



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FASTRACKS WEST CORRIDOR TEAM RE-OPENS 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE A FULL DAY  
EARLIER THAN ANTICIPATED**

**Lakewood, May 2, 2010** – Crews building the Regional Transportation District’s (RTD) FasTracks West Corridor Light Rail Line re-opened West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue 30 hours ahead of schedule, after placing a light rail bridge over 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue this weekend. The work was completed earlier than expected, allowing crews to re-open the highway just after midnight on Saturday. The westbound lanes opened at 11:30 p.m. followed by the eastbound lanes one hour later at 12:30 a.m. The roll-out of the main span of a double-track light rail bridge across 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue just east of Simms/Union could have taken up to 30 hours, but favorable conditions decreased that time to just 14 hours. Completing operations early and getting 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue open between Simms/Union and Kipling substantially decreased the impact this closure had on traveling motorists.

All lanes of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue closed at 10:00 p.m. Friday night, April 30, and were originally scheduled to open at 5:30 a.m. Monday morning, May 3. After postponing last weekend, crews successfully transported the bridge without incident.

The joint decision by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), RTD and its contractor to completely close the highway for one full weekend reduced what could have been months of lane closures. By assembling the bridge on the side of the highway over the past several months and rolling the bridge into place over a weekend substantially minimized the impact to commuters traveling on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

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**6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge Roll out – early opening**

The 12.1-mile West Corridor light rail project is the first of the FasTracks corridors to start construction. The West Corridor line will operate between Denver Union Station in downtown Denver and the Jefferson County Government Center in Golden; serving Denver, Lakewood, the Denver Federal Center, Golden and Jefferson County. The corridor is scheduled to open to the public in 2013.

The FasTracks investment initiative is RTD's voter-approved transit program to expand rail and bus service throughout the RTD service area. FasTracks will create six new rail corridors, extend three existing corridors, build 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District.

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