



Policy & Innovation Committee

Meeting Date: September 9, 2024

[[!Agenda Item No. {{item.number}}!]]

Recap of the Denver, Colorado Peer Region Tour

Information

Author: Mia Lopez

Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

Issue:

SACOG board members and leaders from the region attended a two-day tour that took place from June 27-28, 2024, to explore the connections between land use and transportation in and around the City of Denver, Colorado. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from Denver region leaders, elected officials, and developers about housing, mixed use, and reuse projects.

Request:

Review & Discuss at Meeting

Recommendation for Board:

None; this item is for information only.

Recommendation for Committee:

None; this item is for information only.

Background:

SACOG organizes tours for board members and partners in peer regions to provide an opportunity to learn from and see activities that resemble projects in the Sacramento region. Staff worked with the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) to identify locations and presenters that could help share the history and stories of projects across their region.

Discussion/Analysis:

The tour highlighted many different organizations and projects in the area that are tackling housing, infill development, economic development, tolling, and transportation. Attendees of the tour were a mix of SACOG board members, staff from SACOG jurisdictions, and developers. Highlights from the event included:

- A presentation from DRCOG leadership on the COG's role in housing and transportation in the region.
- A walk-through of Belmar, a former mall, turned into a vibrant mixed-use community.
- A lesson on tolling and governance from the Colorado Department of Transportation.
- Exploring infill development at Sun Valley, a former industrial zone, and Central Park, a former airport.
- Imagining the future of and historic preservation of Loretto Heights.

Feedback received from attendees who responded to a post-tour survey was positive overall. Attendees found the information shared and topics explored relevant to their jurisdictions and enjoyed the opportunity to learn from the Denver region and spend time with their peers.

The committee will receive a short recap of the tour and participants in the tour will have an opportunity to share any takeaways they have from the experience.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in OWP/Budget

List of Attachments:

Denver Peer Region Tour Handout