

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the Gold Line corridor?

The Gold Line corridor includes northwest Denver, unincorporated Adams County, Arvada and Wheat Ridge. The study-area boundaries are Interstate 25 to the east, West 38th Avenue to the south and Ward Road to the west. The northern boundary will be somewhere north of the BNSF rail line. The specifics are being determined now based on the analysis of travel information.

2. What will the Gold Line EIS accomplish?

The Gold Line EIS will identify the best way to provide high-quality, reliable rail transit service that improves travel times in the corridor while enhancing access to metro-area jobs, entertainment, recreation and shopping for existing and future residents. The EIS will select a recommended alternative, identify potential impacts and recommend ways of lessening those impacts.

3. What will the Gold Line EIS study?

The Gold Line EIS will specifically study no-action and rail transit alternatives to develop recommended transit improvements that are best for the entire corridor. This study will build upon the recommendations from the major investment study completed in 2001 and the Three Corridors Study in 2005. The major investment study recommended light rail service in the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and Union Pacific Railroad corridors between downtown Denver and Ward Road.

4. What has been decided?

No decisions have been made.

5. What is the schedule and when can the public participate?

RTD will conduct extensive community outreach throughout the project. At each key decision-point of the project, public workshops will be held to ensure that the recommendations in the EIS are reflective of what is best for the Gold Line community. The timing of the EIS decision-making process is as follows:

- **Summer 2006** - Scoping identifies the scope of the study and alternatives to be evaluated. (One set of public workshops)
- **Late 2006/Early 2007** - Conduct increasingly detailed evaluation of alternatives to identify those that best meet the needs of the corridor (Two sets of public workshops)
- **Early 2007** - Select the recommended alternative to undergo more a very detailed level of analysis called preliminary engineering. (One set of public workshops)
- **Late 2007** - Publish the Draft EIS, a very detailed report summarizing the impacts of the recommended alternatives and the proposed methods to mitigate them, and gather public comment. (One set of public hearings)
- **Early 2008** - Respond to comments, submit Final EIS to Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
- **Winter 2008** - FTA issues a decision document on the Gold Line EIS.

6. Are public meetings the only time the public can submit input?

No. Although the public meetings provide great opportunities to interact with the project team and become better informed about the EIS, public input also can be submitted in writing to Liz Telford, RTD-FasTracks, 1560 Broadway #700, Denver, CO 80202, via the project Website at www.rtdgoldline.com or by emailing comments@rtdgoldline.com.