



newsrelease

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RTD puts out call for innovation

MORE THAN 200 ATTEND INDUSTRY FORUM

Denver, Sept. 27, 2011 – The Regional Transportation District’s (RTD) call for innovations enticed many high-level executives from a cross-section of large and small firms to hear more about it. More than 200 people attended RTD’s industry forum – *Transformation Through Transportation (T3)* – which was held today at the Denver Athletic Club.

Numerous engineering, construction, financial, technology and other major corporate firms attended the forum to hear the types of innovative solutions RTD is looking for in the areas of capital programs, operations and maintenance and technology. RTD’s hope is that after today’s T3 kick-off, teams will come forward with innovative proposals on how to complete the FasTracks transit expansion program as soon as possible, enhance the overall RTD customer experience and reduce the cost of the agency’s operations.

“We are so impressed with the turnout today, which tells us that there is definitely an appetite out there to partner with us on innovative solutions to our challenges,” said RTD General Manager Phil Washington.

Many engineering, construction and financial firms that are typically involved in major transportation projects attended the forum, but part of RTD’s goal was to reach out to other major companies who may be interested in diversifying their investments and business model.

“It’s great to be able to hear the strategic direction of RTD, where they’re going and what they’d like to accomplish,” said Audrey Thompson, network specialist for Hewlett Packard. “It’s a great forum for them to be able to articulate what they want and how we can be a good partner.”

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RTD is looking for conceptual proposals that will be screened. Those that are determined to have merit will move on in the process with teams being asked to submit a more detailed proposal for evaluation.

“If we can get even one successful proposal to come out of this process and help us to improve our system and better serve the public, we will consider it to have been a success,” said RTD Board Chair Lee Kemp.

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