



Make a Way to Go award nomination!

Recognize a commuting innovator by nominating a person or an organization for a Way to Go Award. Each year, we recognize leaders who are encouraging people to ditch their single-occupant vehicles in favor of creative, sustainable transportation solutions.

Are you or is someone you know leading the way? Do you know of an organization making a difference? Submit your nomination for one of four Way to Go Awards! Just make sure you complete your application by Jan. 17, 2020.

[Nominations](#)



We love Winter Bike to Work Day

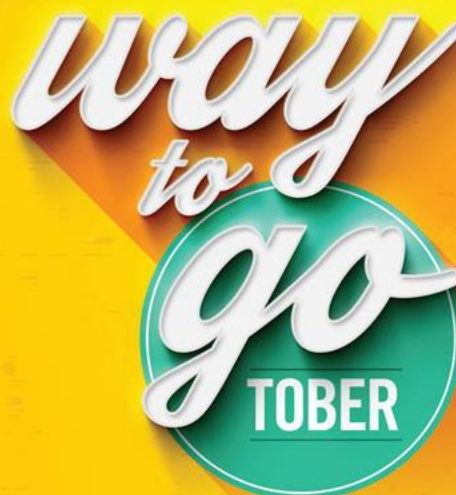
Winter Bike to Work Day will be here before we know it. This year's event will take place on Friday, Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day! Proclaim your love for year-round bike commuting by joining in the fun. Whether you're new to winter bike commuting or just need a little encouragement to keep biking when the mercury drops, this is the day to make it happen.

The Denver region's Winter Bike to Work Day is the largest in the world. So, bundle up, prepare your bike and join all of your biking buddies on Feb. 14.

Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks, including where to find stations to score breakfast burritos, pancakes, coffee, hot cocoa, beer, giveaways and more.

Looking for additional details? [Send us an email.](#)

**GO.
TRACK.
WIN.**



Drumroll, please, for all Go-Tober challenge participants

The fifth annual Go-Tober challenge wrapped up in October. Across the Denver area, 75 organizations accepted the challenge to encourage their employees to forgo driving to work alone and try carpooling, teleworking, vanpooling, biking, walking or taking the bus and rail – all in an effort to decrease the Denver region’s traffic congestion and improve its air quality. Organizations earned points for each one-way trip an employee tracked.

A total of 2,538 participants in the Go-Tober challenge logged 64,366 commutes. Their efforts resulted in 742,814 smart commute miles traveled and a reduction of more than 430,719 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. Go-Tober commuters also burned 3,979,980 calories and saved \$205,299.08 in travel costs.

Even though Go-Tober has ended, watch for additional challenges and chances to win prizes! Visit the [Way to Go site](#) or [download the Commuter Tracker app](#) to log your trips and see your cost and carbon savings!



SNOWSTANG

Coming December 14, 2019

INTRODUCING SNOWSTANG

Bustang bundles up for winter with Snowstang service to resorts

This winter, Snowstang will bring skiers, snowboarders and nature enthusiasts to three of Colorado’s mountain resorts. From Arapahoe Basin to Loveland and Steamboat, Snowstang will give riders the opportunity to get waist-deep in powder.

Starting Dec. 14, Snowstang will provide 40 days of service to each ski area on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents Day. Passengers can board buses bound to all three resorts at Denver Union Station or the Denver Federal Center. The Steamboat Springs route includes an additional stop in Silverthorne. Tickets

start at \$25 round-trip for Arapahoe Basin and Loveland and \$40 round-trip for Steamboat Springs. Discounts are available for seniors and children.

Purchase tickets or [learn more](#).

Bustang Denver Tech Center ridership ahead of ridership projections

This fall, the Bustang Denver Tech Center line reached its first milestone for ridership three months ahead of schedule. The Denver Tech Center line has provided a sustainable, stress-free solution for commuters traveling through the I-25 South Gap construction project from Colorado Springs. Many who try the route continue to use it weekly or daily. One recipient of I-25 MyWay free round-trip Bustang trial tickets planned to use them to attend a conference in downtown Denver.

