



# Planning for Growth in the Denver Region

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Governments

## Who is DRCOG?



# What's in DRCOG's plan for 2030?



3 main topics:

- Transportation
- Growth & Development
- Environment



## Transportation

### Transportation Needs






### Constrained 2030 Plan



# Transportation

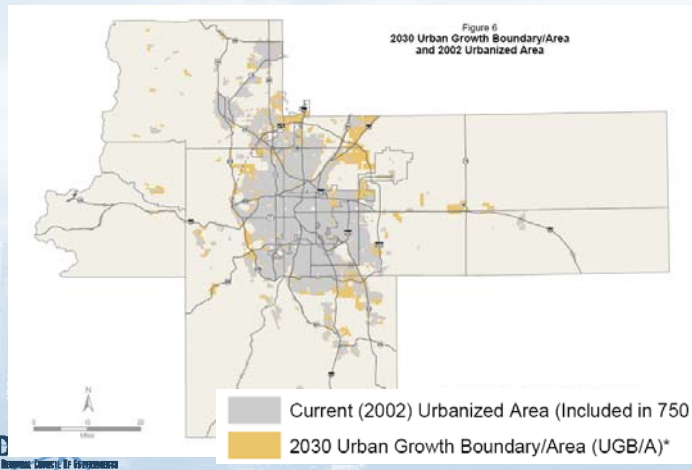
## Transit Vision



-  FasTracks (funded)
-  Other strong proposals and state intercity corridors (unfunded)
-  Conceptual preservation corridors (unfunded)

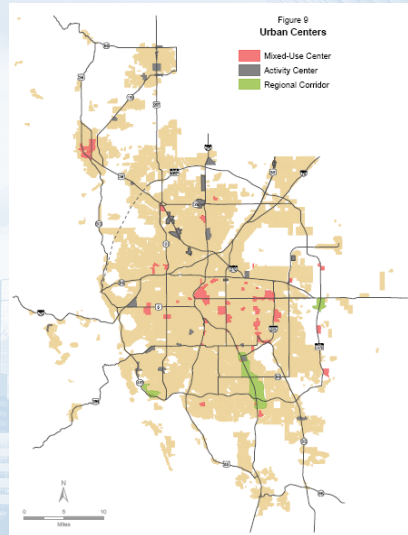
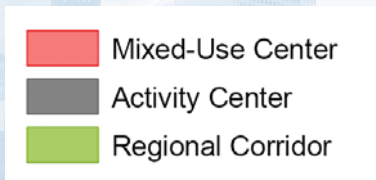
# Growth & Development

