

DRCOG's Role in Air Quality Planning

April 1, 2010 - RAQC

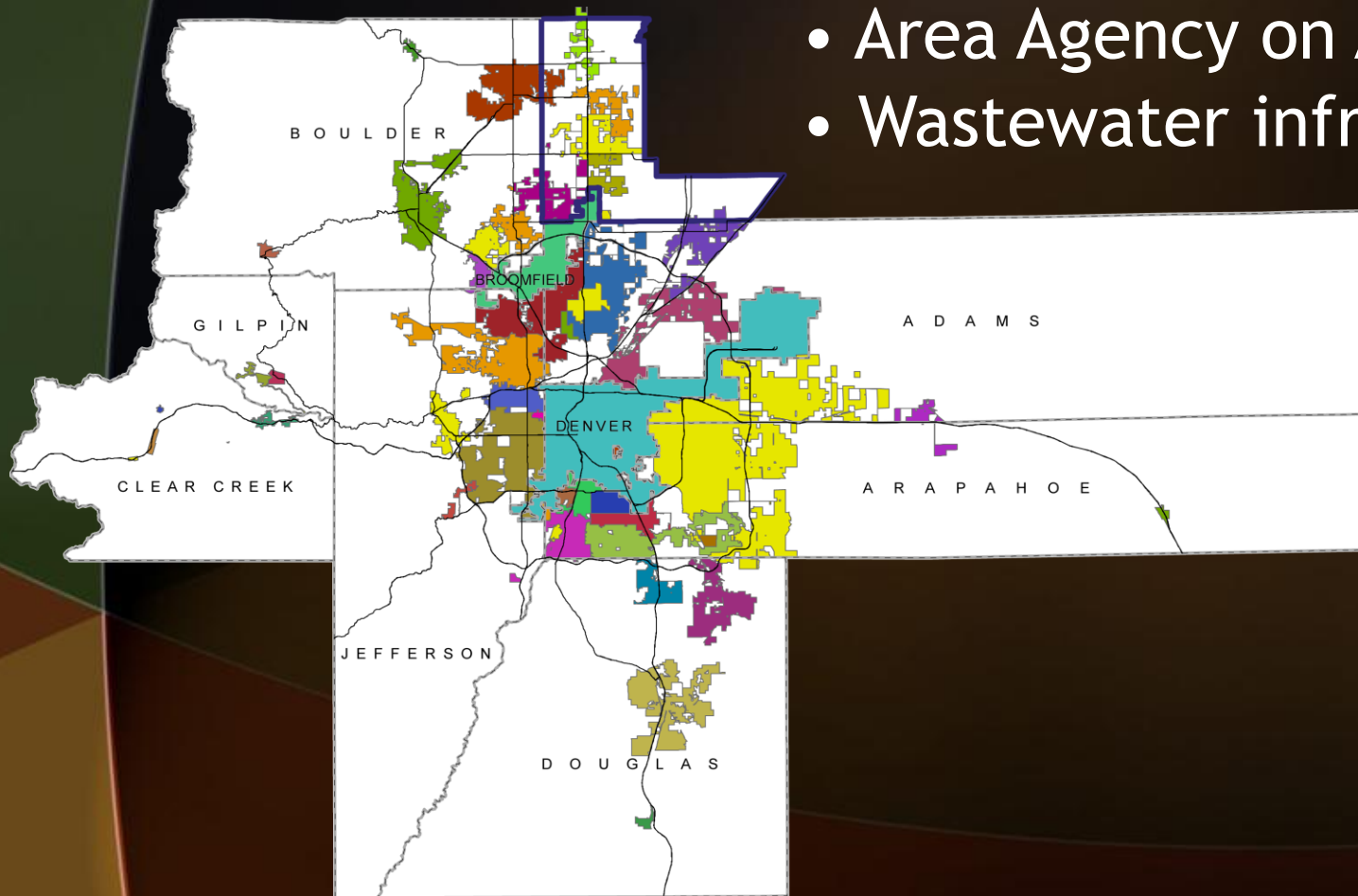
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What is DRCOG?