"What a great way to get from Denver to the Springs with no hassles," shared another I-25 MyWay free round-trip ticket recipient. "Grab a good book, relax and read!! No wear and tear on your vehicle!"

[Find out more](#) about commuting along the I-25 South Gap.



Denver International Airport employers help employees commute by vanpool

The Way to Go team, in partnership with Commute with Enterprise, was delighted to deliver four vanpool vehicles to employees of the Denver International Airport McDonald's locations. The employees will travel to and from work together, saving money, reducing their stress and improving our region's air quality. Employers who provide reliable transportation to their employees increase employee retention.

The four new vanpools represent a small step toward the larger effort to encourage Denver International Airport employers to provide better commuting options for their 35,000 employees, which will in turn reduce the need for parking and decrease the airport's carbon footprint.

Employers throughout the region can join McDonald's in providing vanpools for their employees. [Learn about sustainable commute options](#), including vanpool.

Commuting Solutions US 36 Mayors & Commissioners Coalition

11th Legislative Breakfast

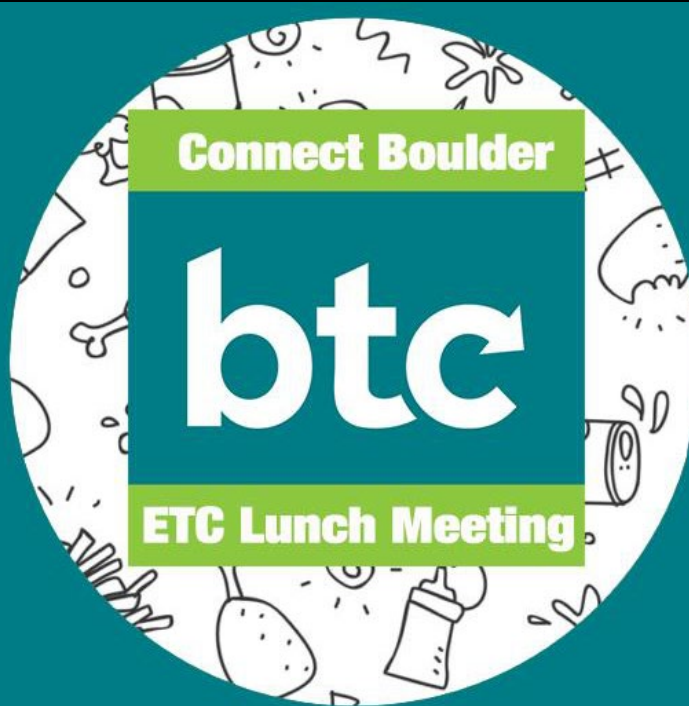
January 6, 2020 | 7:00-9:00 a.m.
Aloft Hotel, Broomfield

Register to attend Commuting Solutions' Jan. 6 Legislative Breakfast

On Jan. 6, 2020, you're invited to join Commuting Solutions and the US 36 Mayors & Commissioners Coalition for their 11th Legislative Breakfast at the Aloft Hotel in Broomfield. This annual event convenes elected officials, the US 36 Mayors & Commissioners Coalition and business leaders for a morning of advocacy in advance of the legislative session.

Confirmed event speakers include Speaker of the House K.C. Becker, Senator Faith Winters, Representative Matt Gray and Will Toor, director of the Colorado Energy Office. Tickets are \$75 for Commuting Solutions members and \$90 for nonmembers. Table sponsorships are available for the event.

[Visit the Commuting Solutions breakfast registration](#) to learn more about the event and to sign up.