## Urban Growth Boundary/Area



# Growth & Development

## Urban Centers



# Growth & Development

## Senior-Friendly Development

Barrier-free design



Transportation options

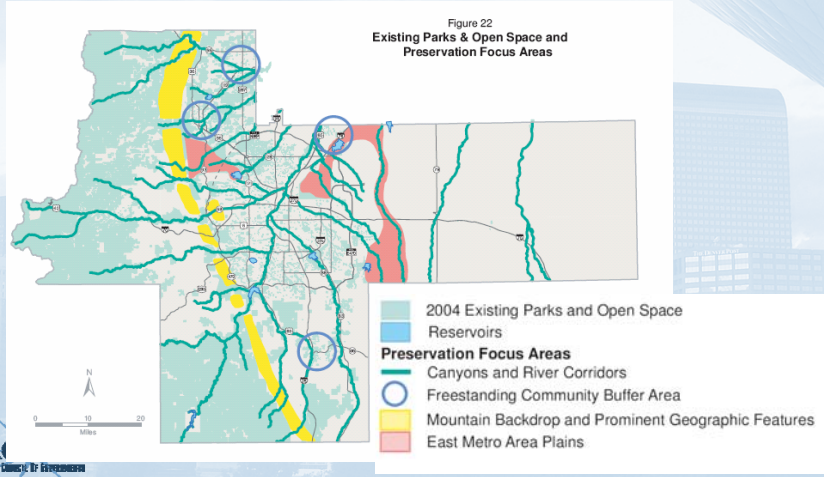


Housing options



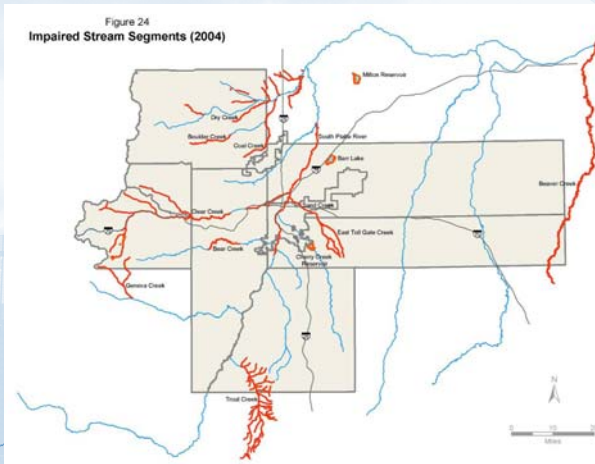
# Environment

## Parks and Open Space



# Environment

## Water Quality



# Environment

## Air Quality

- Recognition that land use and transportation affect air quality
- Strategy: Reduce travel demand
- More specific strategies contained in the RAQC state implementation plan



# How are DRCOG's plans implemented?

## Formal acceptance of Metro Vision

**MILE HIGH COMPACT**

*THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2000, pursuant to Article XIV, Section 19(2)(c) of the Constitution of Colorado and Sections 29-6-203 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, by and among the cities and towns of the State of Colorado, and the members of Colorado, acting in their respective and creating the various of the State of Colorado:*

- I. WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties recognize that growth and development decisions can impact neighboring jurisdictions and the region;*
- II. WHEREAS, Metro (1) and (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100) (101) (102) (103) (104) (105) (106) (107) (108) (109) (110) (111) (112) (113) (114) (115) (116) (117) (118) (119) (120) (121) (122) (123) (124) (125) (126) (127) (128) (129) (130) (131) (132) (133) (134) (135) (136) (137) (138) (139) (140) (141) (142) (143) (144) (145) (146) (147) (148) (149) (150) (151) (152) (153) (154) (155) (156) (157) (158) (159) (160) (161) (162) (163) (164) (165) (166) (167) (168) (169) (170) (171) (172) (173) (174) (175) (176) (177) (178) (179) (180) (181) 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## How are DROG's plans implemented?

### Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Six year budget
- Projects **MUST** be included in Metro Vision Plan and TIP to receive federal funding
- Prioritization of projects based on:
  - Policy goals (e.g., consistency with Metro Vision)
  - Technical concerns (e.g., safety)



## How are DRCOG's plans implemented?

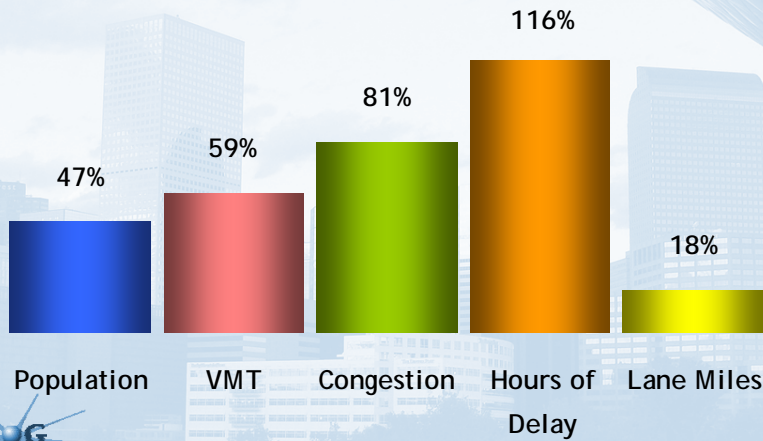
### State-mandated DRCOG review of:

