



RTD FASTTRACKS GOLD LINE EIS MEETING REPORT

Arvada Ridge/Ward Station Access and Design Issue Focused Team

Date of meeting: October 23, 2008
Location: King of Glory Lutheran Church
10001 W 58th Ave, Arvada

The purpose of this Issued Focused Team was to gather input on access and design for the Arvada Ridge and Ward Road stations. The agenda included the following items for both stations:

- **Station Access & Design Issue Focused Team Process:** Overview of goals and process for teams
- **Existing Conditions and Future Plans:** Present the current design influencers surrounding each station, as well as future plans for the area
- **Site Layout:** Discussion of station site plan including landscaping
- **Access Diagram:** Discussion of access routes into and out of station
- **Design Concepts:** Overview the individual elements of a transit station; overview the template methodology and design concepts; gather feedback on station design
- **Conclusion:** Wrap-up, next steps

The project team engaged participants in dialogue throughout the meeting. Below is a summary of the feedback gathered.

Key Meeting Takeaways

- The participants had mixed feedback on the Neighborhood Craftsman design for the Arvada Ridge station. Some expressed dislike for the shape of the canopy, while others felt it would fit in well with the character of the neighborhood. The group suggested several modifications to the design, outlined in detail below.
- The group expressed concerns that the Neighborhood Craftsman canopy shape would not protect people from the elements and asked RTD to ensure that canopies provide adequate protection.
- The majority of the group did not like the Town Center design theme for the Ward station. The group questioned whether the Town Center theme was the best fit for the area and encouraged RTD to re-evaluate the design. In particular the group expressed discontent with the umbrella-shaped canopy.



- Regarding access, the participants suggested that 50th be connected to Ridge in order to provide a more direct route to the Ward Road station.

Access-Related Input: Arvada Ridge Station

- The participants encouraged the city of Arvada to build dedicated bike lanes into the station.

Design-Related Input: Arvada Ridge Station

- In general, the group did not like having brick on the posts of the Neighborhood Craftsman canopy. They also suggested making all of the posts narrower and modifying the canopy shape to provide better protection from the elements.
- Some participants suggested that all Gold Line stations should have the same design in order to maintain consistency, while others felt that it was a good idea for each station to have its own identity
- The group recommended that RTD work with the station-area developer to help encourage consistency between the design of the station and the proposed development.
- Participants encouraged the use of wind screens at the station to help protect commuters from the elements.
- Regarding the corridor-wide design materials, one participant stated that he preferred cultured stone to river rock, although not all participants necessarily shared this opinion.
- The group suggested that RTD to work closely with the Gold Line Advisory Committee (GLAC) while refining the design for the station.

Access-Related Input: Ward Station

- The group expressed a desire to retain direct pedestrian access to the platform from the south side of the station.
- It was suggested that RTD provide bus access to the Kaiser complex from the Ward station. (Note: The project team responded that the Kaiser parking lot configuration does not allow for a bus turnaround.)
- Steve Nguyen from the City of Wheat Ridge commented that the angled access road (extension of 50th Place) departed from the city's station area plan and would prevent planned connections within the redevelopment grid. He questioned whether this angled road was necessary.



Design-Related Input: Ward Station

- The group felt that the proposed Town Center design does not reflect what they picture their community's town center to someday look like. The group encouraged the RTD design team to look at the designs of the Belmar development for inspiration.
- The group suggested that RTD incorporate elements of the community into the Ward station design (e.g. the station's proximity to the mountains or Wheat Ridge's rural history).
- The group generally felt that it is important to have the station make a "design statement". They expressed a desire for a sophisticated station design, which would help to encourage TOD.
- Participants encouraged RTD to make the wind screens transparent.
- There were concerns expressed about the sky lights in the canopy, given this station's exposure to the sun.
- A minority of the participants suggested that RTD simplify its station design templates so that they blend together and aren't as different from one another.