

**NORTH METRO EIS
PUBLIC COMMENTS
January 2007**



Comment	Source	Date Created
<p>I am considering buying a house at 136th and York in Thornton and would like some information regarding the timeline and any noise barriers that may be put up to protect property values. I am also wondering if the project is a done deal and if it is, when it will begin and estimated time of completion. The house is very close to the tracks and I would so appreciate any information about this project.</p>	<p>website</p>	<p>Jan 5 2007 9:05 PM</p>
<p>FasTracks Citizens Advisory Committee C/O Roger Sherman FasTracks Public Information Team 1560 Broadway, Suite 700 Denver, CO 80202</p> <p>Dear Mr. Sherman</p> <p>As I am sure you are aware, the Denver Regional Transportation District is in the beginning stages of the Environmental Impact Statement for the FasTracks North Metro Corridor. This corridor is the proposed 18-mile long transit line that is supposed to identify the best way to provide high highly, reliable, transit service through the North Metro Corridor of Denver. In the 2004 election, Metro voters approved a budget of \$419.8 million for the North Metro Corridor as a part of the \$4.7 billion FasTracks Program. Although the voters in the Denver Metro Area approved this budget, it was not approved by a majority of voters in Adams County, where the heart of this corridor resides, because the initial proposed route passes through the heart of the North Metro Denver Residential Areas along a now inactive UPRR rail route.</p> <p>Many people in this area, including myself, have attended Transit Alternatives Public Meetings over the past weeks. The many concerned citizens of the North Metro Corridor have suggested alternatives at these meetings that have included alternative transit lines in a closer proximity to current transit corridor, along already existing North-South routes such as Interstate 25, or Washington Street. The initial estimate that the RTD has presented for diesel rail along current UPRR-Boulder branch rail routes is between \$410 million and \$450 million in our corridor. In an article published in the Denver Post on November 28, 2006, it is stated that RTD officials said it could cost three times as much up to \$1.4 billion to build a light rail line along Interstate 25 to 168th Avenue.</p> <p>Many of the citizens in this area believe that the direct disruption of over 800 residential properties along the proposed UPRR and the indirect disruption of many thousands more, along with the pending devaluation of the residential property directly adjacent to this route, is a price that is much too high for a transit route that can be easily relocated at this stage of the project planning process. Many of the other proposed corridors in the FasTracks project have routes planned along, or in close proximity to, current transit corridors. Citizens in this area feel that keeping future or proposed rail transit areas along existing transit corridors may not be the cheapest solution to our transportation issues, but over the long term, may be the best solution to our concerns. There are many existing parking lots and transit routes that RTD can utilize along existing transit routes that will keep proposed rail corridors clear of our residential areas in this North Metro Corridor. We feel that the disruption of current east-west traffic patterns, safety issues - including global terrorism and vandalism, as well as other traditional environmental concerns, have not been given fair consideration in our corridor.</p>	<p>mail</p>	<p>Jan 10 2007 8:43 AM</p>

Comments in this report are shown in their original form.
Personal and contact information has been removed to protect the privacy of the commenter.

