

SoutheastCORRIDOR

Southeast Corridor



Southeast Corridor Planning Moving Ahead

The RTD FasTracks Southeast Corridor project team has made significant progress developing the Preferred Alternative since the last public meeting held on October 15, 2008. The project team has been working very closely with its project partners, the City of Lone Tree, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Douglas County to further define the Preferred Alternative, including the location of the alignment and stations, as well as the layouts for the station areas. The project team has also met with numerous other stakeholders to discuss alternatives that avoid or minimize potential impacts.

A detailed overview of the recommended Preferred Alternative will be available for public review and comment at the project's next public meeting, scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2009 at Lone Tree Civic Center, City Council Chambers. We encourage you to attend and provide your input and feedback.

You are Invited!

FasTracks Southeast Corridor Extension Public Meeting #2

Monday, March 16, 2009
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

City of Lone Tree
Civic Center
Council Chambers
8527 Lone Tree Parkway
Lone Tree, CO 80124

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Update on Environmental Evaluation

The Environmental Evaluation process is conducted to identify potential impacts and recommend ways to minimize and mitigate those impacts. While the Preferred Alternative has been under development, the following topics have been studied by the Southwest Corridor Project Team:

- Social Impacts and Community Facilities
- Land Use, Zoning and Economic Considerations
- Land Acquisition, Displacements and Relocation of Existing Uses
- Historic, Archaeological, Cultural Resources
- Visual and Aesthetic Qualities
- Parklands and Recreation Areas
- Air Quality and Energy
- Noise and Vibration
- Biological Resources
- Natural Resources
- Hazardous Materials
- Safety and Security
- Utilities
- Transit Operations
- Traffic

The existing conditions in the vicinity of the proposed improvements have been identified and preliminary analyses are being conducted to ensure there are no fatal flaws to the preferred alignment and station locations. At the March meeting, you will have an opportunity to see the environmental conditions in relation to the proposed project.

More detailed results of this analysis will be available in the summer/fall of 2009. Again, input and questions from the different stakeholders, including the general public, is welcomed during this entire process.

Message From the Project Manager



We are continuing to make good progress on the Environmental Evaluation and Basic Engineering for the Southeast Corridor extension. As we have committed to you, we welcome your input and feedback into this planning process and hope you can join us at our next public meeting on March 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Lone Tree Civic Center in the Council Chambers where we will be discussing the preferred light rail alignment and station locations.

Since our last public meeting in October, we have been working with a variety of stakeholders in the Southeast Corridor to further define the Preferred Alternative for the Southeast Corridor light rail extension. Not only do we work to establish the best route for the light rail extension, but we also look at how the prospective light rail stations fit into land use plans around them.

One such example is the close coordination between RTD, the city of Lone Tree and the Coventry Development Corporation. Coventry is responsible for the overall planning of RidgeGate, which includes the future Lone Tree City Center, as well as new commercial development near the Sky Ridge station. Throughout our interactions with different stakeholders like Coventry and the city of Lone Tree, we are focused on creating win-win solutions that enable RTD to efficiently expand our popular light rail system while simultaneously creating new opportunities for development along the line.

As we continue to move forward with our

process, you also most likely have become aware of the overall financial situation faced by FasTracks. During these tough economic times, no one is immune and that includes RTD. We greatly appreciated those of you who were able to attend the metro-wide public meetings last fall to give your opinions as to how RTD and the cities can best fulfill the promises of FasTracks.

In January, RTD released the results of an annual public opinion survey in which 83 percent of metro-area residents said that approving FasTracks funding in 2004 was a good decision. The same survey data showed that Southeast Corridor residents agree with these sentiments.

The majority of respondents expressed a clear desire for FasTracks to be built within the original time frame, with 63 percent indicating that they would support a tax increase if necessary, to get it done by 2017. The findings will be part of the information available to the RTD Board of Directors and metro mayors as they work to determine a long-term, viable funding approach to FasTracks.

