

# BOOMER BOND ASSESSMENT TOOL

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**Sheila Lynch**

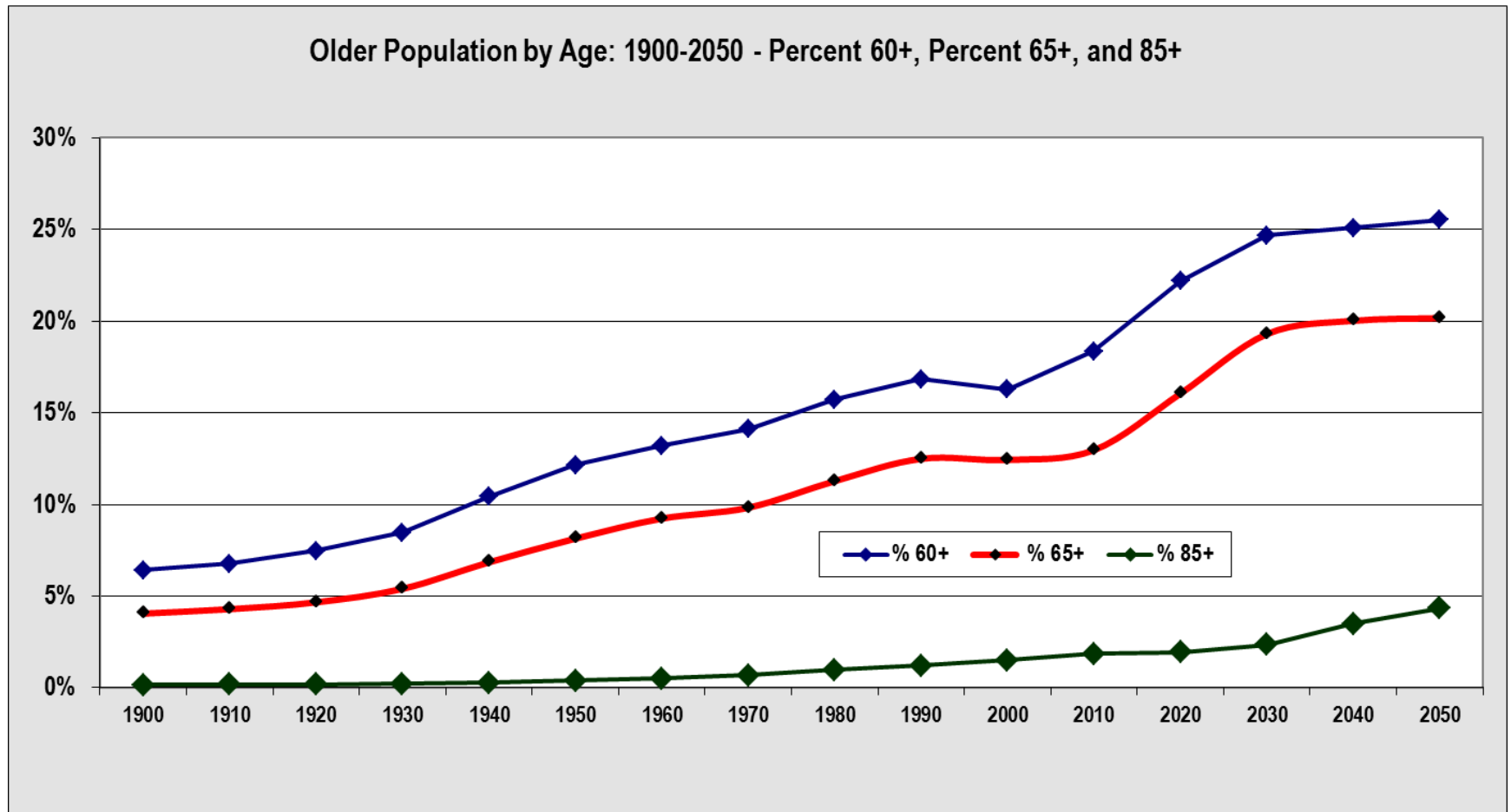
**Tri-County Health Department**

New Partners in Smart Growth Conference

February 13, 2014

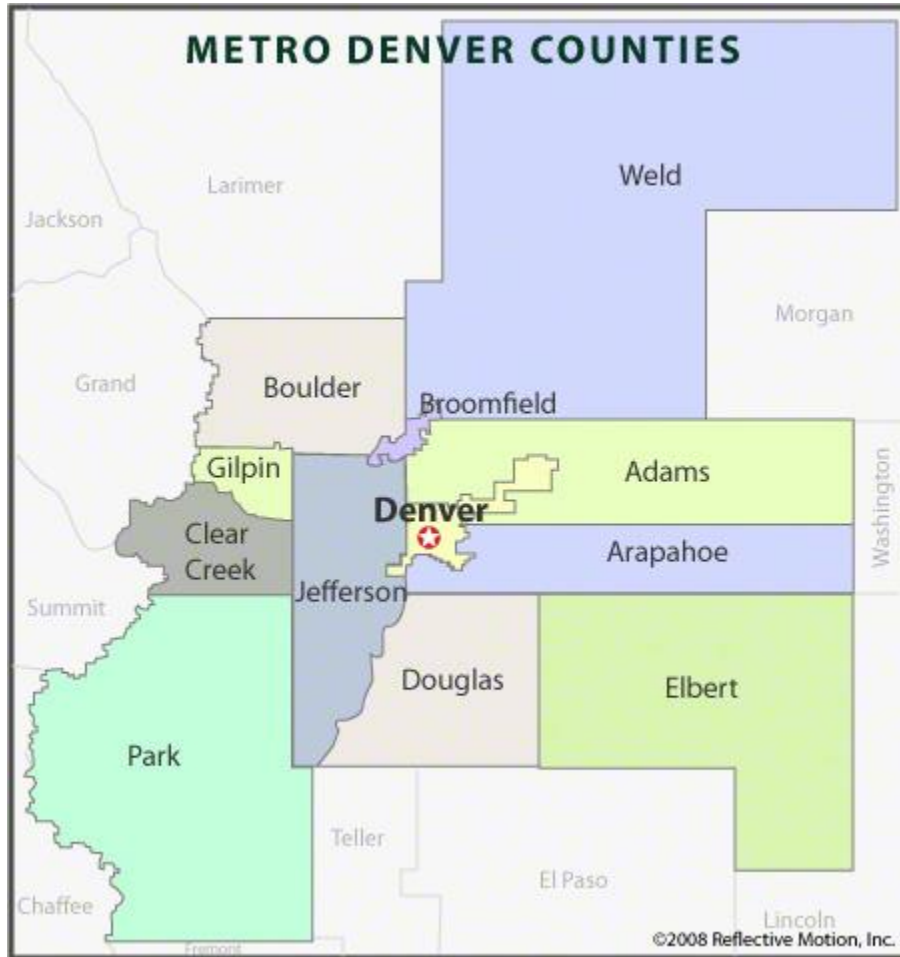


# Growth in Older Populations



This table was compiled by the U.S. Administration on Aging using the Census data noted.  
[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/\(S\(2ch3qw55k1qylo45dbihar2u\)\)/Aging\\_Statistics/future\\_growth/future\\_growth.aspx#state](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/(S(2ch3qw55k1qylo45dbihar2u))/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx#state)

# Denver Profile



- 2010 – 1 in 8 were over 60 years old
- By 2030 – 1 in 4 will be over 60 years old
- Vast majority of older adults plan to stay in Denver

# Boomer Bond Initiative

Denver Regional Council on Governments (DRCOG)

## Objectives:

- **regional awareness** of the impacts of an aging population
- **best practices** for local governments
- **regional cooperation and commitment** to creating communities that work for a lifetime
- **recognize communities** that are working to create an age-friendly region



