

## URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY (URAs)

Downtown Colorado Inc. (DCI) works with Urban Renewal Authorities (URA) in Colorado to build a stronger network, advocate for effective and well-managed downtown tools, share information and best practices, and provide education and professional development to professionals and communities working with the URA structure.

### WHAT IS A URA?

Municipalities form urban renewal authorities (URAs) when there is a blighted area of general deterioration, slums or deteriorating structures, or a need for a new street or lot layouts. The motivation is often the need for the correction of areas having an unusual topography or inadequate public improvements, as well as health, safety or welfare concerns such as unsafe or unsanitary conditions or environmental contamination.

### QUICK FACTS

- 63 URAs in Colorado
- 31 combined URA plans
- Approximately 50% Commissioners are council or trustees, 50% appointed.

### URAs PROVIDE TOOLS FOR REMOVING BLIGHT

- Affordable Housing
- Build New Streets
- Clean Ups
- Facade Grants
- Parks
- Playgrounds
- Public Art
- Utilities
- Remediation

## EXAMPLES OF COLORADO URAs

**Arvada Urban Renewal Authority** has six URA plans and twelve Active TIFs. Current projects include Arvada Place, Former Kmart Site, Garrison Street Paseo, Ralston Creek Streetscape, and Residences at Old Town Station.

**Canon City Area for Reinvestment Expansion (C-CARE)** has one URA plan and one Active TIF, which includes a focus on Economic Development, Public Safety, Infrastructure, Attractive Built Environment, Community Investment, Opportunities, Public Trust, Transparency and Accountability.

**Fort Lupton Urban Renewal Authority (FLURA)** has one URA Plan and four Cooperation Agreements. FLURA has a good relationship with all tax entities and is seeking new development in its URA area.

**Manitou Springs Urban Renewal Authority** has one URA plan and one Active TIF. Current projects include negotiations with business owners for new development and revitalization to Manitou and Colorado Avenue.

# DOWNTOWN COLORADO

inc.

## URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY (URAs) MENU OF SERVICES

DCI's URA membership provides access to URA-specific benefits including customized collateral material, participation in monthly discussions with URA professionals, and the opportunity to highlight your URA projects on a state-wide platform.

### PEER-TO- PEER EDUCATION

Stay informed on issues affected Colorado communities with planned meetings, educational workshops, and networking events.

### BOARD STAFF TRAINING

Stay current with discussions around best practices and idea sharing with planned meetings, educational workshops, and networking events.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSISTANCE

Promote your URA's image among public and elected officials with customized public relations material.

### STATEWIDE ADVOCACY

Build awareness of the positive impacts of urban renewal with DCI by synchronizing URA project updates on a statewide level and sharing your stories with legislators.

### IN THE GAME VIBRANT DOWNTOWN EVENT

DCI's annual four-day event is the premier space to gain resources, training, and ideas in all areas related to economic development and community viability in Colorado. Take advantage of our Challenge Workshops where participants worked side-by-side with leading industry experts and local peer networks to craft problem-solving plans.

### STATEWIDE URA DIRECTORY

DCI maintains the State's most comprehensive list of Colorado URAs, contacts, and information about each organization.

### COLORADO URA COMMITTEE

Network, share innovative approaches, review current events and project highlights, and collaboratively problem-solve at monthly URA committee meetings.

### MEMBER ONLY ONLINE RESOURCES

DCI hosts a member-only URA Resource Page and Colorado Urban Renewal Partners LinkedIn Page to share news, articles, and updates from recent URA events.

### TAX INCREMENT FINANCE SUMMIT

DCI hosts an annual summit in the fall to discuss innovative problem solving tactics and best practice approaches to common URA obstacles.

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