- 56 cities & counties
- Council of Governments
- Metropolitan Planning Org.
- Area Agency on Aging
- Wastewater infrastructure

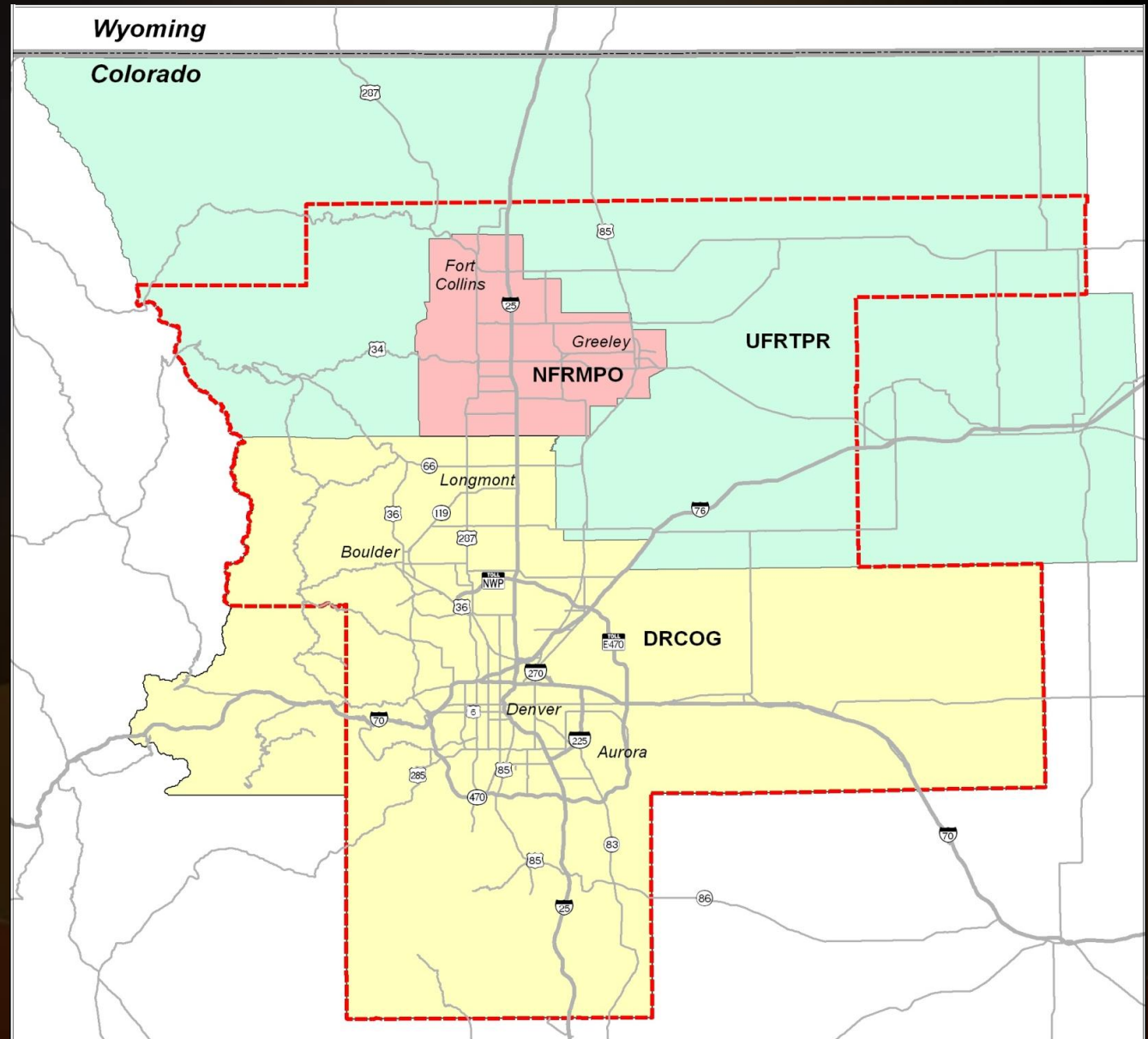


What's DRCOG's position on Sustainability?

