



Welcome to the RTD-FasTracks I-225 Corridor Public Meeting No. 3

**Environmental Evaluation
and Preliminary Engineering**

Tuesday, September 30, 2008

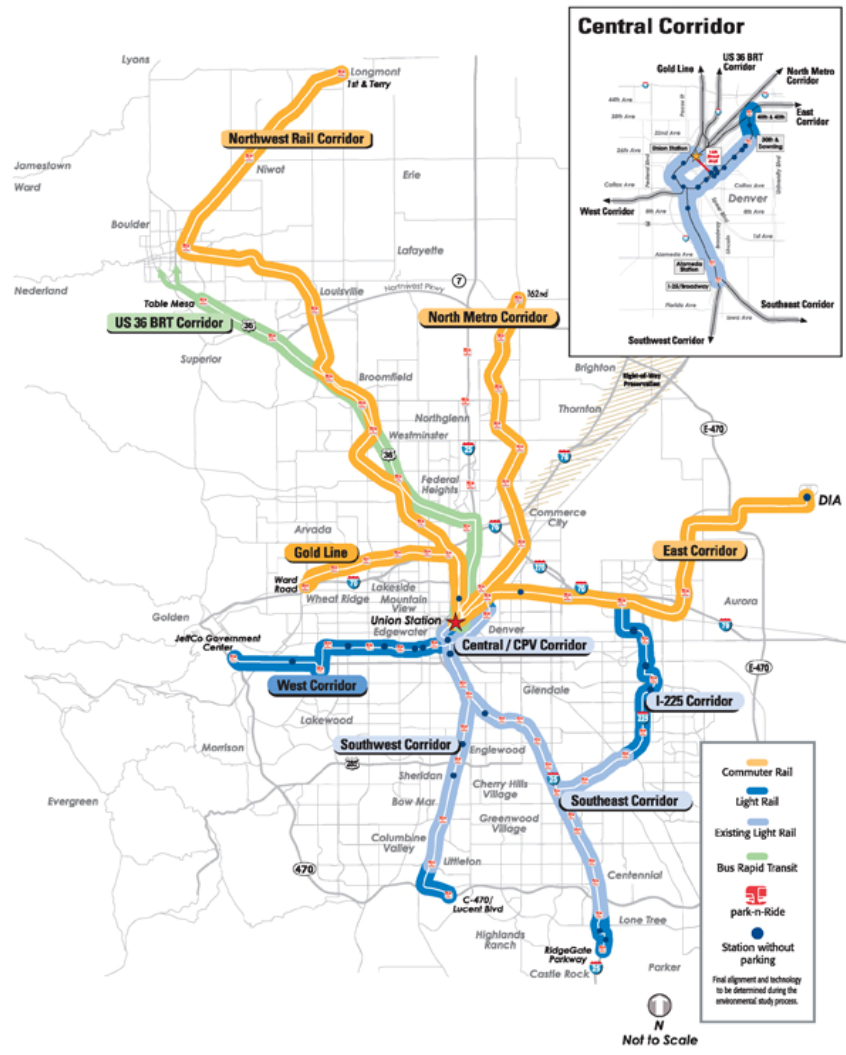
RTD FasTracks Program Update

Larry Warner, I-225 Corridor Project Manager

The RTD FasTracks Plan



- 122 miles of new light rail and commuter rail
- 18 miles of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
- 31 new park-n-Rides with over 21,000 new spaces
- Enhanced Bus Network & Transit Hubs (FastConnects)
- Redevelopment of Denver Union Station



FasTracks Challenges



- Construction costs have increased to unprecedented levels
- Sales tax revenues have not kept pace with forecasts
- RTD has had to modify long-term revenue assumptions and cost escalation to adapt to changing economic conditions
- 2008 DRCOG SB208 Report indicated that these risk factors are being realized and recommended more conservative revenue and cost projections
- FasTracks cost estimated at \$7.9 billion

Where We Are Now

- RTD is considering three main options for keeping FasTracks moving forward:
 - Build to budget
 - Extend schedule
 - Seek out additional revenue sources
- RTD to solicit community input on options for moving forward
 - Input from key stakeholder groups
 - Public meetings in September/October
- RTD Board will provide direction for FasTracks Spring of 2009