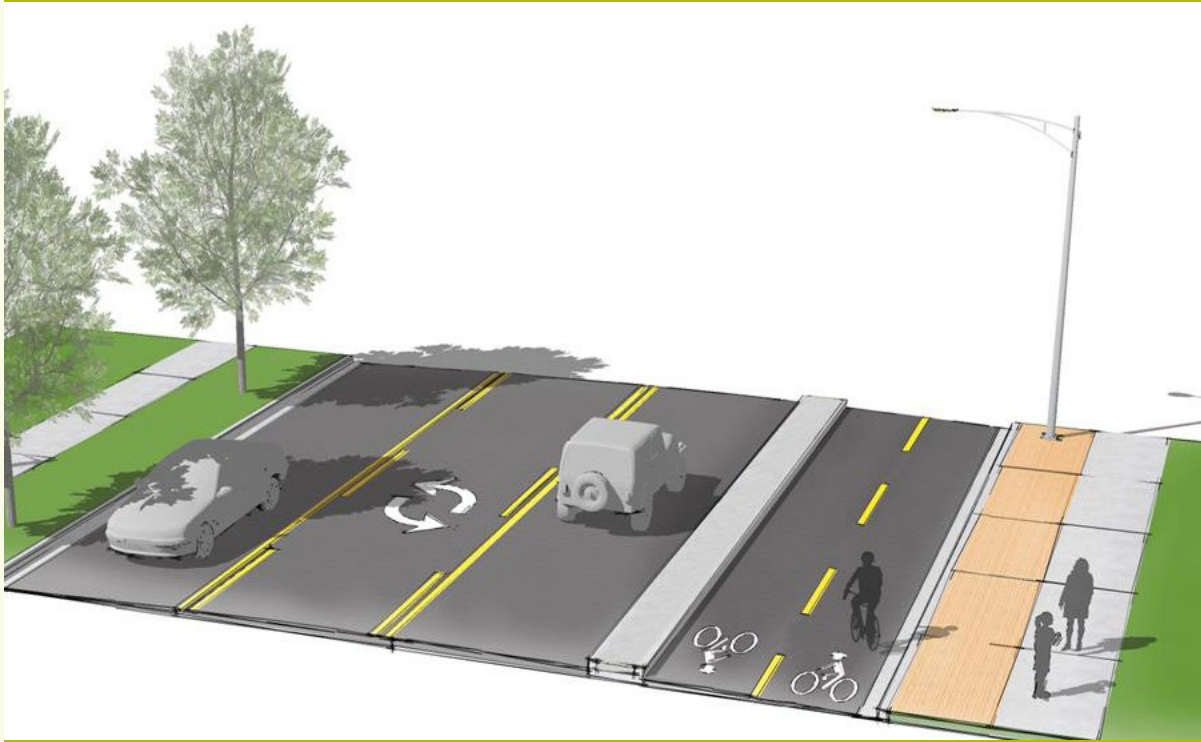


Join Boulder Transportation Connections Dec. 17 for its year-end meeting

Join Boulder Transportation Connections for its year-end meeting on Thursday, Dec. 12, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Boulder Chamber, 2440 Pearl St., Boulder, 80302. At the event:

- Boulder Transportation Connections will recognize 2019 Bike to Work Day and Go-Tober winner Navigant for its great success in this year's commuter challenges.
- A representative from the Regional Transportation District will discuss its Reimagine RTD effort.
- As the Boulder Chamber works on its Boulder Together program, representatives will talk about mobility as a component of our evolving community and economic needs.
- The City of Boulder will share the latest on planning for e-scooters.
- Sherpani will be present to display some great commuter gear.
- Boulder Transportation Connections will give great commuting essentials to its rock-star commuters.

[RSVP here](#) to join Boulder Transportation Connections for this fun event!



Aurora begins construction on its first protected bike lanes

Construction is underway on a project to improve connections between regional trails and the Regional Transportation District's Florida Station, improving safe travel for users of all types of transportation. The project includes building Aurora's first protected bike lanes. Within project boundaries, 10-foot, barrier-separated bidirectional bicycle lanes are being installed on Jewell Avenue, Potomac Street, Florida Avenue and Mexico Avenue.

Additional improvements include roadway surface reconfiguration for on-street bicycle lanes, intersection and mid-block crossing improvements and bicycle racks. A Florida Station Kiss-n-Ride area also is being added.

The project expands transportation options, improves area access to the trail system for recreating and commuting, provides connections to the Florida Station from two regionally significant trails, creates safe spaces for bikes and pedestrians, and offers traffic calming near schools and neighborhoods.

Plans were developed with input from community members, and the work will be substantially completed by March. Visit the [City of Aurora's website](#) for more information.

