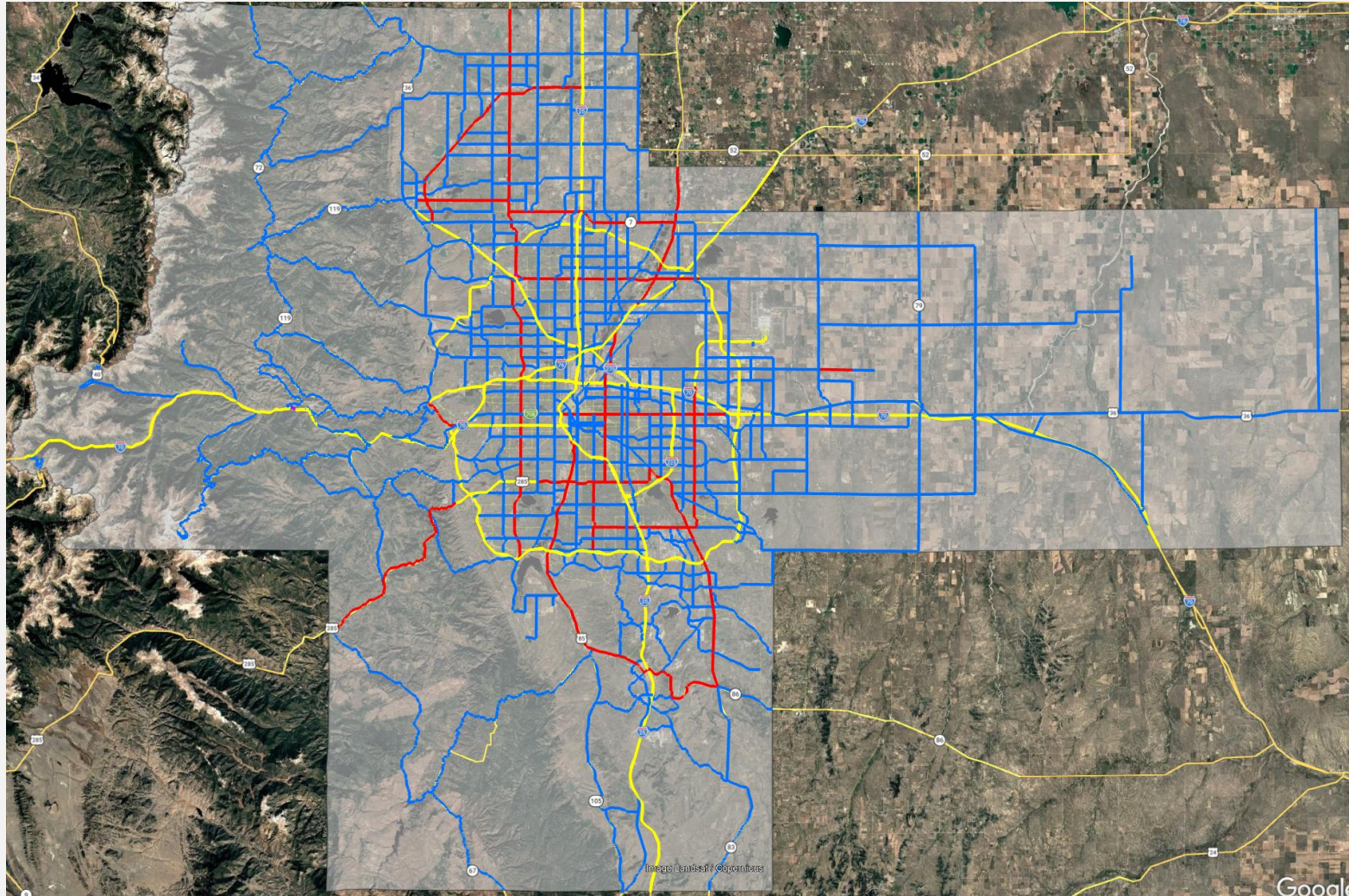


 **59** member governments

 **5,288** square miles

-  Metropolitan Planning Organization boundary
-  Area Agency on Aging boundary
-  Council of Governments boundary

2050 MVRTP Regional Roadway System



- Freeways/Tollways
- Major Regional Arterials
- Principal Arterials

Strategic Plan Priority Initiatives

- Regional Situational Awareness platform.
- Regional Performance Monitoring platform.
- Deploy strategies and processes to collaboratively manage operations regionwide.
- Traffic camera sharing.
- Traffic Incident Management standard operating procedures.
- Standardize and deploy transit signal priority performance management.

