

# Northwest Rail Environmental Evaluation

## Governments Team

**January 30, 2008**

## AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Agency Updates
  - Union Pacific Negotiations
  - Northwest Rail Project Schedule
- Northwest Rail Corridor Issues
  - Fencing
  - Quiet Zones
- Station Planning
  - Corridor-wide Issues from Round 2 Workshops
  - Local Jurisdiction Review of Station Plans
- Adjourn

## RTD UPDATES

- Union Pacific Negotiations
- Schedule Adjustments

# RAILROAD NEGOTIATIONS OVERVIEW



- Union Pacific proposal to RTD is unaffordable
- 36<sup>th</sup> street yards and UP relocation was biggest financial and schedule challenge in negotiations
- RTD still anticipates purchasing several properties from UP
- UP and RTD continue to negotiate
- RTD is pursuing other options to some UP properties originally planned for FasTracks
- RTD is pursuing an alternate site for the commuter rail maintenance facility
- Four commuter rail corridors will re-examine and refine portions of those alignments

# IMPACTED AREAS



# COMMUTER RAIL MAINTENANCE FACILITY



- Re-examining RTD's Platte bus facility as site for commuter rail maintenance facility
  - Not considering sites outside of central Denver

## NEXT STEPS

- Evaluation of refinements is already in progress
- Corridor teams determining impacts to budget and schedule
  - 6-12 month delay in corridor EIS schedules likely
  - Gold Line study will evaluate shared segment between DUS and Pecos
  - Northwest Rail Corridor will be impacted by delay in Gold Line Schedule
  - Overall implementation schedule on track at this time
- Corridors will be meeting with stakeholders to share initial information
- Detailed update on preferred alternatives refinements for Board at February 12 FasTracks Monitoring Committee meeting

## NWR ISSUES: FENCING

- Development of FasTracks Fencing Guidelines
  - FasTracks Fencing Guidelines to RTD FasTracks Committee on 1/29/08
  - FasTracks Fencing Guidelines to RTD Local Governments in February 2008
- Northwest Rail Corridor Application of Fencing Guidelines and Identification of Corridor Treatments
  - NWR Project Establish Fencing Committee
    - Self-selected members of NWR Governments Team
    - First meeting in early March 2008
  - Three meetings of Fencing Committee
    - Meeting 1: Guidelines review and issues discussion
    - Meeting 2: Propose treatments for NWR Corridor
    - Meeting 3: Finalize treatments for NWR Corridor

## NWR ISSUES: QUIET ZONES

- Quiet Zone Work Plan
  - FasTracks Quiet Zone Draft Work Plan presented to FasTracks Committee on 1/29/08
  - Local Government Review of FasTracks Quiet Zone Work Plan
  - FasTracks Quiet Zone Workshop (March 2008)
- Quiet Zone Work
  - Grade crossing inventories (NWR complete)
  - Coordination with local points of contact
  - Diagnostic reviews

# STATION PLANNING: PROCESS



**Station Planning Workshops: Information Sharing (Round 1)**

- Outcomes:**
- Identification of local plan status and sources of new information
  - Identification of key issues to incorporate into the revised station concept plan and design

**Station Planning Workshops: Review of Revised Plan (Round 2)**

- Outcomes:**
- Local input on revised station plan(s)
  - Identify station concept plan(s) to carry forward to define the EE project footprint
  - Identify remaining key issues to address

**NWR Governments Team Meeting**

- Present proposed station concept plans

**Station Planning Workshops: Review and Finalize Plans for EE (Round 3, if needed)**

- Outcomes:**
- Fatal Flaw Cost Analysis
  - Confirm station plan(s) to carry forward into project footprint and Alternatives
  - Identify resolved issues and issues subject to further discussion or information

**Ongoing Public Outreach**

# STATION PLANNING: ROUND 2 WORKSHOPS SUMMARY



## Corridor-wide Issues

- **Corridor parking totals for 2015 and 2035**
  - Providing a range of parking to allow flexibility is preferred
  - Can 2015 parking be phased?
- **Distribution of parking amongst stations**
  - Some seemed too high/low on station by station basis
  - Flexibility in distributing corridor required spaces is key
- **2035 modeling scenarios**
  - Need to know effects of 7 FasTracks Stations vs. 10 Stations on individual stations
  - Local circulation and traffic impacts are of high concern