1. Urban center growth
2. Water use reduction
3. Transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
4. Mode share
5. Vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
6. Transportation-related GHG emissions

What's the Immediate Air Quality Problem?

Ozone



Air Quality Conformity Collaboration

- **Air Pollution Control Division**
 - Models pollutant inventories & mobile source emissions
- **State Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC)**
 - Defines the role and responsibility of agencies involved with conformity determination (AQCC, APCD, CDOT, RAQC, MPOs)
 - Provides for requirements related to street sanding and sweeping for PM10 emissions reduction
- **RAQC**
 - Identifies control measures, prepares SIPs

Air Quality Conformity Collaboration

- **MOA between CDPHE, RAQC, CDOT, DRCOG, UFRTPR, and NFRMPO**
 - Guides joint cooperative process associated conformity with the 8-hour ozone SIP
- **MOU between RAQC and DRCOG (upcoming)**
 - Specifies the relationship and responsibilities for the coordinated air quality planning process in the Denver region
 - Required by USDOT
- **All planning agencies plus CDOT, RTD and others fund and/or implement control measures, strategies, and programs intended to attain and maintain good air quality**

Air Quality Conformity Collaboration

Interagency Consultation Group

- Review team defined by AQCC regulations
- DRCOG hosts EPA, FHWA, APCD, CDOT, RAQC, RTD, NFRMPO
 - Consultation on conformity and planning assumptions
 - Determine regionally significant and exempted projects
 - Consultation on the development and implementation of SIP TCMs
 - Sharing of news and schedules pertaining to air quality

Air Quality Conformity Collaboration: DRCOG Roles and Responsibilities

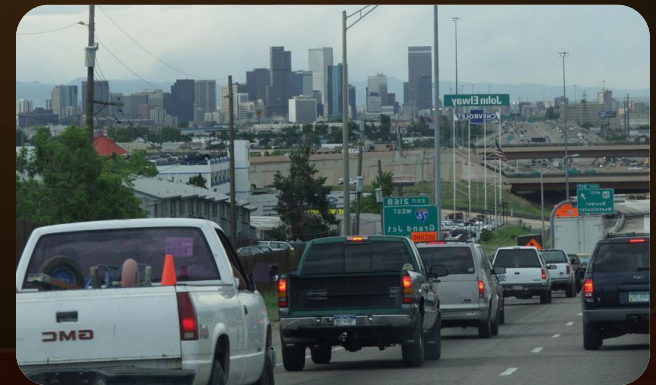
- **Preparing transportation conformity determination documents (details to follow)**
- **Facilitating the interagency consultation process**
- **Defining when regionally significant project changes trigger conformity determination**
- **Conducting land use and transportation modeling**

Air Quality Conformity Collaboration: DRCOG Roles and Responsibilities

- Obtaining commitments from local governments and others for future sand reduction and sweeping
- Funding projects that implement SIP transportation control measures (TREX light rail transit)
- Funding and/or operates programs that directly improve air quality
 - RAQC: Ozone Aware, Diesel Retrofit, Idle Reduction
 - RideArrangers, Traffic Signal System Coordination

What Triggers Conformity Determinations?

- Plan and program updates and amendments
 - Fiscally-constrained Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
 - TIP (Transportation Improvement Program)
 - Any regionally significant amendment to RTP
 - Road widening or new road of 1-mile +
 - New interchange (or new movement)
 - Transit (new station, new rail line)
 - Change to project staging year (e.g., 2030 to 2035)
- RTP and TIP must also conform to SIPs
 - Emissions with RTP or TIP must be less than SIP emission budgets



DRCOG Conformity Process



Air Quality Conformity Collaboration

- Air Quality Control Commission
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Highway Administration
- Interagency Coordination Group
- Regional Air Quality Council
- Regional Transportation District
- 56 member governments throughout the region