

DRCOG Active Transportation Plan

DRCOG's regional Active Transportation Plan is a guide for extending walking, bicycling and rolling to everyone in the Denver region. DRCOG developed this plan in partnership with local governments, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Regional Transportation District (RTD).

A vision for the region's active transportation network



The Active Transportation Plan envisions a region where all people living, working and visiting have access to safe and comfortable places to walk, bike and roll.

The plan establishes a regional active transportation network that is complete, connected and comprehensive, and recommends actions for DRCOG and its partners to extend access to active transportation through policy, programs, guidance and encouragement.

Why is the Active Transportation Plan important?

Walking and bicycling for transportation are critical tools for reaching the region's targets for safety, air quality and vibrancy. The plan sets a roadmap to achieving targets including:

- **Zero traffic deaths and injuries by 2040.** While people walking and bicycling are involved in 2% of traffic crashes, they constitute 20% of traffic deaths and injuries.
- **Reducing statewide emissions 90% from 2005 levels by 2050.** With 34% of the region's emissions coming from transportation, walking and bicycling supports cleaner air and water.
- **Supporting healthy communities and a vibrant regional economy.** Walking and bicycling generate an estimated \$3.3 billion dollars in economic benefit to the region each year in health and air quality improvements.



Who is the Active Transportation Plan for?

The plan provides guidance and recommends actions for promoting active mobility throughout DRCOG's ten county planning region (including Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, Jefferson, and southwest Weld counties), including:

- **Local governments**, to guide planning and coordinate with neighboring counties, cities and towns.
- **Elected officials and stakeholders**, to work toward a shared vision for active transportation.
- **DRCOG staff**, to implement programs, inform funding decisions and provide guidance.
- **Community members**, to participate in regional planning and learn about opportunities to move around the region by active modes of transportation

What is in the plan?

The Active Transportation Plan includes the following sections:

Chapter	What it covers
Chapter 1. How the Active Transportation Plan fits in	This chapter explains how this document aligns with Metro Vision and relates to other local and regional planning efforts.
Chapter 2. Active transportation keeps the region moving	This chapter covers why walking, bicycling, and other micromobility is important and sets a vision for active transportation in the Denver region.
Chapter 3. Universal access to walking	This chapter lists key challenges for improving walking conditions throughout region, sets guiding themes and establishes the first leg of the active transportation network: Pedestrian Focus Areas.
Chapter 4. A complete and connected bicycle+ network	This chapter details the key challenges for improving bicycling and micromobility (also referred to as "bicycle+"), sets guiding themes and establishes the remaining legs of the active transportation network: Short Trip Opportunity Zones and Regional Active Transportation Corridors.
Chapter 5. Let's get to work	This chapter presents policy and program actions, as well as performance indicators for measuring success.

How does the Active Transportation Plan work?

The plan is anchored by the regional Active Transportation Network (next page), which sets a vision for pedestrian and bicycle mobility, helps DRCOG to allocate funding for transportation projects and informs local planning and helps cities, towns and counties to collaborate.

Putting the plan into action

Additionally, the plan recommends ten implementation actions for DRCOG staff to take.

- 1

Analyze infrastructure needs and gaps regionwide.
- 2

Assist local governments with planning and design for active users.
- 3

Strengthen connections between housing, land use planning and transportation options.
- 4

Invest in high-comfort sidewalks and bikeways.
- 5

Expand bicycle and pedestrian counts collection.
- 6

Benchmark walking and biking safety progress toward Vision Zero.
- 7

Explore new funding strategies to accelerate sidewalk and bikeway construction.
- 8