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<p>The only issue that RTD is apparently concerned with is the "railroading" of this project through with little or no concern given to anything other than coming in under budget. Because of the apparent financial concerns that the North Metro Corridor EIS Committee have presented to the public in our meetings, the citizens of this area would like to respectfully request your input and guidance on this issue and concerns that we have presented in our Transit Alternative Public Meetings. There are many concerned citizens in this area that voted for responsible transportation, not the cheapest and easiest route through our residential neighborhoods. Because the financial concerns of this project that have been so poorly under estimated by the Denver RTD and the voters in Metro Denver, something needs to be done to stop this proposed route.</p> <p>Roger, as a fello Coloradoan, I'm sure you can understand the importance of our concerns and that this corridor route decision will affect many of our family values for many years to come. The citizens of the North Metro Corridor are extremely concerned with the future of both our residential neighborhoods and our transit needs. We would value deeply your help and support in the planning and routing of this transit project along current transit corridors. I would respectfully welcome any input, advise, or guidance you can offer to the citizens of the North Metro Corridor and the Denver Regional Transportation District that could make this project a success for everyone who lives in this beautiful area. Please feel free to contact me at the address listed below, via phone at +++++, or via fax at +++++. Thank you very much in advance for your forthcoming response. Respectfully Yours, Mark +++++ Thornton, CO 80241</p>		
<p>I currently use RTD Skyride to get to DIA and live near Hwy 7 and York St. Would you please address the following? 1) Are there any near future plans for a closer park-n-ride in my area that would get me to DIA? (Currently the closest one is 120th & I25 or 104th & Colo. Blvd.) 2) What is the 'ballpark' timeframe for the Northmetro Fastrack & East Corridor to be up and running? 3) Will the Northmetro and East Corridor intragate?</p>	website	Jan 10 2007 5:12 PM
<p>My name is Daniel +++++ and I am a Project Manager for the railroads here in Sydney, Australia. I have a Bachelor of Civil Engineering Degree and 6 years of project management experience. 5 of these years have been in the rail environment both in Australia and the UK. I am moving to Denver around the 28th of February this year and am extremely keen to start work there after this date. If you have any employment opportunities in the Denver area that I might be suited to, please don't hesitate to contact me. Kind Regards, Daniel +++++</p>	website	Jan 10 2007 6:23 PM
<p>Could you please email me the minutes of the nov 29th meeting and Dec. meeting? Thank you, Laura +++++</p>	(none)	Jan 21 2007 12:51 AM
<p>The first I heard that this was going on was in the Denver Daily News when they announced you had already canned lightrail. Lightrail is what we wanted and expected I am dissappointed that it has already been passed on. I would never use a commuter train, and don't want one anywhere near my neighborhood.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 11:14 AM

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<p>I live in the Fox Run community at 112th & York and I oppose an RTD stop at this section or any type of commuter rail. The train tracks run directly behind several residential residences and the noise level, increased traffic will most definitely disturb the neighborhoods and impact the area economically. Sound barriers constructed out of brick or stone as well as a grade separation would have to be installed and I don't think that would be a good use of tax payers dollars. As a citizen of this area I do not want to hear trains going by blowing their whistles every fifteen minutes. I also feel that it would be a danger and hazardous to the kids in the neighborhood who cross and play in the area on a constant basis.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 11:41 AM
<p>I am writing to express my STRONG opposition to RTD consideration of 112th & York for possible Fastracks development. This site is loaded with residential and business properties and is simply not a viable solution (As strongly voiced by Northglenn's recommendation against this site). As a homeowner in Fox Run with a home located immediately next the proposed development site, I have tremendous standing to voice this opposition. I have discussed this issue with others in the area and all have expressed concern over RTDs consideration of this action. One of the reasons I purchased in this subdivision was because of the surrounding open space and a Fastrack station at 112th & York would ruin this community. Since Fox Run contains some of the highest property values in Northglenn, this development will cause a decrease in property values and an exodus from the neighborhood and Northglenn, greatly decreasing the city's tax base and reputation. This could also result in various homeowner lawsuits against the city and RTD. I urge you to stop considering the 112th & York site for Fastracks.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 11:43 AM
<p>I am concerned about the impact of a commuter train that is to run on the north metro corridor of the Fast Tracks. I live in Northglenn (Fox Run development), quite close to the train tracks. I am very concerned about the noise that would be accompanying the running of a diesel train right by my house. My other concern is the train blowing its horn every time it goes over major roads. There are two major roads the train would cross right by my house. Those are 104th and 112th. I propose there to be noise mitigation put in place for the train crossing the roads and for along the train tracks, protecting the homes from the noise. I believe that the best way to mitigate the blowing of the horn is to place the tracks over or under the ground. I hope that you take my comments into consideration when making decisions about the North Metro Corridor. I would hate to see the value of my house decrease due to the fact that the train would change a presently quite community into a noisy neighborhood. Thank you for your time.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 12:05 PM
<p>I wanted to register my support for the north metro line of FasTracks, whether it is commuter rail or light rail. The economic benefits to the area, and the gain in public transit will be extraordinary. I would also weigh in supporting a station and park-n-ride for the city of Northglenn at 112th and York. This is a convenient location and cetral to many developments, existing and new.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 12:06 PM
<p>I live 1 block from the intersection of 112th and York. I support fastracs as an efficient means of public transportation. However, implementation of a diesel commuter line with a stop at 112th and York is an infringement on the rights of homeowners. The noise and pollution would have a negative impact on the Fox Run community and would hurt property values. I would be in favor of electric commuter line at this location only.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 1:41 PM