Most importantly for the Southeast Corridor, however, is that we remain on track to finish the Environmental Evaluation and Basic Engineering by Fall/Winter 2009. We encourage you to participate in the public process so that the outcome of these efforts is a success.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you throughout the public process.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan A. Wood".

Susan A. Wood, AICP
Project Manager,
Southeast Corridor Extension



Existing Southeast Corridor Light Rail
Station at Lincoln

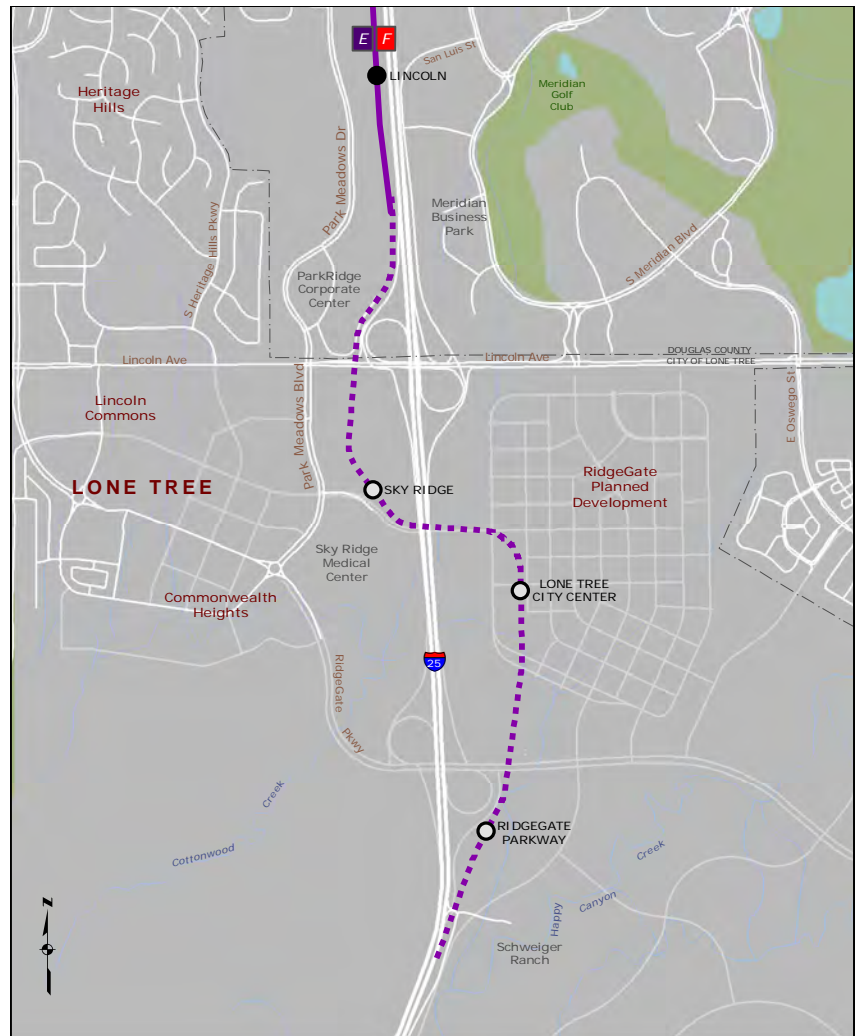
Proposed Light Rail Alignment



A recommended light rail alignment has been developed based on the project Purpose and Need statement that was developed in 2008 and reviewed by the public at the October meeting. This alignment incorporates work done during this and prior studies, as well as input from a variety of stakeholders throughout the corridor.

The Southeast Corridor Extension extends the Southeast Corridor light rail line from Lincoln Station to RidgeGate Parkway in the city of Lone Tree. The light rail alignment prescribed by the Preferred Alternative maintains a double-tracked configuration along the 2.3-mile extension. The alignment runs along the west side of the I-25 corridor from Lincoln Station to Sky Ridge Avenue, crosses over the Interstate highway, and proceeds south along the east side of the I-25 corridor past RidgeGate Parkway.