- Proposed wastewater treatment facilities
- Proposed toll roads
- Proposed "fixed-guideway" transit



## What will the Denver region look like in 2030?

### Impacts of growth 2005-2030



## Why can't road construction keep pace with growth?

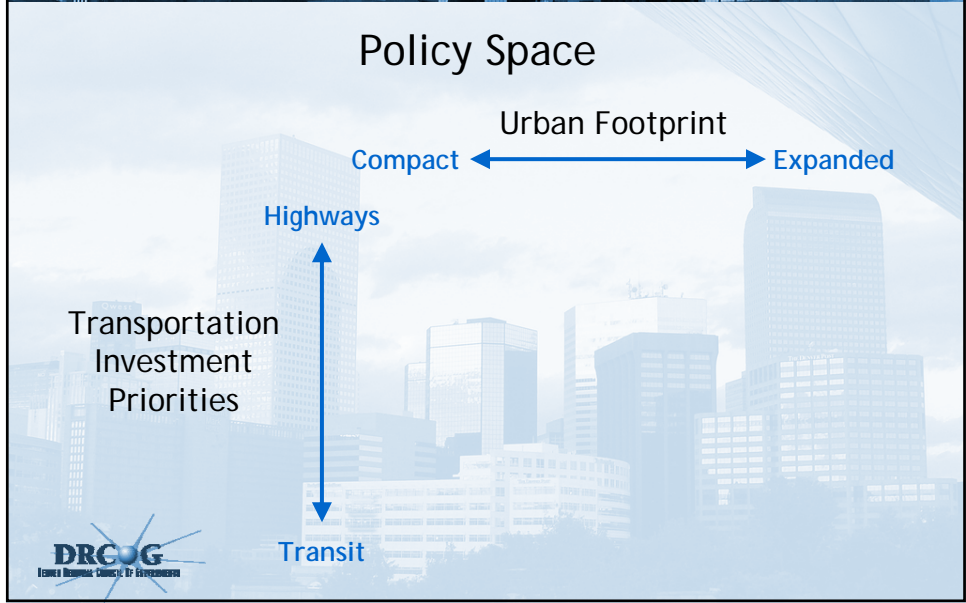
### Funding Shortfall

Metro Vision 2030 Total Needs	\$88 B
<i>Capital</i>	\$49 B
<i>Operations &amp; Maintenance</i>	\$39 B
Known Funding Sources	\$63 B
<i>Local</i>	\$32 B
<i>RTD</i>	\$19 B
<i>State and Federal</i>	\$12 B
<b>Overall Shortfall</b>	<b>\$25 B</b>