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<p>It is my understanding that RTD would send out a letter to Fox Run residents in Northglenn asking for comments regarding having a fastracks stop at 112th/York. I did not receive an invitation to comment until today. It is also my understanding that RTD still has the 112th & York site under consideration, despite Northglenn Taskforce's recommendation against the 112th/York site. This site should not be considered for a stop due to several reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The close proximity to a quiet neighborhood that would be heavily impacted by the increased noise, increased traffic and the decreased safety to the children that live in the neighborhood. 2. If the fastracks must be in Northglenn, there are several areas along 112th that would be more appropriate since they are not in such close proximity to a neighborhood. 3. Has RTD considered sound barriers for the Northglenn area if the stop must be along 112th? Or grade separation? 4. I feel that the stop could negatively impact home valuations in the area directly close to the fastracks stop. 	website	Jan 23 2007 2:23 PM
<p>Please do not place a stop at 112th and York because the neighborhood around the stop would become unlivable. For 17 out of 24 hours, residents would hear the diesel trains every 7-½ minutes. They would also hear train whistles every 2 ½ minutes, as the trains would blow their horns as they enter the stop and approach the crossing at 112th. If the train whistles were not enough, the residents would hear announcements over the PA system. For the commuters to reach the stop, they would be cutting through Fox Run subdivision by using the Fox Run Parkway. This road or subdivision was not meant to handle the traffic. Fox Run Parkway runs by 3 popular parks and one open space. Families, especially families with young children would not be using these parks due to the increase of traffic.</p> <p>To be able to support a commuter stop at this location, a parking garage would need to be built. How beautiful is a parking garage or a field of cement? An increase of littering would also be seen through the parking facilities, which is the opposite of clean. Please remember that this commuter stop will increase the noise and air pollution, crime and traffic while having an unpleasant view of parking structures. Would you want this in your backyard? Would you want to raise your children in this atmosphere. Please do not place a stop at 112th and York as it would ruin the atmosphere of Fox Run Parkway. Instead of placing a stop at this location, please spend the money on mitigating the impact of the rail on the residents in Fox Run Community. Please spend the money on building a brick wall to decrease the sound of the diesel engines. Also spend the money on a grade separation so the nearby residents will not hear the train whistles every 15 minutes as the train crosses 112th.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 6:49 PM
<p>I am a Northglenn resident who attended the Northglenn City Council meeting during the Fall. At that meeting; the City Council, based on a recommendation by the FasTrack Task Force, voted not on having RTD put a station for a commuter rail system located at 112th and York Street. I was one of the presenters to the City Council with a petition from the residents of Fox Run, a housing development along that road, to not have this Station located at this site. Once the City Council voted the Station down and we were assured that this Station would not be located at 112th and York I thought it was the end of discussion. I was dismayed to learn that a former Mayor of Northglenn, against all recommendations ,and the voice of the people of this community, is again attempting to get this FasTrack/Commuter Station at 112th and York.</p>	website	Jan 23 2007 9:02 PM

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<p>I am writing you to express in no uncertain terms that this Station should not be put at 112th and York for all the reasons that the FasTrack Task Force stated as well as the consensus of this community that it not be placed here. Along with the fact that the Northglenn City Council voted it down. It is bad enough that the tracks will be used for commuter rail service and not Fastrack /Light Rail as one had hoped. I sincerely hope that one person's political position should outweigh the objections over a whole community and government of a City. I think for FasTrack and RTD it would be an embarrassment if the citizens of this community made it known to the Rocky Mountain News and Denver Post that politics and politicians had more say than the constituents of a community and the government representing them.</p>		
<p>i am concerned about the 112th fas track station. I am concerned about the noise and vibration of a train starting and stopping all day long. Will there be any midigation for this problem? like new windows for all the old houses in the area? will the tracks be at a different grade? will there be a barrier built? i do not like this location for a station</p>	website	Jan 24 2007 5:53 AM
<p>Has extending the I-25 HOV lanes t the North been considered? Could the HOV lanes be expanded from Route 36 to 120th? My fiancee and I are looking at homes in the Broadlands area, but I-25 at night is so congested and slow-going that we're thinking of moving to Evergreen instead.</p>	website	Jan 30 2007 2:23 AM
<p>To whom it may concern: I am writing in opposition of a current proposal to place light rail tracks and a park and ride in the middle of a high density neighborhood district. I reside in the Haven at 144th and York. I understand the issue of cost, but I feel the safety and level of noise and disruption placing a light rail route on this path would have far outweigh the benefit of saving some money. I have ridden the proposed path on my bike and truly understand not only how many neighborhoods this impacts, but it runs VERY close to several schools as well. I firmly believe that the safety and protection of our children is incredibly important to the city of Thornton and I enjoy the leadership within this city. However, if a train is running by our classrooms and neighborhoods, it will negatively and dramatically affect classrooms, and the quality of living that these neighborhoods presently enjoy. Thank you for considering my concerns. Resident of The Haven at York Street</p>	(none)	Jan 31 2007 8:01 PM