There are four major road crossings along the proposed alignment, all of which will be grade-separated. At Lincoln Avenue, I-25 and Sky Ridge Avenue, the light rail alignment will be elevated. At RidgeGate Parkway, the light rail tracks will pass under the roadway. Both west of I-25 and within the RidgeGate Development east of I-25, there is the potential for one or more minor at-grade crossings.



Station Locations

During the March 16 public meeting, the project team will also provide an overview of the recommended station locations. Station locations have been verified through an interactive process with the project partners and the public. Key criteria used to confirm stations include ridership, parking availability (where applicable), and access for patrons connecting to the station via transit, automobile, pedestrian and bicycle modes.

The development of a station footprint requires close coordination with RTD to determine how a particular station fits operationally into the system-wide bus and light rail service plan. Consideration as to how a given station works within a series of stations, the spacing needed between those stations, the operations at each station, and how a particular station fits in with the local and regional bus connections are critical for providing a smooth transition between all modes of transportation.

The station locations and footprints under evaluation include:

- **Sky Ridge Station.** The Sky Ridge Station is positioned adjacent to Sky Ridge Avenue north of the Sky Ridge Medical

Center. The station will be constructed at-grade and will include a kiss-n-Ride drop-off area. The station design anticipates a high share of riders arriving and leaving from the station on foot and includes pedestrian amenities.

- **Lone Tree City Center Station.** The Lone Tree City Center Station is situated in the core of RidgeGate Planned Development, proposed to be an intensely developed, mixed-use area where building heights are allowed to reach 30 stories. The station will be integrated into this future urban center and constructed at-grade. The station design will provide for bicycle and pedestrian access in all directions.
- **RidgeGate Station.** The end-of-line station at RidgeGate Parkway is the only new station in the Southeast Corridor extension to include a park-n-Ride facility. A combination of surface and structured parking will accommodate up to 2,000 cars initially and will be accessed via RidgeGate Parkway and the frontage road. As with the in-line stations, the end-of-line station will include kiss-n-Ride drop-off and bus transfer areas near the platform.

Public Participation

Your participation is a key element of the decision-making process that is considered along with technical, environmental, and schedule feasibility and cost. The best time to give your input on the project is now, during the planning phase. As we move into design and construction, input becomes more focused and changes become more costly.

We recognize that it is not always easy to make public meetings, but your input is highly valued. You can also learn more about the project by going to www.RTD-FasTracks.com for the most recent updates and to provide feedback. Our staff is always available to speak on the phone and answer any questions you might have about this project.

The following schedule outlines the opportunities you will have to provide input during this all important planning phase of the project.

MILESTONES:

- Scoping/Defining Purpose and Need for the Project**
– October 2008
- Alternative Development/ Environmental Evaluation**
– Spring/Summer 2009
- Final Results**
– Fall/Winter 2009

The Southeast Corridor Project Team plans to implement a comprehensive public involvement program to ensure that you can provide input at the following project decision points or milestones.

You are invited!

FasTracks Southeast Corridor Extension Public Meeting #2

Monday, March 16 2009
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

City of Lone Tree
Civic Center
8527 Lone Tree Parkway
Lone Tree, CO 80124

Your input is extremely valuable in helping RTD plan an extension of the existing Southeast Corridor light rail line. Please join us at the meeting to learn more about the planning phases of this project.

Web/Phone

For questions and/or to be notified of future public meetings, visit the project Web site at www.RTD-FasTracks.com and click on Southeast Corridor, or call (303) 299-2000 and follow the prompts.

*Para información en
español, visitar
RTD-FasTracks.com
y pulsar el enlace
con el Corredor
Sureste o llamar al
303-299-2000.*

Communication Assistance Available

The following communication assistance is available for RTD public meetings: language interpreters, sign-language interpreters, assisted listening devices, alternative formats such as large print or reasonable accommodations for special needs. Contact RTD at 303-514-4913 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to discuss your special needs and request for accommodation.

