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Welcome

It seems like winter has finally hit the metro area and construction activities along the West Rail Line are minimal. That won't be the case for long! As the thaw breaks and crews prepare for an onslaught of activity, make sure you stay up-to-date with current construction information by becoming a subscriber to our e-newsletter. You can sign up by visiting the West Rail [website](#), and while there, utilize the tools that have been established to keep you updated on progress and impacts.

West Rail Project Receives Awards

DTCG PROJECT MANAGER WINS COLORADO CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION AWARD

DTCG Project Manager for the West Rail Line, John West, was named Contractor of the Year by the Colorado Contractors Association. The surprise award was announced during a banquet held at the Denver Marriott Tech Center on Friday, January 28. The Contractor of the Year Award was initiated in 1964 in recognition of an individual who has provided significant contributions to the construction industry during the past year. This is the highest of CCA honors.



Mr. West has spent nearly 40 years in the heavy civil construction industry. Beginning his career as a laborer, he has ascended to positions of greater responsibility through a strong work ethic, a commitment to fair dealing and a passion for construction. Through his education and his many years in the industry, Mr. West has extensive knowledge in contract law, personnel management, specification writing, and technical construction issues. Under his leadership, civil construction of the West Rail Line has proven to be successful and is on time and within budget.



WEST RAIL PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM WINS AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC WORKS AWARD

At the American Public Works Association awards luncheon on Monday, January 23, the West Rail Public Information Team was recognized for the success of their Public Outreach Plan during construction of the West Rail Line. The award was based on innovation, achievement, transferability and cooperation in the category of Public Relations/Public Awareness/Community Involvement for a large community.

The effective West Rail Line Public Information Plan addresses communication goals, key audiences and communication strategies and tactics; and has now become a reputable framework for future RTD FasTracks rail lines. Noted achievements include the distribution of nearly 6,200 fact sheets, more than 5,000 monthly construction update newsletters, 12,200 informational door hangers and more than 50,000 emails describing potential construction impacts. Additionally, given the scope of public outreach tactics, the plan generated more than 4,000 public comments. The plan was developed as a collaborative effort between RTD and the contractor, Denver Transit Construction Group.

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U.S. Secretary of Transportation visits the West Rail Line

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood visited Denver on Monday, February 6, to get a first-hand look at the West Rail Line. Secretary LaHood visited with DTCG construction workers, commended RTD's Workforce Initiative Now (WIN) program and discussed how federal investments in transportation support jobs and economic growth.



During a brief gathering at the Rude Recreation Center, which overlooks the future Decatur/Federal light rail station, Secretary LaHood, FTA Deputy Administrator Therese McMillan and other dignitaries saw the visible signs of local and federal tax dollars at work.

"President Obama called on us to rebuild America by putting people back to work on transportation projects, and we are doing that throughout the Denver region," said Secretary LaHood. "All across America, there is work to be done on projects like the West Rail Line. Now is the time to connect people who need work with the work we need to do to improve our nation's transit centers, highways, railways, airports and ports."

The West Rail Line is one of three federally funded rail lines in RTD's FasTracks program. In 2009, approximately \$350 million in federal funding was awarded by the Federal Transit Administration to help build out the line. In 2011, a \$1 billion dollar award was awarded to the East and Gold Lines.

Governor John Hickenlooper, also in attendance, commented, "Partnerships and collaboration remain vital ingredients to making FasTracks successful. These kinds of infrastructure investments are key to economic recovery in our state and nation. We very much appreciate the support from Secretary LaHood and others in Washington for this project."

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Upcoming meetings

WADSWORTH AND SHERIDAN PARKING STRUCTURES

Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 6 p.m.

RTD West Rail Line Offices (in the Boy Scouts Building)

10455 West 6th Avenue, Lakewood, CO 80215 (enter from the west side)

Swinerton Builders was awarded the design/build contracts for both garages and will be presenting design and construction updates. For more information, please call Nanci Kerr at (303) 592-1122 or email nkerr@skytground.com.

DECATUR-FEDERAL STATION AREA PLAN

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

Choose between two meeting times

2 – 3:30 p.m. OR 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Fairview Elementary School Gymnasium

2715 West 11th Avenue, Denver, CO 80204

The City & County of Denver in partnership with Denver Housing Authority are launching the station area planning process. Food and child care provided. For more information, please call Barbara Frommell at (720) 865-2973 or email barbara.frommell@denvergov.org.

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Construction Update – Area 1 (Jeffco Government Center to Federal Center)

Current and Ongoing Activities

- Crews are striping and sealing the parking garage at the Jefferson County Government Center and should be finished by February 21, 2012. Other work at the station continues as crews pour out the plaza light pole foundations and platforms. Core drilling for fencing along the walls and the installation of traffic poles and arms will be completed this week during evening hours.



- West Rail crews will be installing signal poles on the eastbound off ramp from 6th Avenue to Union Boulevard for the next several weeks. Lane closures on the ramp may be in place.
- Platform paving continues in the Federal Center Station and the final shelter/canopy set will be completed by February 16, 2012.

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Construction Update – Area 2 (East of the Federal Center to Sheridan)

Current and Ongoing Activities

- Crews are installing the lighting control center on the 6th Avenue Bridge. Installation of the LED lights on the bridge will follow in late February or early March.
- The Oak Station parking area has been paved. Plaza paving should begin in late February or early March.
- The Bike Path between Kipling Street and Garrison Street has opened. For safety reasons, the rest of the bike path will remain closed until all slope work and surrounding landscaping have been completed for safety reasons.
- Crews will be working at the Garrison Station for the next few weeks to power up and test the Power Control Cabinet.
- The installation of canopies on top of the Wadsworth Bridge is scheduled for February 27 and February 28, weather pending.
- Work continues on the bike path between Harlan Street and Depew Street.



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Construction Update – Area 3 (East of Sheridan to the Auraria Campus)

Current and Ongoing Activities

- Crews have returned to the Perry Station to modify the highblock canopies.
- Track work and installation of the electrical systems continues at the Decatur/Federal Station.
- Individualized underground operations continue throughout Area 3.



- Work on Old Colfax Avenue continues as crews work to finalize concrete flatwork.

For more information on construction, please visit the [Construction Information](#) page on the West Rail Line website.

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How can I get (or stay) involved?

One of the best ways to get the latest information on the West Rail Line is to ensure we have your email address. Our periodic emails will provide you with information essential to being an active participant. Visit our [website](#), where you'll find all the latest information about the West Rail Line. As construction continues for the few months, it is the best way to stay informed.

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