Federal grant supports new I-70 interchange in Aurora



Anticipated in 2023, a new interchange on I-70 in Aurora will provide greater connectivity for people and freight to key employment centers, Denver International Airport, and local, regional and international commercial markets.

A newly awarded \$25 million federal grant will kickstart the I-70/Picadilly interchange project that has been planned for more than a decade. The new interchange will address growing traffic in the area, improve safety on Tower Road, replace deficient roadways, and connect Picadilly Road between Colfax Avenue and Smith Road.

Aurora received its full request for funding and the maximum amount permitted per project under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development transportation discretionary grants program. The city and private developers will also contribute funding to the \$56.6 million project.

The interchange at Picadilly Road will provide additional infrastructure to support the planned population and employment growth in the area, including the new Aurora Highlands, Stafford Logistics Center and Painted Prairie developments, the continued expansion of Majestic Commercenter, Porteos and Prologis business parks, the Highpoint mixed-use development and the future Horizon Uptown project.

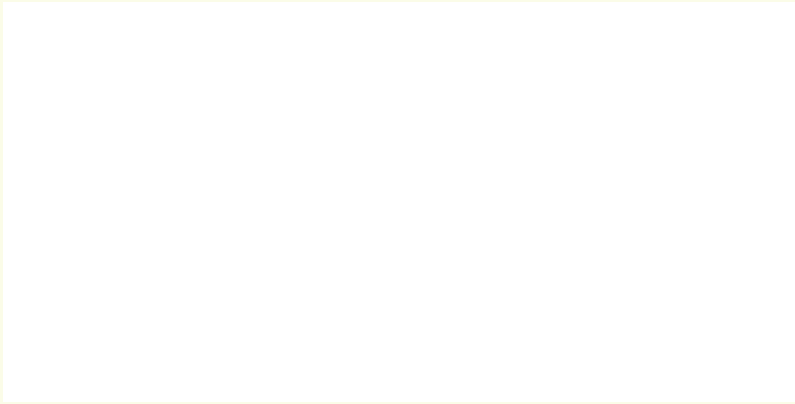
Visit the [City of Aurora's website](#) for more information about the I-70 interchange.

FlexRide expands transit service available from Wagon Road Park-n-Ride

On Nov. 11, the new Wagon Road Park-n-Ride/144th FlexRide began serving 144th and I-25, bringing additional Regional Transportation District access and frequency with a service specifically tailored to the area's workforce needs. FlexRide is a shared-ride bus service that travels within select RTD service areas. FlexRide is open to the public and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. FlexRide can be used to connect to other RTD bus or train services at stations and Park-n-Rides, or for direct access to shopping malls, schools, businesses, recreation centers, libraries and more by booking a trip online. All FlexRide vehicles are accessible and have bike racks.

FlexRide operates Monday through Saturday from 4:50 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., and is the result of a partnership among Smart Commute Metro North, RTD, Adams County, Thornton and Westminster.

Visit [Wagon Road Park and Ride/144th](#) to learn more.



DRCOG wraps up fall session of Citizens' Academy, prepares for spring

Almost 40 people participated in DRCOG's [Citizen's Academy](#) this fall. Over seven weeks, the participants learned from local experts and leaders, networked with other residents and developed a plan to act on what they've learned. Each session of the course consisted of lectures from subject matter experts on a wide range of important regional issues such as transportation, affordable housing, health equity, economic development, and civic engagement. Citizens' Academy welcomed speakers from organizations such as the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the City and County of Denver, the Urban Land Conservancy, the City of Lakewood, the Regional Transportation District, and the Colorado Department of Transportation. Participants also developed individual action plans about how they will continue to be engaged in their communities now that they've completed the academy.

Since 2007, about 900 residents from around the region have completed the Citizens' Academy. DRCOG took over the management of the program in 2018. It is a great opportunity for emerging leaders interested in learning more about regional issues and developing their civic capacity. If you or someone in your network is interested in increasing their knowledge of regional issues and enhancing their civic leadership skills, DRCOG will begin accepting applications for the spring 2020 session in February.

Learn more about [Citizens' Academy](#).



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