



RTD FasTracks North Metro Rail set to break ground March 20

New commuter rail line to improve mobility for northern communities

DENVER, March 12, 2014 – The Regional Transportation District (RTD) will break ground on the North Metro Rail Line, a new commuter rail service that will improve transit options for Denver’s northern region and connect riders to existing transit services.

The ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 20, at 12650 Claude Court in Thornton, the future site of the 124th Avenue Eastlake Station.

In December, RTD awarded a contract to Regional Rail Partners (RRP) to design and build the first 12.5-mile phase of the line to 124th Avenue. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2018. An option allows the contract to be extended as funds become available to finish building the final 6 miles of the line. North Metro Rail—an 18.5-mile electrified commuter rail line—will run from Union Station through north Denver, Commerce City, Northglenn and Thornton to Colorado Highway 7 in Adams County.

“North Metro is an important element of our plan to expand modern rail service across the metro Denver region,” said RTD General Manager and CEO Phil Washington. “This commuter rail line, more than any other, symbolizes our commitment to the metro area’s northern communities, and our commitment to improving mobility for all of our customers.”

Dignitaries who will speak at the groundbreaking are Gov. John Hickenlooper; U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette and Ed Perlmutter; Denver Mayor Michael Hancock; Commerce City Mayor Sean Ford; Northglenn Mayor Joyce Downing; Thornton Mayor Heidi Williams; Adams County Commissioner Chaz Tedesco; RTD Board Directors Larry Hoy and Paul Solano; RTD General Manager and CEO Phil Washington; North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) Chairman Erik Hansen; and RRP Joint Venture Board members Joe Reed and Greg Ritke.

The RRP team comprises Graham Contracting, Balfour Beatty Rail, Stantec Consulting, Parsons Brinkerhoff, Zann and Associates, Communications Connections Consulting, Pinyon Environmental and Iron Horse Architects.

North Metro Rail is part of the RTD FasTracks transit expansion program. Other rail lines under construction set to open in 2016 are the Gold Line to Wheat Ridge; the East Rail Line to Denver



International Airport; the I-225 Rail Line in Aurora; and the first segment of the Northwest Rail Line to Westminster.

About RTD FasTracks

FasTracks is RTD's 2004 voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter 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 improve connections across the eight-county district. For more information, visit the RTD FasTracks [website](#).

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