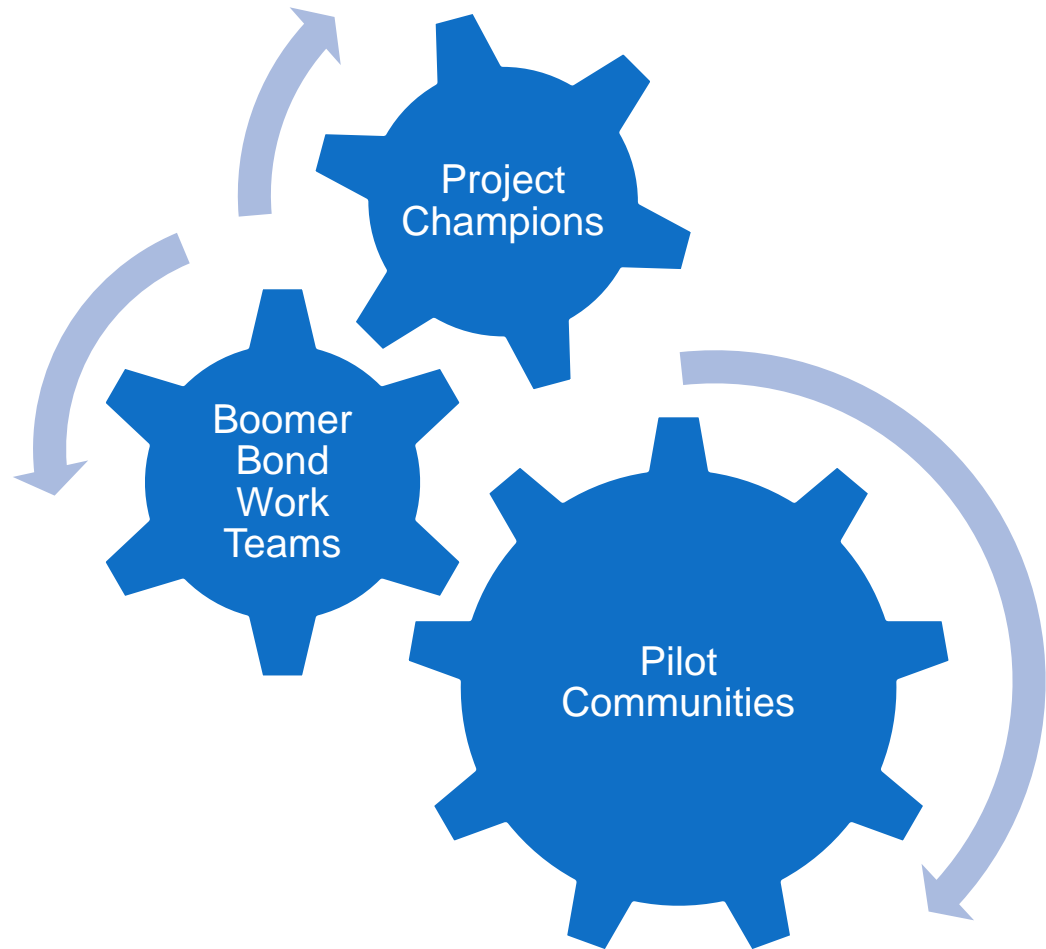
# Public Health Role



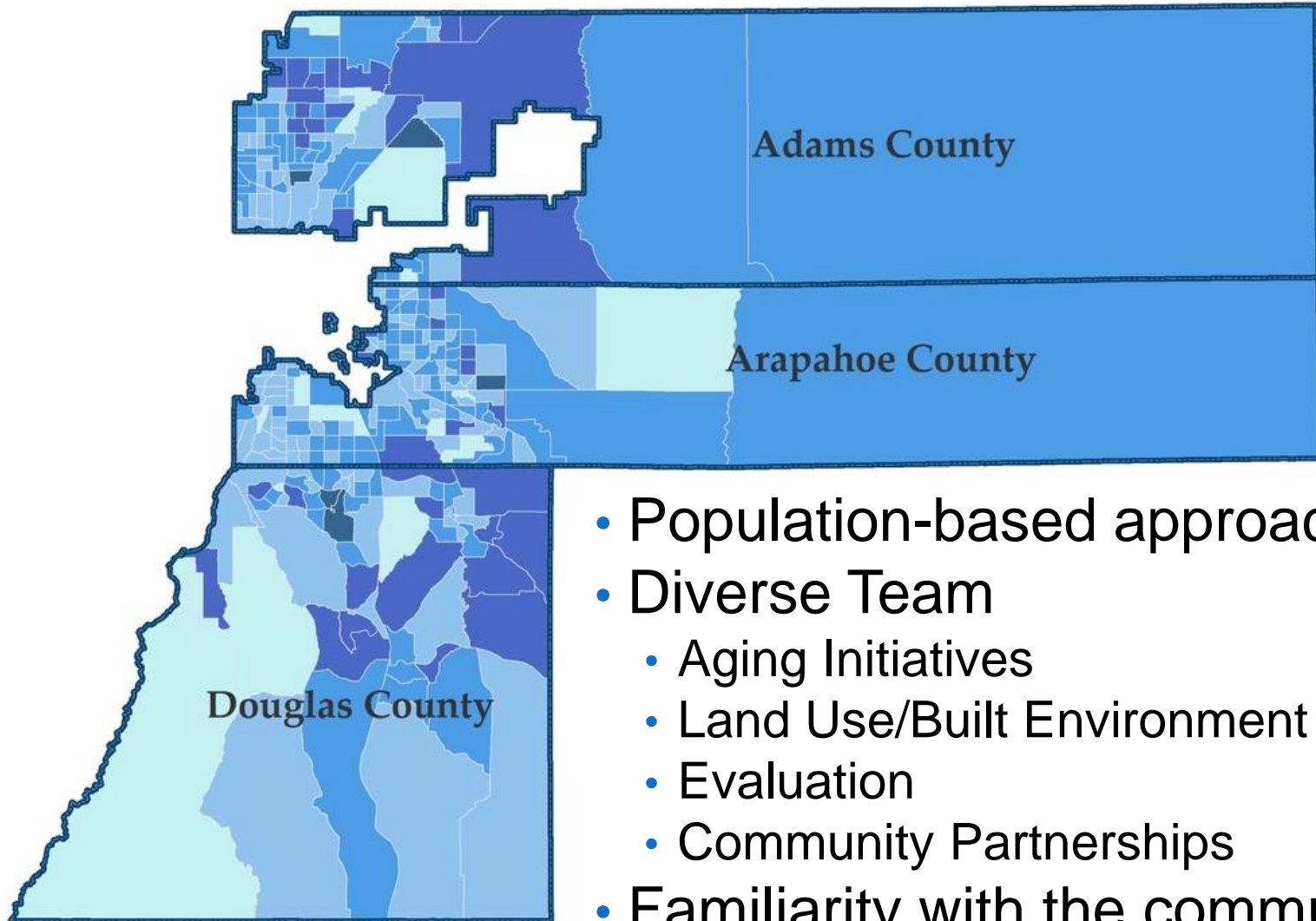
- Assist with completion of an **Assessment Tool**
- Develop a companion **Toolkit**
- **Recognition Program**
- **Strategies for Implementation**

# Boomer Bond Assessment Tool

A resource for local governments to assess how well they are addressing the needs of older adults.



# Public Health Role



- Population-based approach
- Diverse Team
  - Aging Initiatives
  - Land Use/Built Environment
  - Evaluation
  - Community Partnerships
- Familiarity with the community



# Pilot Communities

- Conversation that followed was more valuable than the assessment results
- Each community customized how they conducted the assessment
- Baseline knowledge not the same for all
- Local government staff concerned about being “evaluated”





# Guiding Themes

- Instructions on how to use the assessment tool
- Establish common definitions
- Actionable questions
- Coordinated discussion questions





## Community Meetings and Civic Events

**32. What specific strategies does your community use to enable all older adults to participate in town/city/community meetings and civic events?**

|  | Required                 | Encouraged               | Being considered         | Not Addressed            | Don't Know               | Not applicable (not allowed in community) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Facilities in which these types of meetings and events are held meet ADA requirements.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Service animals are permitted  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Large print materials are provided to those who need them  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Assistive listening devices are provided to those who need them  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Sign language interpretation is provided to those who need it  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Foreign language interpretation is provided to those who need it   |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |   |
| Microphones are used routinely, even in small rooms  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Participants are given the opportunity to request accommodations ahead of time (e.g., foreign language or sign language interpreter, large print, assistive hearing devices, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Transportation provided to meeting   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
| Reserved Seating   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |



# Example of Discussion Questions

- What **barriers and gaps** exist?
- What groups and local government **partners** should be involved in creating solutions?
- What **strategies and solutions may be easier** to address than others?
- What **timeframes are realistic** for addressing the gaps and barriers?

# Breaking down silos

- Shared goals
- Listening to various perspectives
- Designing tools that resonate with audience



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