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## Welcome

A new year is approaching quickly and there is much to look forward to in 2012. As the West Rail enters its final year of construction, stay up-to-date with current construction information by becoming a subscriber to our e-newsletter. You can sign up by visiting the West Rail [website](#), and while there, utilize the tools that have been established to keep you updated on progress and impacts. Happy Holidays, on behalf of the West Rail Line.

## Safety on the West Rail Line

Safety is a major priority for the Regional Transportation District. Following a tragic light rail accident in Salt Lake City which resulted in the death of a pedestrian, there is heightened awareness around light rail safety. RTD is taking steps to ensure this



type of accident does not occur along the West Rail Line. RTD developed a task force to review and comment on potential safety issues along the West Rail Line. The team reviewed each grade crossing and came back with seven recommendations for safety improvements. The recommendations include extending fencing, installing bollards near signal masts, moving several signal poles, removing some track panels and a section of sound wall, adding 'No Trespassing' signs and implementing a 20 mph speed restriction at Independence Street. Based on these findings, RTD will re-apply to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for approval of the modifications.

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## Operation Give-A-Gift

For the past several years, RTD employees have taken part in Operation Give-A-Gift, an initiative that allows employees to generously give back to the community. By donating holiday gifts to children and seniors from agencies across the Denver



Metro area, RTD employees have filled many a Christmas stocking. This year, RTD invited their contractors to help coordinate and contribute to the cause, making this the largest holiday campaign to date. The seven local agencies

chosen to receive the donated gifts are: Alternatives to Family Violence; Sacred Heart House; Denver Children's Home; Anchor Center for Blind Children; Little Sisters of the Poor-Mullen House; Chateau Des Mons; and Freedom Service Dogs.

The West Rail is dedicated to giving back to the community. Through a combined effort with RTD and DTCG, the West Rail Line donated more than 500 gifts. On December 16, 2011 RTD and their contractors, including the West Rail Line, will distribute the donated gifts to the chosen agencies.

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## Construction Update – Area 1 (Jeffco Government Center to Federal Center)

### Current and Ongoing Activities

- Work continues on the parking garage and station at the Jefferson County Government Center. Work on the structure should be completed by the end of December 2011. Station and guideway work will continue through the winter months.
- Crews will complete work on the storm drain at Ulysses Street in mid-December.
- All eastbound and westbound lanes of 6th Avenue, including the ramps at Indiana Street were opened in their final configuration on November 23, 2011.
- Roadway improvements will continue on Union Boulevard into 2012, however, crews are expected to open Union Boulevard sidewalks by the end of December 2011.
- Crews are preparing the tunnel under Union Boulevard for concrete and precast panels.
- After one month of construction, crews opened North Avenue between Union Boulevard and just west of Routh Street in early December.



### Upcoming Activities

- Further work on the Jeffco bike path is scheduled in January 2012.
- In January 2012, crews will install lights and tunnel drains in the I-70 tunnel.
- Work at the Federal Center Light Rail Station continues as the shelter and canopy will be set next month.

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## Construction Update – Area 2 (East of the Federal Center to Sheridan)

### Current and Ongoing Activities

- The reconstruction of Quail Street is complete. Collins Avenue, 8th Avenue, Quail Street, and Oak Street are all in the final phase of construction.

- Construction of the passenger station and parking lot at Oak Street will continue through the winter months.



- This month, Traction Powered Substations (TPSS) were set at both Oak and Lamar stations.

- Crews will set the Wadsworth Station elevator towers next week. This activity will require the full closure of 13th Avenue between Yukon Street and Wadsworth Boulevard. For more detailed information, please visit the [Road Closure](#) page on the West Rail website.

- Several sections of road construction on 13th Avenue east of Wadsworth were completed this season, but due to winter temperatures, the remaining sections have been postponed until early spring.

- Requiring only one day closures, crews worked quickly to complete the installation of washers at all track crossings in Area 2.

#### Upcoming Activities

- Paving and installation of lights at Oak Station will begin in mid January 2012.

- Crews will resume work on the bike bath between Marshall Street and Depew Street in early January 2012.

- The TPSS will be set at the Wadsworth station on January 9 and will require the closure of 13th Avenue between Wadsworth and Yukon

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## Construction Update – Area 3 (East of Sheridan to the Auraria Campus)

#### Current and Ongoing Activities

- Construction of the fire department access road near 12th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard has begun.

- Perry Street closed on Tuesday, December 6 and will remain closed for up to three weeks, after which Perry Street will open in its final configuration.



- Knox Court opened in early December. The track crossing and roadway improvements are complete. System crews have installed catenary poles and will continue systems work in the area through the winter months.

- The construction of track between Knox Court and Federal Boulevard is complete.

- Work on the Decatur/Federal station is ongoing.

- Crews completed the track crossing at Zuni Street and Zuni opened Saturday, December 10.
- To complete underground work, crews closed Old Colfax Avenue at Umatilla Street early this week. Old Colfax will be closed for approximately two weeks.
- Reconstruction of the Auraria Campus parking lots continues.

For more information on construction, please visit the [Construction Information](#) page on the West Corridor website.

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## How can you get (or stay) involved?

One of the best ways to get the latest information on the West Rail Line is to ensure we have your email address. Our periodic emails will provide you with information essential to being an active participant. Visit our website, where you'll find all the latest information about the West Rail Line. As construction continues for the next 18 months, it is the best way to stay informed.

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**RTD West Rail Line** 1560 Broadway Suite 700 FAS-WC Denver, CO 80202

Telephone: 303-299-2000

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