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# DENVER • COMMUNITY ACTIVE LIVING COALITION

*Office of Community & Business Engagement (OCBE)*

*Department of Transportation & Infrastructure (DOTI)*

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# DENVER • COMMUNITY ACTIVE LIVING COALITION

**Mission:** Denver CALC is a diverse group of community members who care about health and safety through physical activity.

**Vision:** We envision a city with safe, convenient and fun spaces to walk, roll, bike and take transit where residents of all ages and abilities can connect to their environment and one another.

**Program Goal:** Since **2015**, CALC has worked to make active living and healthy choices the default by promoting community-driven action, connecting communities to available resources, providing culturally appropriate education and capacity-building programs, improving policies and systems, and **increasing access to safe, convenient, and fun places for walking, rolling, biking, taking transit, and participating in active play and recreation in the City & County of Denver.**



On behalf of OCBE, DOTI, and the City & County of Denver, CALC leads transformational engagement programs that proactively connect, collaborate, and build relationships and shared-leadership coalitions with Denver community members in fun, active, and energetic ways.

Denver CALC leads or supports various action items within the Safe Routes to School 5-Year Action Plan (2021), and the Denver Vision Zero Action Plan (2023).

# Funding Details

- **\$680,000** in FY24, **\$800,000** in FY25, and **\$870,000** in FY26 for a total of **\$2,350,000** in FY24-26, with a potential for FY27-28 extension.
- Awarded by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) under the Cancer, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease (CCPD) grants program.
  - CCPD funds come from Amendment 35 State Tobacco Tax, to fund a competitive grants program for the prevention, early detection, and treatment of cancer, cardiovascular disease, and chronic pulmonary disease in Colorado.
  - Path 1: Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change, Strategy 1: Built Environment; transportation and land use policies



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

# CALC Strategic Activities

1. Convening the **Citywide CALC and Future of Denver Youth Collaborative (FODY)**

1. Build trusting relationships through focused engagement and partnership building in **DOTI Equity Areas of CALC Quadrants**

1. Provide **technical assistance and capacity building** programs to increase active living, equity, and leadership

1. Lead, explore, promote, adopt, and implement **policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) interventions** throughout DOTI