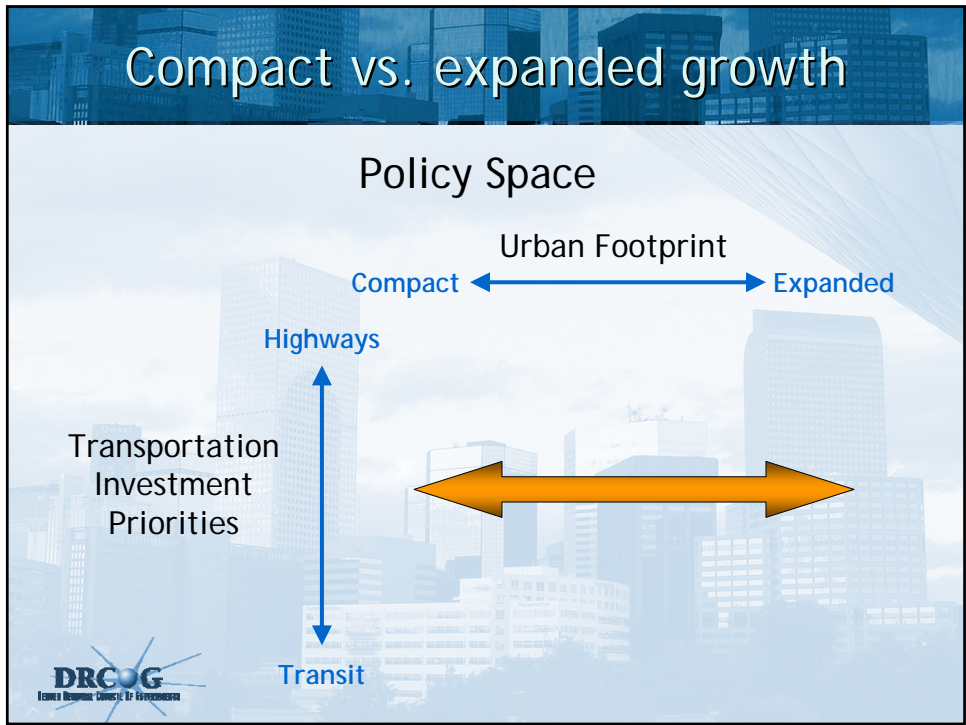


Note: All values are in FY 05 dollars. Funding estimates are through 2030.