RTD FasTracks Program Public Meetings



- Bill McMullen – RTD District E
Wednesday, October 01, 2008
6:00 p.m. at the
Aurora Center for Active Adults
30 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011
- Chris Martinez – RTD District B
Wednesday, October 15, 2008
6:00 p.m. at the
Montbello Recreation Center
1555 E 53rd Ave, Denver, CO 80239
- Barbara Yamrick – RTD District F
Wednesday, October 22, 2008
6:00 p.m. at the
City of Aurora Municipal Building, Aurora Room
15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Aurora, CO 80012



I-225 Preferred Alternative Update

Dwight Schock, Consultant Project Manager

Review Project Study Area, Location and Purpose



- 10 ½ mile light rail transit extension
- 8 stations
- Starts at existing Nine Mile Station
- Serves the Aurora City Center
- Serves the Anschutz / Fitzsimons Campus
- Provides a transfer to the planned East Corridor at a station near the intersection of Peoria Street and Smith Road

Review the Project How Do We Get There?



FasTracks I-225 Corridor Proposed Schedule

MAJOR TASK	START DATE	FINISH DATE	DURATION
Phase I			
• Environmental Process	Fall 2007	Fall 2009	27 mos
• Preliminary Engineering (30%)	Fall 2007	Fall 2009	27 mos
Phase II			
• RTD Design-Build Contractor Selection	Winter 2009	Summer 2011	18 mos
• RTD Right-of-Way Acquisition	Winter 2009	Summer 2011	18 mos
• RTD Utility Coordination	Winter 2009	Summer 2011	18 mos
Phase III			
• Design-Build Implementation	Summer 2011	Summer 2015	4 yrs
• Revenue Service	tbd	Summer 2015	
TOTAL DURATION	Start 2007	Finish 2015	8.5 yrs

