Austin Troy: Imagine A Great Region

The Colorado Front Range is experiencing explosive rates of urban growth, bringing tremendous opportunities and challenges. Imagine a Great Region is a partnership between CU Denver (CAP, SPA and City Center) and the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOGs) that builds upon DRCOG’s Metro Vision Idea Exchange meeting series to foster cross-sector, regional conversations on growth and to inform these conversations with the latest research from the university and beyond. Since 2019, this initiative has resulted in four large stakeholder meetings on key regional topics including mobility and transportation, housing affordability and gentrification, regional environmental quality, and equitable economic development. The team has also partnered with the Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce to work on their Prosper Colorado, which seeks to promote equity in the regional economy, with the help of the Brooking Institution. Our work includes serving on Prosper’s steering committee and conducting research with a group of student RAs to analyze data about the regional economy.

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- Team:

  Austin Troy
  Professor, CU Denver
  Urban & Regional Planning

  Nolbert Chavez
  Director, City Center
  CU Denver

  Brad Calvert
  Regional Planning and Development Director, DRCOG

*publication lead