# What are alternative scenarios for the future?



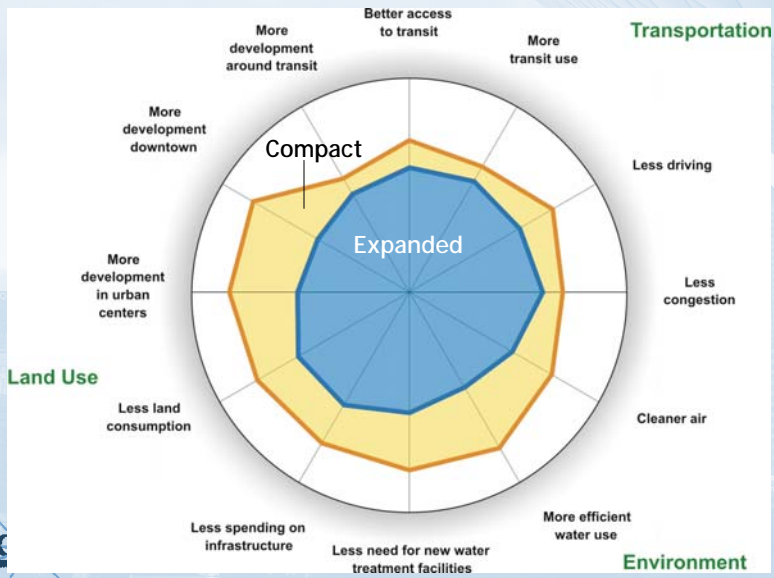
# Compact vs. expanded growth



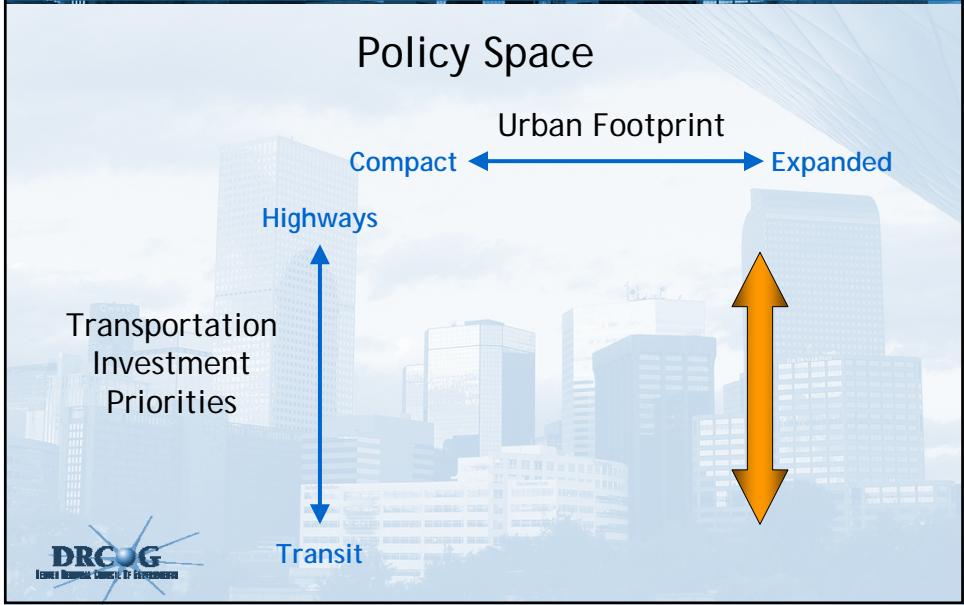
# Compact vs. expanded growth



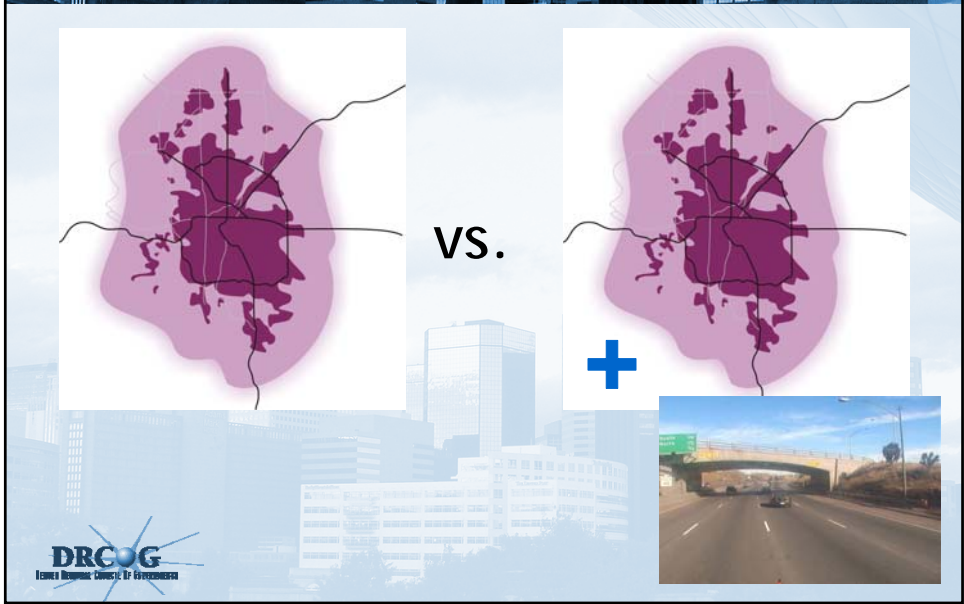
# Compact development performs better on all measures



