

**May 28, 2013**

**Welcome to *Inside RTD FasTracks*: A monthly e-update about the progress of the Regional Transportation District's (RTD) FasTracks program**

## **FasTracks News**

### **FasTracks History, Progress Focus of PBS Special**

The history and progress of RTD's FasTracks program is the focus of a Colorado Public Television Channel 12 TV special. *FasTracks Moving Forward* is a 30-minute program that



details the people, projects and innovation that are making light rail, bus rapid transit (BRT) and commuter rail a reality for the eight-county Denver metro region. The broadcast features RTD General Manager Phil Washington, Lakewood Mayor Bob Murphy and Metro Denver Economic Development Corp. CEO Tom Clark (left to right in photo) in a panel discussion moderated by host Tamara Banks. [Watch FasTracks](#)

*Moving Forward*, which will air again on Channel 12 on Friday, June 21, at 11:59 p.m. and on Sunday, June 23, at 9:30 p.m.

### **Downtown Denver Circulator Will Provide No-Fare Service**

A new high-frequency [circulator bus](#) that will complement the 16th Street Mall Shuttle in Downtown Denver will be a no-fare service for passengers. On May 28, the RTD Board of Directors passed a plan to provide no-fare service on the new bus route, which will carry people between Denver Union Station and the Civic Center area along 19th and 18th streets. The new shuttle service is scheduled to open next year.

### **RTD FasTracks Summer Public Outreach Efforts Ramp Up**

RTD staff members will be attending various community events across the Denver region this summer to share information and answer questions about FasTracks. RTD employees have already engaged with the public at the Cinco de Mayo celebration in Denver's Civic Center Park and at the Thorntontfest in Thornton. Public outreach is an important aspect of RTD FasTracks' efforts to keep the public informed about its progress, regional collaboration and community benefits. In another form of outreach, the RTD Board and staff have given 180 presentations to community groups and organizations.

### **RTD Citizens Advisory Committee Goes on the Road in June**

The RTD Citizens Advisory Committee ([CAC](#)) will hold its next quarterly public meeting from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, at the Westminster City Hall Council Chamber. The meeting will include an update on the Northwest Rail project and the Northwest Area Mobility Study. CAC members represent communities across the Denver area and advise RTD about matters relating to FasTracks.

## Project Updates

### Denver Union Station: First Three Restaurants Selected for Historic Station



Three award-winning Denver restaurants will open for business in Denver Union Station's renovated train terminal when it debuts in July 2014: The Kitchen Next Door, Chef Alex Seidel's new-concept restaurant and Snooze. The eateries will feature outdoor patios and cater to foodies who enjoy farm-to-table meals made from locally grown ingredients. Denver Union Station is the crown jewel of RTD's FasTracks transit expansion program.

The iconic [station](#) will be a hub for light rail, commuter rail, bus, bike and other modes of transportation into and out of Denver's core, with connections to the suburbs, regional cities and Denver International Airport. When completed, the station will also offer shops and a boutique hotel with 112 rooms. Track the project on [Facebook](#).

### I-225 Rail Line: Aurora Residents Hear About Rail Platforms



stations.

More than 50 people attended a May 15 [meeting](#) to learn more about planned light rail platforms along the I-225 corridor. RTD FasTracks plans to build new light rail stations at Iliff and at Florida in Aurora as part of its buildout of the I-225 Rail Line. RTD, Kiewit Corp., AECOM and Aurora representatives provided the [presentation](#) and answered questions about new platforms at both

### Eagle P3 Rail Project: Video Highlights Progress on Corridors

A [video](#) on the RTD FasTracks website is giving visitors an idea of how far along the largest FasTracks project, the Eagle P3, has come this spring. The project comprises three new rail lines: the East Line to Denver International Airport, the Gold Rail Line to Arvada/Wheat Ridge and the Northwest Rail Line Segment One to south Westminster. The project also includes the construction of a new commuter rail maintenance facility.

### Northwest Area Mobility Study: June 19 Telephone Town Hall Set

Colorado residents who live in the northwest area of the Denver metropolitan region can learn more about the new Northwest Area Mobility Study during an upcoming telephone town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19. The meeting is one of several public outreach events that will be held during the 13-month study. Callers will be able to hear about the study's objectives and voice opinions about various transit options for the [northwest region](#). The study focuses on the feasibility of phased construction of the Northwest Rail Line, of extending the North Metro Rail Line to Longmont, and new arterial bus rapid transit (BRT) lines. In addition, it will analyze a reverse commute between Denver Union Station and U.S. 36 and determine final BRT commitments.

### **U.S. 36 BRT: Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Held at Boulder's Table Mesa**

RTD FasTracks held a May 3 ribbon-cutting to celebrate the grand opening of the Table Mesa pedestrian bridge in Boulder. The new walkway enables commuters to cross over U.S. 36 safely to reach a new boarding plaza and eastbound bus connections. The [bridge](#) was a collaborative effort by RTD and the Colorado Department of Transportation. Pictured in the photo above are (left to right) RTD General Manager Phil Washington, Boulder County Commissioner Elise Jones, Boulder Mayor Matt Appelbaum and RTD Director Chuck Sisk.



### **North Metro Rail Line: Hundreds Attend Small Business Outreach Meeting**



As part of RTD's commitment to provide contracting opportunities to small business enterprises (SBE) and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE), the agency held a business outreach [meeting](#) on May 7 that attracted 300 attendees. The event was for businesses interested in working on the North Metro Rail project. At these informational and networking meetings, prime contractors, subcontractors and consultants learn about project scope, the request for proposal (RFP) process and project

finances. For more information, contact Dan Pearsall at 303-299-2281 or [Daniel.Pearsall@rtd-denver.com](mailto:Daniel.Pearsall@rtd-denver.com).

## **FasTracks Feature**

### **Denver Region Undertaking Major Transit Studies, Projects**



**Transit-Oriented Development**—Denver is experiencing an urban renaissance thanks to rapid transit-oriented development (TOD) which focuses on sustainable, walkable communities near rapid transit lines.

Denver is gaining a reputation for more than its Rocky Mountain lifestyle.

City planners, architects, engineers and policymakers across the United States and elsewhere are monitoring how RTD's FasTracks subsidiary and its partners are developing what is fast becoming one of the country's most efficient, dynamic and innovative public transit systems. From the light rail trains that zip around the metropolitan region to the heavier commuter trains that will soon ferry people to and from Denver International Airport, Denver's rapid transit solutions are not going unnoticed. In addition, transit-oriented development (TOD) is reinvigorating old and new neighborhoods near transit stations and revitalizing and creating others beyond. [Read more...](#)

## Calendar of Events

For a complete listing of upcoming events and activities, please click [here](#).

## Now Presenting

To schedule a FasTracks presentation for your group or organization, please contact the FasTracks Public Information Team today at 303-299-6990.

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*FasTracks is RTD's voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District. For more information about FasTracks, visit [www.rtd-fastracks.com](http://www.rtd-fastracks.com).*

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