Support local operations with better data and regional coordination.
- 9

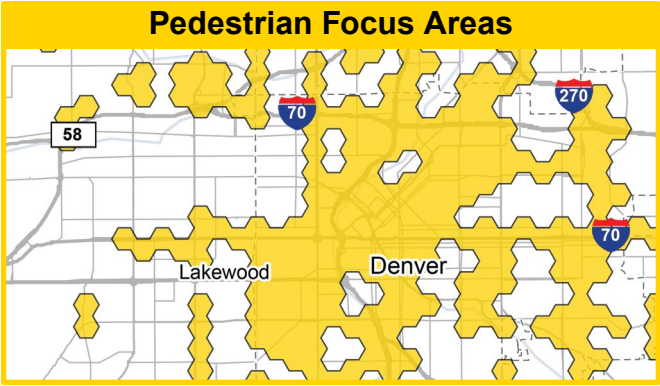
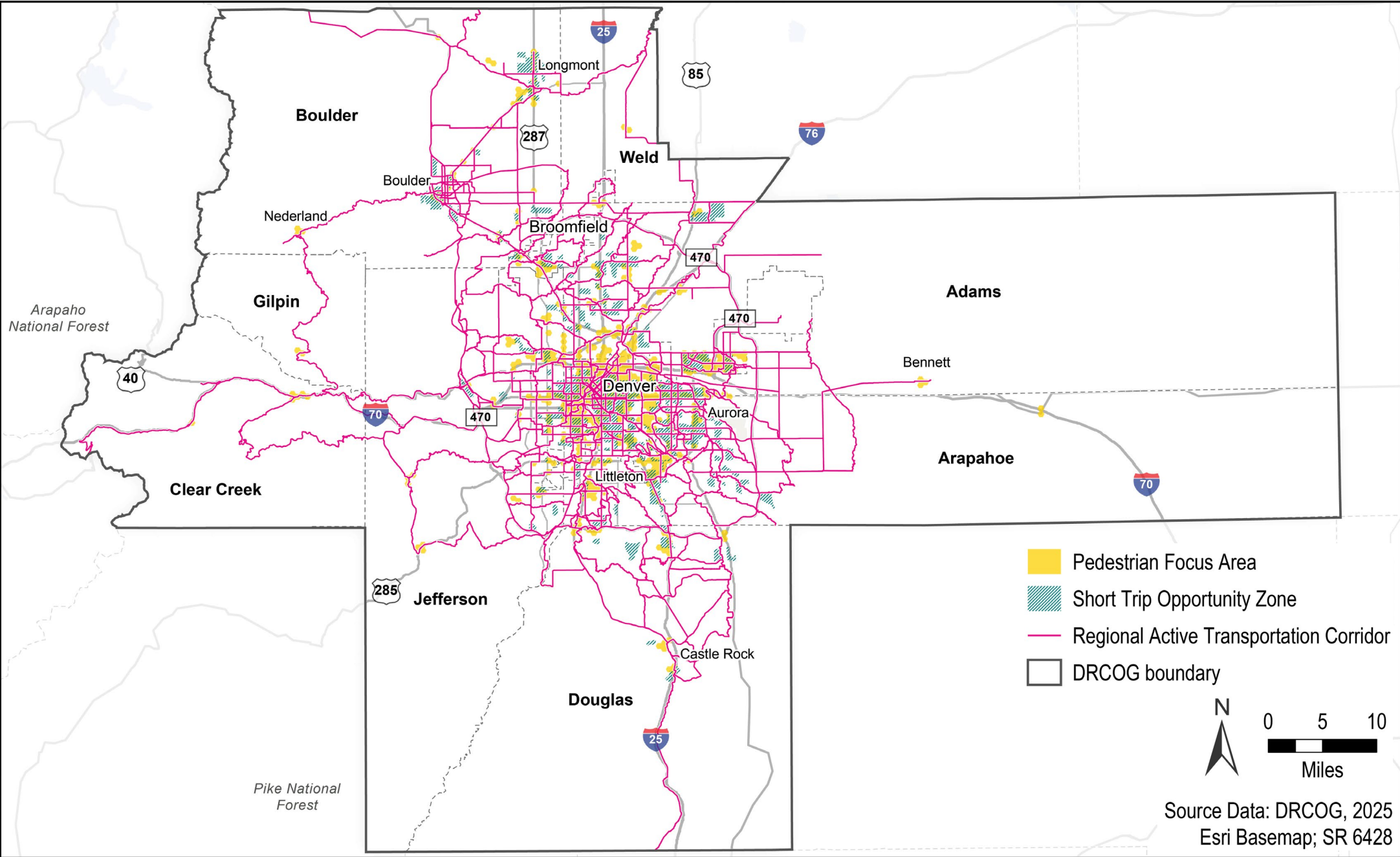
Support active transportation encouragement programs.
- 10

Track progress biannually.

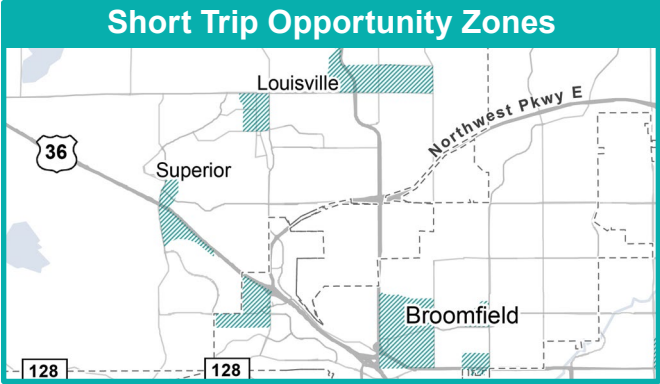
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The regional active transportation network

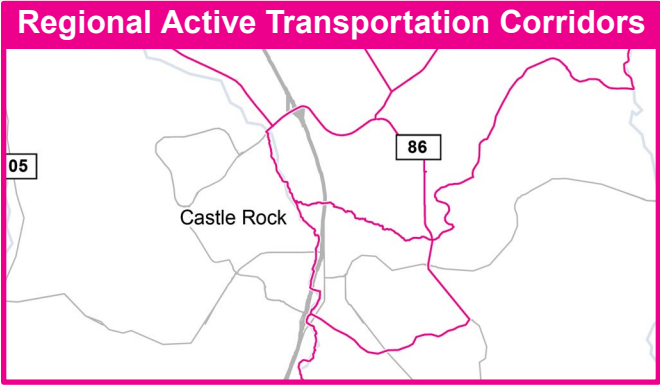
The Active Transportation Plan include a three-part network, which sets a vision for pedestrian and bicycle mobility, informs DRCOGs work program and investments and informs local planning and establishes a foundation to further collaboration regionwide. The three components of this network—the Pedestrian focus areas, Short trip opportunity zones, and Regional active transportation corridors—each guide planning and investment to achieve a complete, connected, and comprehensive mobility system for people walking, bicycling and rolling.



54% of the region's major roads are missing sidewalks. Areas identified using demographic factors, destination access, crashes, transit access and anticipated growth, identify where people might want to walk but face barriers.



One in five drive-alone vehicle trips in the Denver region are shorter than two miles—the zones identify where the most trips may shift to active transportation.



Regional streets and paths form the backbone of the active transportation system and connect communities.

The full plan and network map will be open for review and comment through September 1, 2025, at engage.drcog.org/atp.