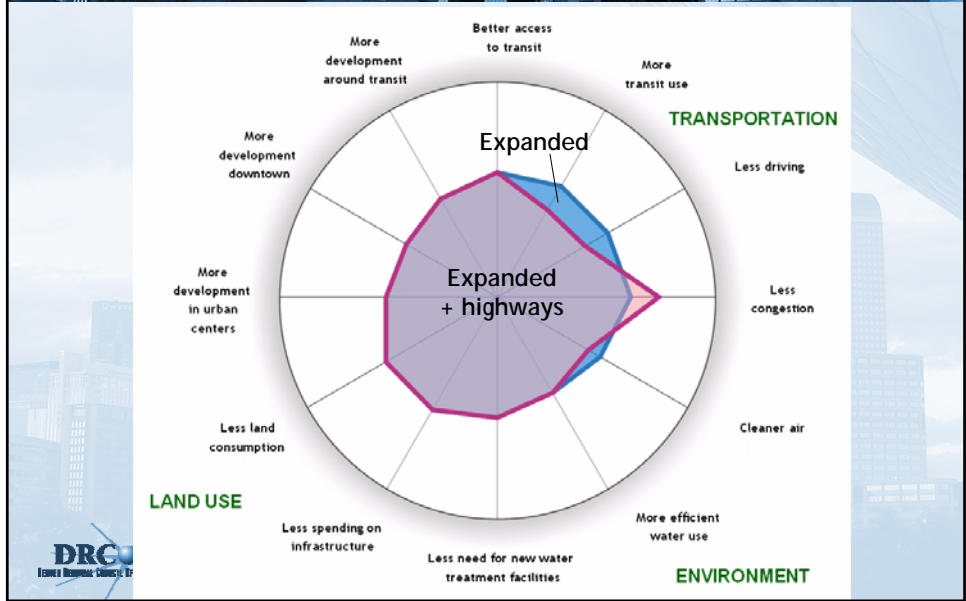
# Expanded vs. Expanded plus highways



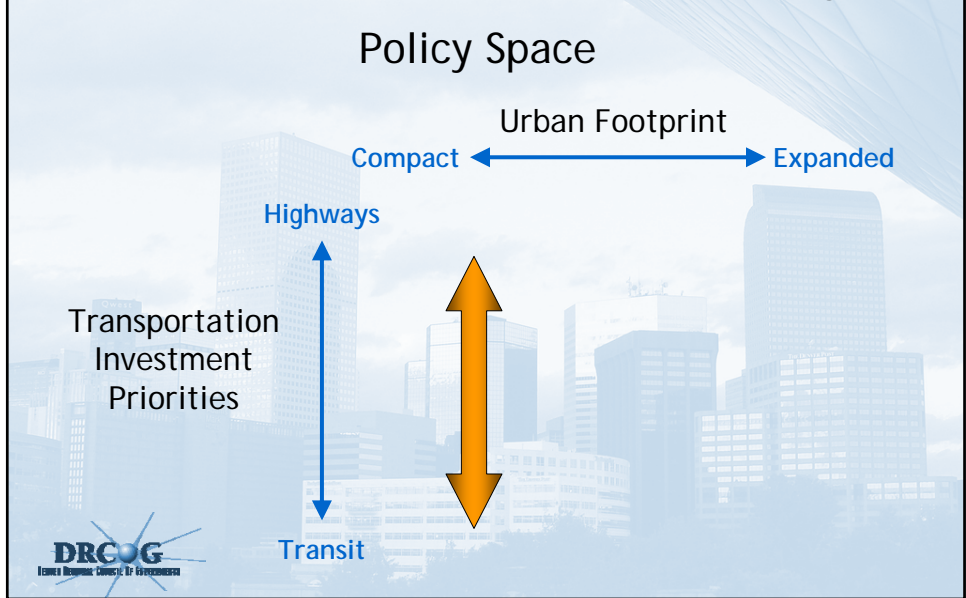
# Expanded vs. Expanded plus highways



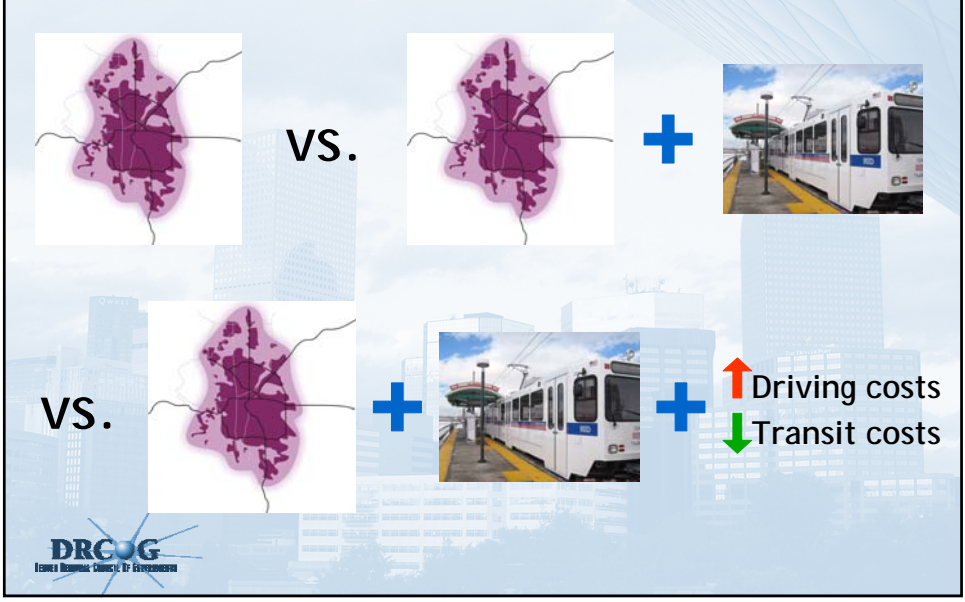
# Results are mixed



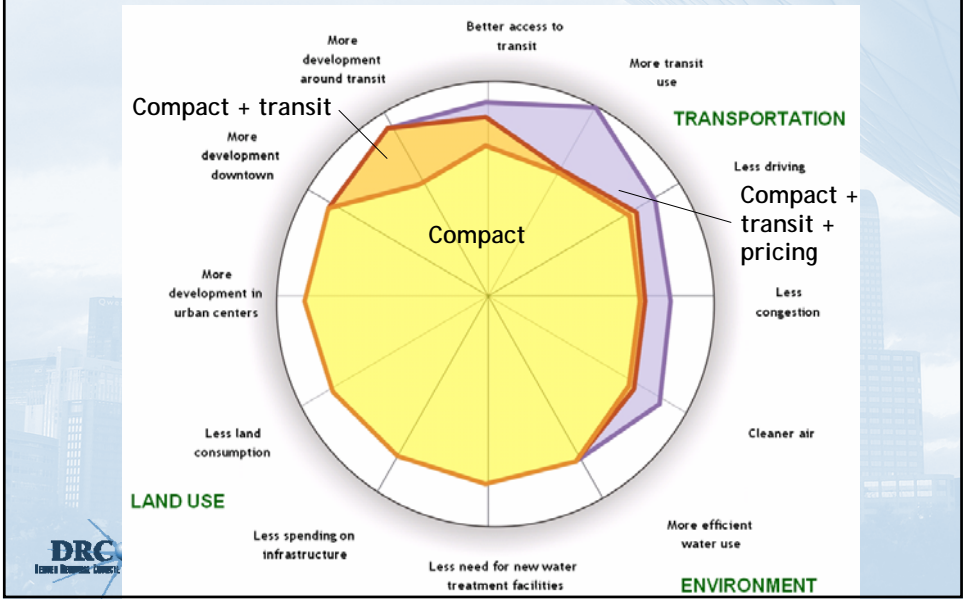
# Compact vs. Compact plus transit vs. Compact plus transit plus pricing



# Compact vs. Compact plus transit vs. Compact plus transit plus pricing



# Compact plus transit plus pricing performs best



## What do the scenarios tell us?

- Compact development produces better outcomes:
  - Less congestion
  - Less environmental impact
  - Less spending on infrastructure
  - More development in activity centers



## What do the scenarios tell us?

- Transportation investments can also contribute to desired outcomes
  - But building more highways also increases driving, thereby reducing air quality
  - Where does the funding come from?
- The cost of driving versus taking transit influences people's travel behavior



## How can these scenarios inform regional planning?

- Metro Vision Plan
  - Which transportation projects to include in the long-range plan?
  - When and how much to expand the urban growth boundary?
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
  - Which transportation projects to give the highest priority for funding?



## How can I get involved in the regional planning process?

- Attend Board meetings
  - Third Wednesday, 6:30 pm
  - Public comment at beginning of meeting
- Attend public workshops
  - First two weeks of October (details TBA)
- Contact your Board representative
  - Find them online at [www.drcog.org](http://www.drcog.org)

