



Community

Information Line:

303-299-2401

rtd-fastracks.com



The \$511.8-million FasTracks West Corridor project consists of constructing a new 12.1-mile, double-track light rail line, extending west from the existing light rail line at Auraria West Station in downtown Denver, through Lakewood along 13th Avenue, continuing along 6th Avenue (U.S. 6) and ending at the

E-NEWS



WELCOME!

September brought a major milestone for the West Corridor with the submission and public review of the Environmental Assessment. We enjoyed seeing everyone at the Environmental Assessment Public Hearing and appreciated all of the comments we received during the public review process. As we move through October, the West Corridor project team is hard at work on the Risk Assessment, while the design team continues to work toward the 90 percent design submission in December.

October 2007

In this issue you will find:

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[Utility Relocation Update](#) - Get an update on the progress of early construction.

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[JeffCo Single Track Overview](#) - Learn more about the single-track alignment to Jefferson County Government Center.

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[Welcome Xcelente](#) - Meet the West Corridor construction public involvement team.

[How Can I Get \(or Stay\) Involved?](#) - Find out where to get more information on meetings and events, and the best ways to have your questions answered.

[Environmental Assessment Update](#)

Thank you to everyone who attended the September Environmental Assessment (EA) Public Hearing. At the hearing we provided clarifications to sections in the EA document. [Click here to view the list of clarifications](#) and other boards displayed at the EA Public Hearing.

Since the close of the formal comment period on October 4, the West Corridor project team has been busy responding to your comments and preparing the Final Decision Document (FDD). The FDD will address any new information developed since the EA, including the EA clarifications, comments received during the public comment period, and any new analysis prepared in response to comments. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will then determine if there are significant enough impacts to amend the Record of Decision or issue a Finding of No Significant Impact. We anticipate FTA to issue the FDD in November or December, wrapping up the EA process.

Utility Relocation Update

Xcel Energy is working on the relocation of its overhead lines from 13th Avenue to 14th Avenue between Independence and Garrison and expects to complete this relocation by the end of 2007. Once Xcel Energy has finished setting the new poles, Qwest and Comcast will begin relocations in the same area.

To prepare for the relocation of the City of Lakewood's sanitary sewer line, Xcel Energy will relocate the main gas line between Harlan and Zephyr on 13th Avenue with an anticipated start date of January 2008. Consolidated Mutual Water Company's main water line relocation will begin in the same area when Xcel Energy's gas line relocation is done.

Property Acquisition Begins

During the last week of September, RTD began the process of property acquisition on the West Corridor. The first letters were sent notifying property owners that RTD is interested in acquiring their property for construction of transit elements. RTD will purchase property over the next couple of years when it is required for construction of the corridor. RTD acquires property pursuant to the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, a requirement for all public programs and projects receiving federal financial assistance. [Click here for information on property acquisition and relocation.](#)

Risk Assessment

The first part of October has kept the West Corridor project team busy working on the Risk Assessment (RA), a mandated FTA process for all federally funded projects that will establish a basis for the Full Funding Grant Agreement.

During the RA, the project team reviews the project estimate and project schedule to determine if they are reasonable. All of the project elements undergo an in-depth independent review to determine the likelihood or risk of

each element to have an impact on the proposed project estimate and schedule. Some of the elements under review include construction, purchase of LRT vehicles, right-of-way acquisition, professional services, insurance, testing and contingencies. After reviewing the elements, each one is documented in the risk register and assigned a level of risk based on how likely that element is to affect the budget or schedule. The level of assigned risk determines the amount of project contingencies that the FTA requires us to carry in the total project cost. RTD's goal is to minimize risk and the level of contingencies to keep project costs reasonable.

JeffCo Single Track Overview

The final value engineering proposal recently accepted by RTD included a proposal to build single track from the Denver Federal Center to the Jefferson County Government Center. The proposal modified the alignment while maintaining adequate CDOT right-of-way to accommodate a second track for future use, resulting in cost savings of approximately \$36 million without disrupting LRT service.

RTD and Jefferson County continue to work together to reach an agreement on how to best serve Jefferson County residents. RTD will provide 10-minute headways and additional parking at the end-of-line station as requested by JeffCo, if outside funding is obtained to pay for those elements. Both entities have agreed to support and lobby for state funding together. Until an outside funding source can be secured, the station design will remain as currently planned and RTD will proceed with the planned 15-minute headways.

Indiana Flyover

The Indiana Flyover is another value engineering proposal recently accepted by RTD. The design change combines the bridge across 6th Avenue and the bridge over Indiana Street into one long structure that crosses both streets at the same time.

The site for the future Indiana Flyover will bring the West Corridor alignment north of 6th Avenue at Indiana Street. The bridge will begin near Gladiola Street, crossing both 6th Avenue and Indiana Street above the current roads, as well as the frontage roads on either side of 6th Avenue, touching down west of Indiana Street.

The future Indiana Flyover will be the longest bridge structure along the West Corridor project. The bridge will sit approximately 30 feet in the air above the 6th Avenue overpass with 11 spans totaling 1,542 feet. [Click here for an aerial view of the Indiana Flyover.](#)

Welcome Xcelente

As we move toward the construction phase, the West Corridor project team welcomes Xcelente Marketing and their West Corridor site manager, Kathy Berumen, to the public involvement team. Kathy will work closely with Brenda Tierney to ensure quick response to the needs of the West Corridor communities throughout construction. As always, the public involvement team will engage the public and keep everyone in the corridor abreast of the most up-to-date information as the vision of the corridor becomes a reality.

With the continued addition of key players, a West Corridor Construction Office will open along the corridor sometime during summer 2008 to house the West Corridor construction team.

How Can I Get (or Stay) Involved?

One of the best ways to get the information that will help you stay involved in the West Corridor design process is to ensure we have your e-mail address. Our periodic e-mails will provide you with information essential to being an active participant. Especially as the project continues to evolve and develop, it will be important to keep all members of the community updated and informed on design milestones and construction activities. Tell your friends and neighbors to sign up on our e-mail list to receive up-to-date information.

Don't forget to visit our Web site, where you'll find all the latest information about the West Corridor.

Where can I get more information?

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Communication Assistance Available

The following communication assistance is available for all Regional Transportation District 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 303-299-2401 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to discuss your special needs and request for accommodation.**