1. **Evaluate** the CALC program, create best practices, and share successes

# Equity Areas & CALC Quadrants

Southwest Denver,  
established 2018



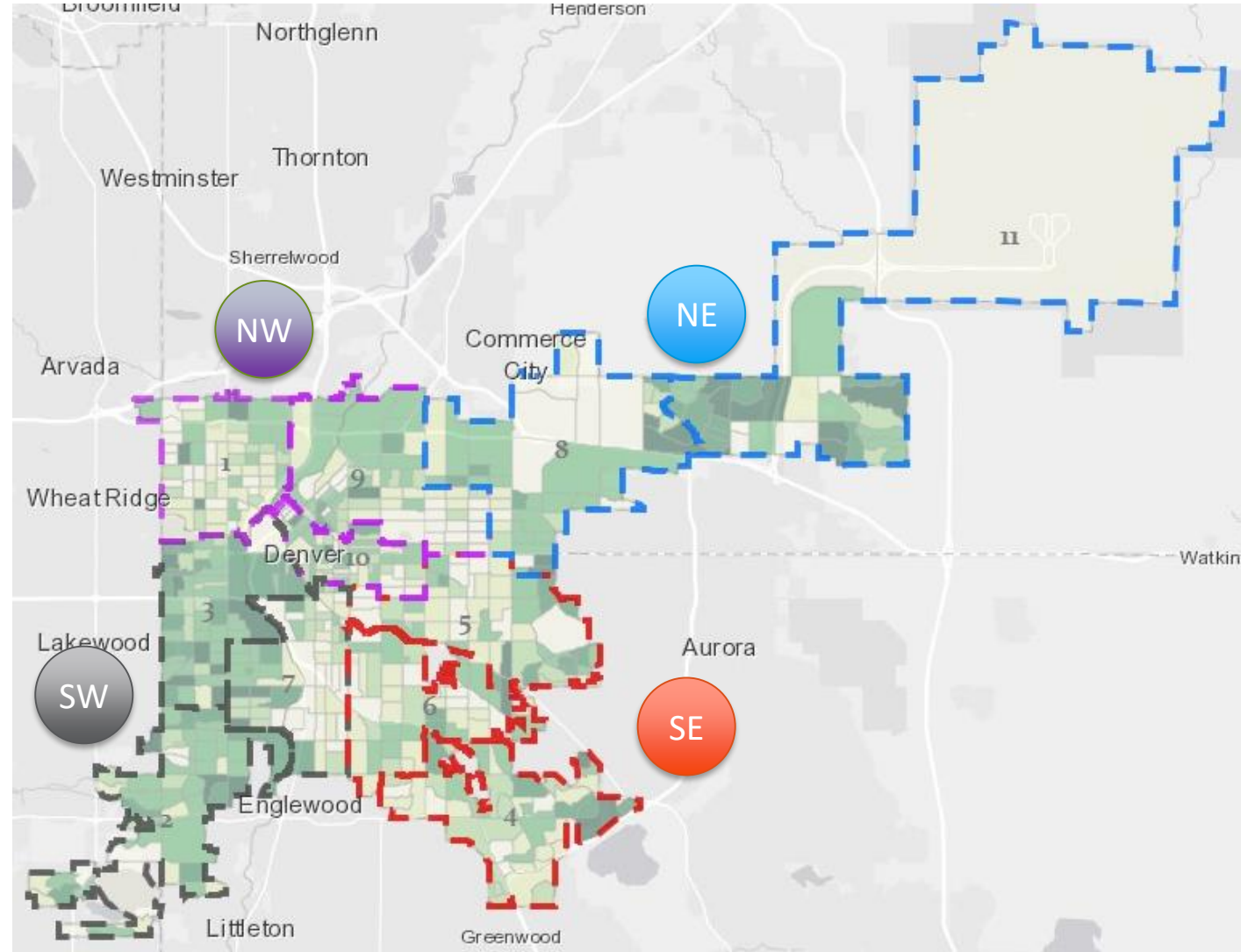
Northeast Denver,  
established 2018



Northwest Denver,  
established 2022



Southeast Denver,  
new 2024



# Denver CALC Team

- CALC Quadrant Teams (4)
  - Community Connector (full-time)
  - Safe Routes Advocate (part-time, ~20 hours weekly)
  - Youth Advisor (on-call, ~8 hours weekly)
- Other CALC Staff
  - Program Manager (full-time)
  - Community Projects Administrator (full-time)
  - Policy Administrator (full-time)





# CALC Capacity Building Priorities

The CALC team has identified 3-5 key capacity building measures to build leadership capacity for our coalition, including:

## CALC Micro-Grants

provide resource capacity directly to community leaders and their projects

## Trainings/Workshops

boost community members' capabilities in participating in CALC programs

## Volunteering

build sustainability with volunteer leaders and a structure that expands our reach

## Coalition Building

(CALC & FODY) to recruit members to learning series and CALC programs

## Tours

(transit, biking, walking, etc.) that engage and empower community members



# Policy, Systems, & Environmental Change (PSE) Goals

Lead, explore, promote, adopt, and implement PSE interventions to reduce inequities, enhance public health and active living, and support making healthy choices the default.

Policy Areas:

1. Equity & Engagement (OCBE)
2. Children & Youth-based (Safe Routes to School)
3. Culture of Safety (Vision Zero)
4. Transportation & Infrastructure (DOTI)
5. Land Use (interagency partnerships)

Social & Physical Determinants of Health



# Program Feedback

*“This is an amazing grant program that I often refer to people with no experience writing or evaluating grants. It really builds and empowers community.” – 2022 Micro-Grantee*

*“This meeting overall was very informative. I received a lot of information that I would not otherwise. Great opportunity to network.” – CALC Meeting Attendee*

*“Through the leadership of the CALC Program, DOTI has created a strong program that combines community engagement and built environment policy and promotion. The program continues to be a lead on transformational community engagement programs” – CDPHE, Letter of Support*

*“The [Micro-Grant] was far more than a grant. It was a partnership and Elizabeth (Grant Officer) worked with us to understand our organization and community and to assist us in identifying artists, the process for vetting artists, and support in ensuring we completed it. We were in awe of just how helpful she and the rest of CALC was. What a great experience!” – 2022 Micro-Grantee*



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# Thank you!

Contact us at [calc@denvergov.org](mailto:calc@denvergov.org)