Advancing Strategic Plan Priority Initiatives

- Regionally led projects with funding set-aside.
- Agencies partner on regional project.
- Capital projects that support priority initiatives:
 - ATC controllers.
 - Robust communications.
 - Signal control systems meeting minimum requirements.
 - Coordination with regional transit signal priority deployment.
 - Support for traffic incident management coordination.

DRCOG Regional ITS Architecture

- Key starting point for SEA form.
- SEA form will be part of subsequent application submission.
- DRCOG will distribute a simplified table to provide context for application.
- DRCOG will provide direct architecture support during application development.

Funding Availability and Requirements

- At least \$8 million from Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program.
- Applicants may request funding for either or both 2027 and 2028.
- Funding minimum is \$100,000 (Federal portion).
- No maximum defined.
- Minimum non-Federal cash match required: 17.21% of total project cost

Increased Federal Share Eligibility

- Traffic signal system.
- Traffic signal controllers supporting ATSPM and advanced operations.
- Traffic signal cabinets.
- Traffic signal system communications equipment and infrastructure.
- Priority control systems at signalized intersections.
- Traffic signal detection (system or advance detectors).
- Vehicle-to-infrastructure communications equipment.



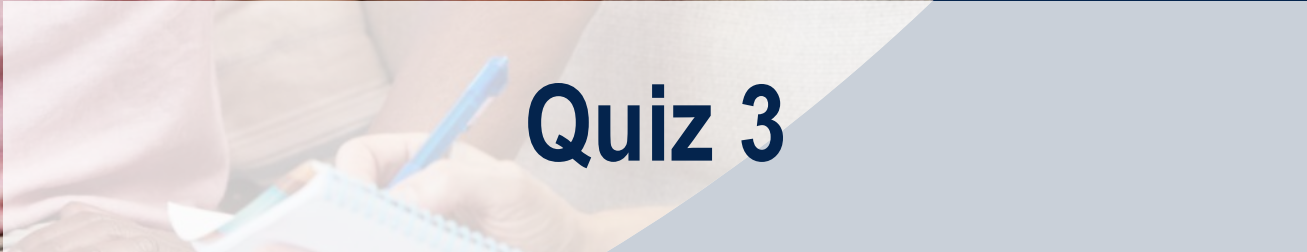
Letter of Interest

Letter of Interest

- Contact information
- Project information
- Project goals and outcomes
- Project readiness
- Form wrap-up

Letter of Interest Submission

- Please submit one form per project.
- Please submit by no later than **May 1 at 5:00 pm**.
- DRCOG staff will review Letters of Interest and may reach out for clarification.
- Letter of Interest Forum scheduled for **May 20 at 1:30 pm (in-person at Lakewood)**.



Quiz 3



Summary

Federally-Funded Projects

- Using federal funds requires compliance with several federal and state regulations.
- FHWA ultimately responsible for project authorization.
- CDOT administers the federal funds, providing oversight.
- Follow Local Agency Process to avoid delays.

Federally-Funded Projects (second slide)

- Coordinate with project partners and stakeholders early.
- Confirm resource availability and impacts on schedule.
- Confirm right-of-way is not an existing issue.
- Account for Subsurface Utility Engineering.
- Account for Systems Engineering Analysis tasks and milestones.
- Consider the need for multi-phase projects when preparing scope and estimate.

Federally-Funded Projects (third slide)

- Applicants must update their technology inventory information with DRCOG annually.
- Include DRCOG in all project-related distributions with CDOT.
- DRCOG monitors for scope revisions, TIP delays, SEA progress, and architecture revisions.
- Reach out to DRCOG early for Regional ITS Architecture support.

Resources

- [CDOT Local Agency Resources & Training webpage](#)
- [FHWA Federal-Aid Essentials for Local Public Agencies webpage](#)
- [Surface Transportation Block Grant Program guidance](#)
- [DRCOG Regional Transportation Operations and Technology Set-Aside webpage](#)
- [DRCOG TIP Data Tool](#)
- [DRCOG Regional ITS Architecture](#)

Thank you. Questions?

If you need digital accessibility assistance, submit a request at drcog.org/access or call 303-455-1000. Please expect a response within 72 hours (three business days).