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<p>From: Heather +++++ To: Estes, Kristi Subject: No Stop at 112th and York</p> <p>Hi Kristi Attached is a letter that I sent to the City of Northglenn when the city was looking at purchasing the land at 112th and York to help influence the decision of RTD to place a stop at that intersection. Please do not place a stop at the intersection of 112th and York as it will ruin the atmosphere of Fox Run. Instead of placing a stop at the interection, please use the money on decreasing the noise pollution for the Fox Run subdivision. A brick barrier would be an excellent solution as it is prettier to look at than a wooden fence. To help with the traffic situation on 112th, please have traffic run under the trains or the trains run over 112th. With this solution, the traffic would be able to run efficently and the residents would not hear the whistles every 2 1/2 minutes. Please read the attached letter and if you would like any clarification, I can be reached at +++++. I look forward to hearing from you. Heather +++++</p>	email	Jan 31 2007 9:37 PM
<p>From: Stephanie +++++ Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2007 11:16 AM To: Estes, Kristi Cc: Stephanie +++++ Subject: Re: grade separation for FasTracks Importance: High</p> <p>Hello, Kristi. I'm really disappointed that no one has ever contacted me for my input. I've learned that the comment cycle closes tomorrow. In addition, I was told that I should watch for a letter from RTD or the EIS consultant because comment would be sought from every resident that lived along the rail line. To my knowledge, this never occurred. Certainly, neither I nor my neighbors received any letter. I've sent out an urgent email to those that I know letting them know of tomorrow's deadline. Thanks, Stephanie</p>	email	Jan 31 2007 9:47 PM

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<p>From: Estes, Kristi To: Stephanie +++++ Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2007 12:33 PM Subject: RE: grade separation for FasTracks Hi Stephanie-</p> <p>I am also disappointed that you were not aware of our EIS efforts as I know you have been very involved. I'm not sure why that is. We have had two rounds of public meetings soliciting input from the public. For the first one, we sent postcards to 65,000 residents along the corridor, and I checked that you are on our mailing list. For the second, we put post-it notices on The Denver Post in that area and also mailed to the folks on our mailing list. There have also been paid advertisements as well as articles about the meetings and opportunities for input in the Northglenn-Thornton Sentinel, Rocky Mountain News, Denver Post, Commerce City papers and Hispanic media. Terrence Quinn and Sheri Paiz have both been attending our meetings, so I assumed the task force, which you are a member of, was aware of them as well. I really do apologize. I assumed all of our information was getting to you either through our mailing list, outreach to the media or through the Northglenn Task Force.</p>		
<p>Regardless, our comment period does not end tomorrow. That is when comments are due from our Local Governments Team and Agency Working Group. Comments continue to be taken and analyzed throughout the entire EIS process, which does not end until 2008. You can give comments directly on www.rtdnorthmetro.com. I would also encourage you to sign up for our mailing list again. I checked and you are on it, but if you're not receiving information, then maybe there is some incorrect information in there. Also, to let you know, we are starting station committees and issues forums, which may be good for you to get involved in. We will have more information on our web site. We are also holding another round of public meetings in March, where we will also gather input. Let me know if there is any more information I can provide.</p> <p>From: Stephanie +++++ Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2007 2:13 PM To: Estes, Kristi Subject: Re: grade separation for FasTracks Hi, Kristi. Thank you for responding so quickly. I glad you found my name. I signed up again this morning for the email newsletters and the mailing list. I tried to give comments directly at the website. I clicked on "Get Involved/Comment" and then "Submit a Comment" but it didn't seem to work. So, I called the satellite office and got the fax number. Is it ok to send my comments there? And I'm so glad that the deadline is not tomorrow. Having a bit more time to submit comments is good for me. The school just called and I have to go pick up my daughter. Can you tell me when the deadline is? Also, I found out that a representative from RTD will be at this Thursday's Northglenn City Council meeting. I plan on attending. If it's you, I'll see you then. And I did make contact with the RTD consultant last week, and she said that she would be in touch. Thx again, Stephanie</p>		