



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **First railroad property purchase for FasTracks complete**

### **RTD AND UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CLOSE ON FIRST RIGHT-OF-WAY DEAL**

**Denver, June 26, 2009** – The Regional Transportation District (RTD) and Union Pacific Railroad (UP) have closed on the first of four UP right-of-way purchases RTD needs for the FasTracks transit expansion program and have signed a Transfer Agreement outlining the three remaining purchases.

This transaction between RTD and UP is for the property known as the Boulder Industrial Lead, a 33-mile stretch of property from Brighton Boulevard to the Valmont Power Plant in Boulder. The property will be used to build out the North Metro commuter rail corridor up to 162<sup>nd</sup> near State Highway 7. The tracks then turn west and head up to Boulder. The \$117.9 million purchase will allow RTD to preserve this right-of-way to Boulder for future expansion.

"We have been working with UP for years in very complex negotiations, so this is, without a doubt, something to celebrate," said RTD General Manager Cal Marsella.

"This is an example of how, by collaborating, we can strike the right balance to grow passenger and freight rail while allowing for continued excellent service for our freight customers," said Tony Love, Union Pacific Assistant Vice President of Real Estate. "Moving people and freight by rail relieves highway congestion, is more environmentally friendly and helps keep America's economic engine running."

Three more right-of-way agreements between RTD and UP will be finalized in the near future. Those properties will provide RTD with the UP property the agency needs to build out the East Corridor, the Gold Line and a small section of the West Corridor.

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## **RTD/UP Deal**

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FasTracks is RTD's voter-approved 12-year program to expand rail and bus service throughout the RTD service area. Scheduled for completion in 2017, FasTracks will build 122 miles of rail transit including six new commuter rail and light rail lines and extensions of three existing lines; build 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District. FasTracks is projected to create more than 10,000 jobs during the height of construction, and will pump billions of dollars into the regional economy.

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