# STATION PLANNING: ROUND 2 WORKSHOPS SUMMARY



## Corridor-wide Issues

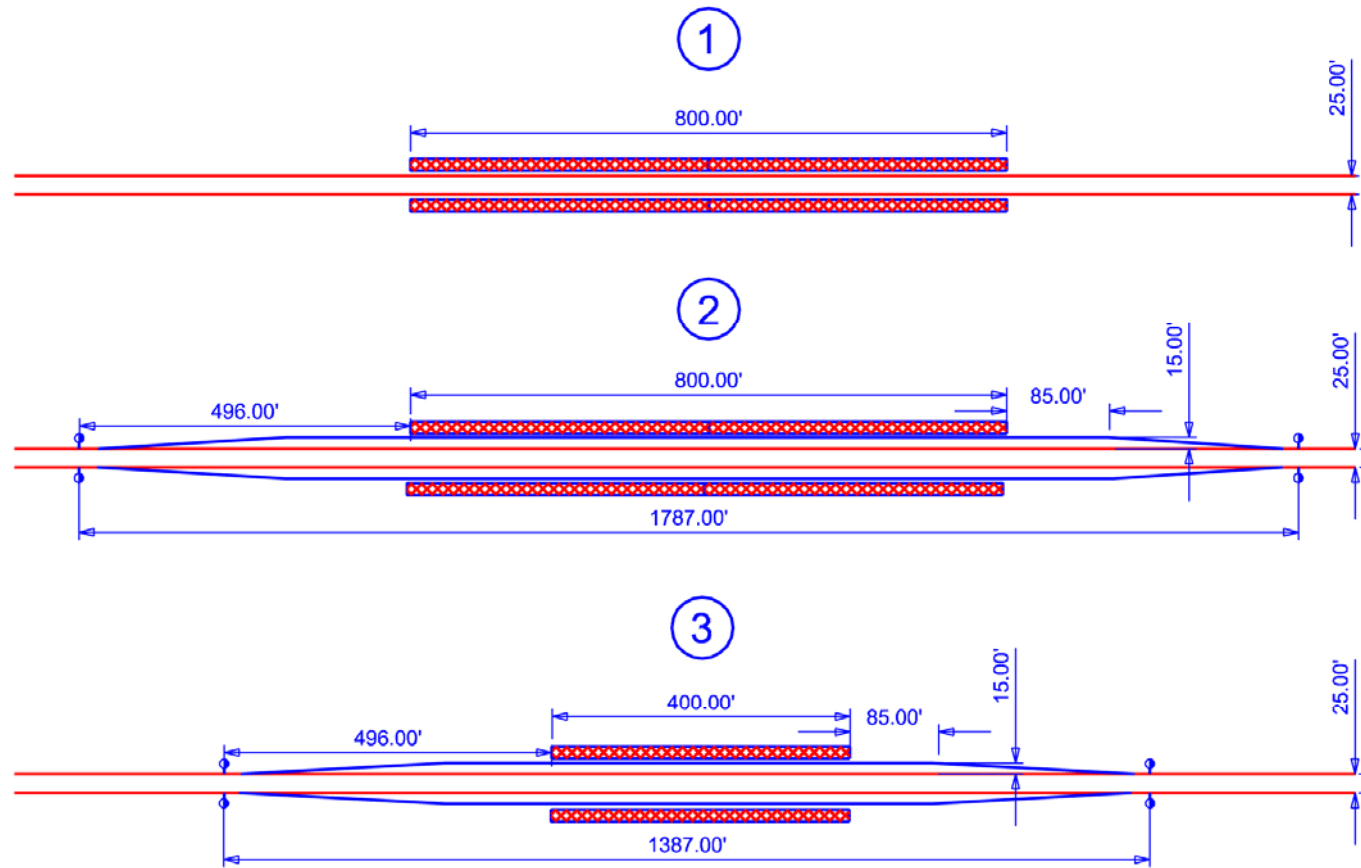
### – **Property acquisition**

- Full vs. partial property acquisitions and residual space
- What are RTD's legal restrictions and how should that be shown graphically on station concept plans?

