FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver transit projects honored for innovation, sustainability
West Rail Line and Denver Union Station renovation garner top industry awards

DENVER, Jan. 30, 2014 – The West Rail Line and the Denver Union Station renovation, both built under the Regional Transportation District (RTD) FasTracks transit expansion program, are drawing high praise and top honors from transportation and design experts across the country.

On Monday, RTD’s West Rail Line received the 2013 Project of the Year Award from the Colorado chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), which also named the line the top transportation project of the year for a large community.

“We couldn’t be more proud,” said RTD General Manager and CEO Phil Washington. “As more of our FasTracks projects open to the public, we are confident more and more people will begin to see the full value of the transit system we are expanding around the Denver metro area.”

Accepting the APWA award on RTD’s behalf were Rick Clark e, FasTracks assistant general manager of capital programs; Paul von Fay, design manager on the West Rail Line; and RTD Board Directors Bruce Daly and Lorraine Anderson.

The APWA also recognized the City of Lakewood among its statewide winners for bike overpasses at Wadsworth Boulevard and Kipling Street built as part of the West Rail Line.

The awards season isn’t over for the West Rail Line, which will accept the 2013 Project of the Year Award Feb. 20 from the Colorado chapter of the Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS), the international professional organization that promotes women in transportation.

Meanwhile, the Denver Union Station project is the focus of an award by the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The AIA bestowed its 2014 Neighborhood Transformation Award on Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP at its recent Institute Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design ceremony.

AIA recognized the architectural and engineering firm for the impact of its work related to the renovation of historic Denver Union Station in lower downtown Denver. The company designed Union Station’s renovated train hall and all of the surrounding canopies, the new underground bus concourse, vent towers, pavilions and pedestrian bridges.

The award jury said Denver Union Station “sets a new standard for sustainability” as an “integrated, LEED-certified transportation hub that both serves the transit needs of the community and advances the quality of life for Denver residents and visitors.”

About RTD FasTracks
FasTracks is RTD’s 2004 voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to connect the eight-county district better. For more information, visit http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/main_1.

About the Regional Transportation District (RTD)
RTD strives to meet public transportation needs by offering safe, clean, reliable, courteous, accessible and cost-effective bus and rail service in an eight-county service area while providing 100 million passenger trips annually. For more information, visit www.rtd-denver.com.

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