

The primary purpose of this project is to develop a unified multi-modal updated transportation plan for the County, which considers the existing Arapahoe County 2020 Transportation Plan adopted March 2002; recent corridor studies (such as the *Arapahoe Road Corridor Study*, *Parker Road Corridor Study*, *SH83/86 Corridor Optimization Study*); the most recent DRCOG plan (2035); and plans of the incorporated cities/towns within the County and cities and counties bordering Arapahoe County. While it will be necessary to coordinate with incorporated municipalities in the County to ensure a comprehensive transportation system is provided, the primary focus will be on unincorporated Arapahoe County. Needs for the County will be identified and other elements will be considered as necessary to finalize the transportation system based on fiscal, political, jurisdictional, and other constraints. The Plan will consider the necessary connections between various other jurisdictions outside of Arapahoe County such as Adams, Elbert, Jefferson, and Douglas Counties.

The work will identify the transportation infrastructure needs to meet the transportation demands of the future, identify what infrastructure that can be realistically expected, and the implications of the scaled backed perspective assuming various constraints.

The Plan will be used to provide input into the regional planning process and project selection for local/regional/federal funding processes. The Plan will specifically be used to develop 5-and 10-year infrastructure capital improvement plans for Arapahoe County. The Plan will also provide options for funding current and future transportation needs. The funding evaluation shall include the various options to support new development proposals, especially the gap between development required improvements and County capital funding. The existing policies regarding roadway improvement requirements for rural development will be reviewed and modification recommendations made as warranted. Long term maintenance needs for existing and proposed infrastructure will be determined and potential funding solutions will be developed.

The intent of this planning process has multiple purposes. The Plan will:

- Become part of the County's Comprehensive Master Plan through the year 2035.
- Serve as a strategic plan to provide guidance to the decision-makers in developing the transportation system.
- Identify alternatives/options and provide input to the decision-makers regarding the local and the regional implications of transportation system alternatives.
- Help in developing short and long term strategies for implementation, consistent with area land use plans developed by the County.
- Have a primary focus on areas and roadways within unincorporated Arapahoe County with the emphasis being eastern Arapahoe County.

The updated Transportation Plan will identify potential roadway alignment(s) for new segments of roadways with consideration of terrain and physical/political/institutional challenges, general right-of-way requirements for new roadways and widening improvements, roadway segment

laneage, improvement costs, and an incremental staging program. In addition, policy-related actions will be evaluated and coordinated with the physical plan. The policies of the existing Transportation Plan will be re-examined, modified, and additions made to reflect current or proposed Comprehensive Plan recommendations.

From a land use perspective, the updated Plan will consider the 2001 Arapahoe County Comprehensive Plan plus various subsequently adopted sub-area plans. The County's Planning Division will be coordinated with on future land use projections and the County Comprehensive Plan.

The Plan will be coordinated with the County's Open Space Master Plan to consider a trail network that will accommodate the current/future bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian demands. Trail head accommodations and facilities to the Open Space parcels will be of concern in the development of this portion of the Plan.

Another important element of the Transportation Plan will be the review of the existing roadway classifications within the existing *2020 Transportation Plan* and *Arapahoe County Roadway Design and Construction Standard Manual* relative to cross-sections modifications and related roadway characteristics. The Plan will also consider strategies such as travel demand management (TDM), traffic systems management, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), and alternative modes, such as bicycle and transit, and make recommendations for changes to County standards or policies.

The work program for the Transportation Plan update will be sufficiently flexible to address both general countywide transportation issues and specific needs in priority areas. However, the primary effort will be to address unincorporated Arapahoe County transportation issues and concerns, particularly for eastern rural Arapahoe County. The effort in the rural/eastern part of the County will focus on clarifying the roadways that should be developed during the short and long terms and the relationship with land use recommendations in the area. The Plan will focus on the need to provide additional continuity, provide extension of roadways, what additional roadways should be extended/expanded beyond those in the current Plan with focus on need for right-of-way preservation, physical improvements, or widening. Also, the need for conversion of roadways from gravel to pavement or recycled asphalt will be evaluated and updated to reflect what has been completed from the 2002 Plan and prioritized as to what needs to be completed in the future.