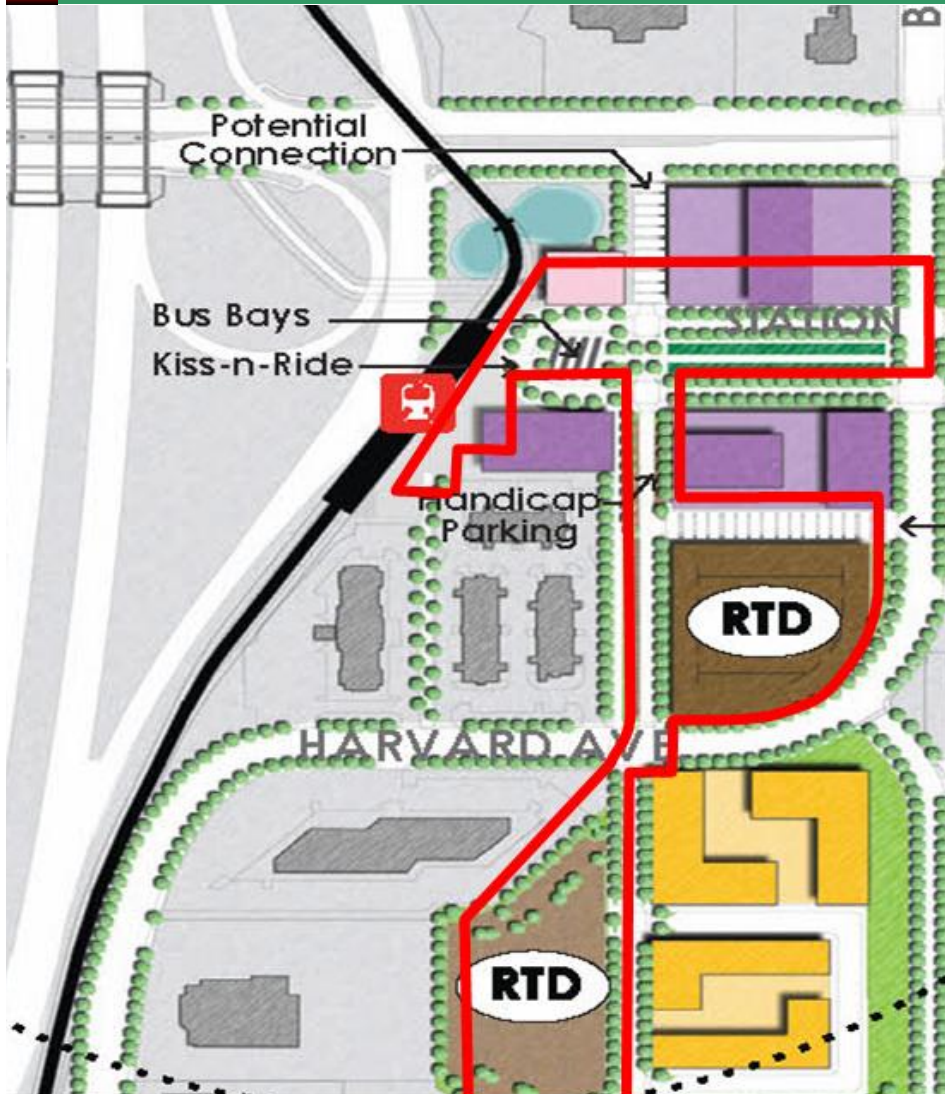
Phase I Goals

- Prepare Environmental Evaluation (EE) document
- Prepare Preliminary Engineering (PE) 30% level design plans
- Prepare the project cost estimate
- Complete work within 27 months
- Meet the established and current FasTracks budget
- Conduct an open public involvement process for stakeholders and the community at large

Phase I Milestones

- Public Meeting #1 – November 7, 2007
 - Introduce Project
 - Present Prior Studies and Alternatives
 - Obtain Input on Purpose and Need
- Public Meeting #2 – March 12, 2008
 - Present Alternatives
 - Present Screening Criteria
- Public Meeting #3 – September 30, 2008
 - Present Preferred Alternative
- Complete Environmental Documents – Spring 2009
- Public Meeting No. 4 – Summer 2009
 - Present Environmental Issues and Mitigation
- Complete Preliminary Engineering – Fall 2009

Nine Mile to Exposition



Phase 1 Elements

- Light Rail Alignment along east side of I-225
- Iliff Station Platform Location
- Access to station and parking
- Station area plan coordination
- Light Rail Alignment between I-225 and Abilene
- Florida Station Platform Location and pocket track
- Pedestrian Bridge
- Access to station
- Station area plan coordination

City Center

- Exposition / Sable / Ellsworth Light Rail Alignment
- City Center Station Platform Location
- Access to station and parking

Ellsworth to Fitzsimons/Montview



- Light Rail Alignment
- Abilene/2nd Avenue Station Platform Location
- Access to station and parking
- High Line Canal Trail crossing

- 13th Avenue Alternate Station Platform Location
- Access to station and parking

- Colfax Station Platform Location
- Station area plan coordination

Fitzsimons/Montview to Peoria/Smith



- Montview Station Platform Location
- Light Rail Alignment
- Peoria/Smith Station Platform Location
- Access to station and parking
- Station area plan coordination

Current Status



- Phase I – On schedule
- Recommended Preferred Alternative alignment and station locations has been developed with stakeholder input
 - Final segment presented to the Aurora Transportation & Airport Policy Committee (TAPC) on Aug. 13, 2008
 - Presented to RTD P&D Committee on Sept. 2, 2008
 - Present to public for comments at our 3rd Public Meeting on Sept. 30, 2008

Current Issues

- Parking – City of Aurora pursuing additional parking at Opening Day (consultant hired by City to review & provide alternatives)
- Proposed 13th Avenue Station as an enhancement
- Funding/Schedule

Next Steps

- Complete Environmental Documents – Spring 2009
- Process Categorical Exclusions (Cat. Ex.) for CDOT approval where light rail is in CDOT/FHWA right of way
- RTD Board Approval of EE document – Summer 2009
- Hold Public Meeting No. 4 – Summer 2009
- Complete Preliminary Engineering – Fall 2009

Strategic Parking Study

**Huiliang Liu, Principal Transportation Planner
City of Aurora**

Public Participation

- How to Contact the I-225 Project Team
 - Web site: www.RTD-FasTracks.com/i225
 - E-mail: i-225@rtd-fastracks.com
 - RTD-FasTracks Hotline: 303.299.2000 and follow prompts
 - Fax: 303.693.7738
- Information on upcoming FasTracks Program meetings visit the FasTracks Web site at www.RTD-FasTracks.com

Questions?

