



Pikes Peak Area  
Council of Governments  
Communities Working Together

**DATE:** January 11, 2023  
**TO:** PPACG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jared Verner, Public Information Officer  
**THROUGH:** Andrew Gunning, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** 2023 BOARD APPOINTMENTS

***ACTION REQUESTED: Review and Approval***

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## SUMMARY

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments holds positions on various committees, commissions and boards that are held by members of the Board of Directors. The following positions must be appointed by the Board:

- 1) Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee for the Pikes Peak Transportation Planning Region. This is for one appointment, but alternates may be identified.
- 2) Transit representative to the PPACG Board of Directors. This is for one appointment, but alternates may be identified.
- 3) Front Range Passenger Rail District. This is for one appointment.
- 4) Drive Smart Colorado Board of Directors. This is for up to three appointments.

## RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1) Discuss and approve appointment of representatives to the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee.
- 2) Discuss and approve appointment of transit representative to the PPACG Board of Directors.
- 3) Discuss and approve appointment to the Front Range Passenger Rail District.
- 4) Discuss and approve appointments to the Drive Smart Colorado Board of Directors.

## PROPOSED MOTION(S)

- 1) Move to approve the proposed appointments to the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee.
- 2) Move to approve the proposed appointments of transit representative to the PPACG Board of Directors.
- 3) Move to approve the proposed appointment to the Front Range Passenger Rail Commission.
- 4) Move to approve the proposed appointments to the Drive Smart Colorado Board of Directors.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

The Board of Directors has the following alternatives to consider:

- 1) Table the appointments to a later date

## **BACKGROUND**

### Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee

The Colorado Department of Transportation convenes the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee, a monthly meeting of elected officials representing the 15 transportation planning regions in Colorado. The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments has ranged from two alternates up to 13 at one point.

This planning region is smaller than the boundaries of PPACG and the representative must come El Paso County, Teller County, City of Colorado Springs, City of Fountain, City of Manitou Springs, City of Woodland Park, Town of Monument, Town of Palmer Lake or Town of Green Mountain Falls. All other member governments are part of the Central Front Range Transportation Planning Region, which the PPACG does not appoint.

For 2022, the following Board members and staff served as representatives to the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee:

- Primary: Dave Donelson
- First Alternate: John Liosatos
- Second Alternate: Nancy Henjum
- Third Alternate: Yolanda Avila
- Fourth Alternate: Kellie Case
- Fifth Alternate: Andrew Gunning
- Sixth Alternate: Wayne Williams
- Seventh Alternate: Stan VanderWerf
- Eighth Alternate: Erik Stone
- Ninth Alternate: Sharon Thompson

### Transit Representative

In September 2017, the Board updated and amended the Bylaws, with changes to the transit representative. Article IV, Section A2 of the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments Board of Directors Bylaws states “PPACG shall have, as federal requirements direct, a voting member representing the interests of transit. A nomination committee will nominate a transit representative and alternate annually or as needed from existing voting members who provide transit services in the MPO region, who shall be selected by the Board.” The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments Board nominating committee did not make a recommendation on a primary or alternate transit representative this year. Based on recent practice, the transit representative rotates between Colorado Springs and Fountain.

For 2022, the following Board members served as the transit representative:

Primary: Sharon Thompson  
 First Alternate: Yolanda Avila

#### Front Range Passenger Rail District

Colorado Senate Bill 21-238 established the Front Range Passenger Rail District for the purpose of planning, designing, developing, financing, constructing, operating and maintaining a passenger rail system. The district is governed by a Board of Directors.

The Front Range Passenger Rail District, as defined by SB 21-138, includes all areas within El Paso County that are located within the territory of a metropolitan planning organization. This is for El Paso County only and not the remainder of the council of governments area. Each metropolitan planning organization that represents more than 500,000 residents, but fewer than one million residents in the district, shall appoint one director. The City of Colorado Springs, which comprises 55 percent or more of the total population of the metropolitan planning organization’s territory, shall appoint a second director for the metropolitan planning organization area in accordance with SB 21-138. The City of Colorado Springs’ director is Jill Gaebler.

In 2022, the following Board members served on the Front Range Passenger Rail District Board of Directors:

John Graham

#### Drive Smart Colorado

The mission of Drive Smart Colorado is to reduce the number of traffic crashes through community collaboration and education. It does so by informing the community about the programs, policies and practices of law enforcement, injury prevention, business and the armed forces that enhance public safety on our

streets, roads and highways. It also educates drivers, passengers and pedestrians about improved attitudinal and behavioral changes needed to accomplish the mission. The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments Board of Directors may appoint up to three members from its body to serve on the Drive Smart Colorado Board of Directors.

In 2022, the following Board members served on the Drive Smart Colorado Board of Directors:

Primary: Sharon Thompson, Dick Elsner, Nancy Henjum

### **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

Please select which strategic plan goals this applies to.

- Advocacy: Serve as an effective advocacy voice for common ground issues.
- Information Sharing: Serve as a significant resource for PPACG members to collect and share information with regional partners.
- Aging: Expand and extend senior access, awareness, education, and connectivity to support age-friendly communities and empower individual seniors.
- Transportation: Maintain and improve a coordinated, validated plan for transportation needs across the PPACG region.
- Program Excellence: Continue to excel in the key fundamental areas of PPACG: Military support, Environmental programs, Transportation, Area Agency on Aging, and regional communication, and collaboration.