### – **FasTracks Station Budget**

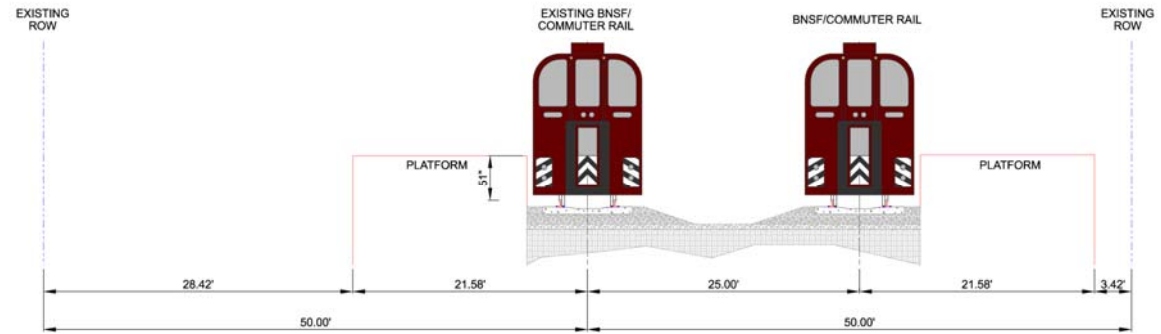
- What is FasTracks going to fund/provide at each station?
- How could cost sharing with local governments/entities be incorporated?

# STATION PLANNING: PLATFORM LENGTH AND RUNAROUND TRACKS

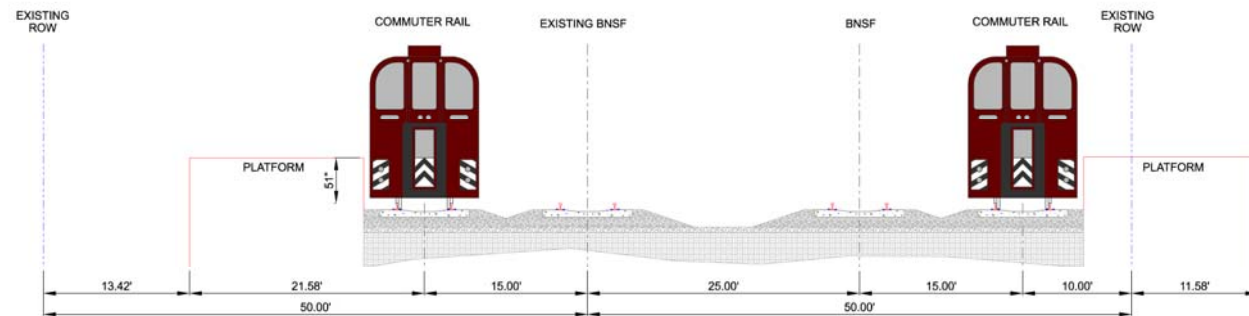


RUNAROUND TRACK PROGRESSION

# STATION PLANNING: TYPICAL STATION CROSS-SECTION



WITHOUT FREIGHT BYPASS TRACKS



WITH FREIGHT BYPASS TRACKS

NORTHWEST RAIL  
TYPICAL SECTION  
STATION PLATFORM

# STATION PLANNING: ROUND 3 WORKSHOPS



- Next Steps
  - Revise concept plans incorporating Local Jurisdiction feedback
  - Round 3 Station Planning Workshops to review revised concept plans and set footprint for environmental analysis

# STATION PLANNING : LOCAL JURISDICTION UPDATES



- Downtown Longmont
- Boulder
  - Gunbarrel Area
  - Transit Village
  - 63<sup>rd</sup>/Araphoe
- Downtown Louisville
- Broomfield
  - Flatiron
  - 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Westminster
  - 104<sup>th</sup>/Church Ranch
  - 88<sup>th</sup>/Harlan
  - South Westminster

## NEXT STEPS



- Station Planning (Round 3), February-March 2008
- Joint Workshop: Northwest Rail Governments Team, State and Federal Agencies, end of March 2008