



MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 8, 2006

Time: 10:30 AM

Re: West Corridor Stakeholder Meeting

Location: FasTracks Office – Express Conference Room

In Attendance:

Rob Ball, RTD-FasTracks

Brenda Tierney, RTD-FasTracks

Liz Telford, RTD-FasTracks

Gina McAfee, RTD-FasTracks

Dave Baskett, City of Lakewood

Roger Wadnal, City of Lakewood

Anne Heine, Lakewood

Steve Glueck, City of Golden

Kate Newman, Jeffco

Dave Ridenour, CCoD

Bob Kochevar, CCoD

Keith French, CCoD

David Abbink, West Metro Fire

Tony Ogboli, CCoD

Tim Sullivan, FTA

John Sutton, PMOC

Andy Leong, DEA

Beth Ordonez, O&V

Steve Long, DEA

Minutes

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. REVIEW OF MAY 18, 2006 ACTION ITEMS

- RTD to issue to Lakewood the draft IGA for review – Issued May 22, 2006; Comments requested by June 15th - COL is compiling comments to send to RTD.
- Stakeholders to provide review comments on the West Corridor PMP – Due ASAP
- City of Lakewood to continue looking at how to provide funding to RTD to allow a change order to be issued to DEA to start design of bike structures at Kipling and Wadsworth. – COL will send a letter to RTD committing funds with copy of council resolution pending execution of an IGA
- RTD will schedule a follow-up meeting with Lakewood to show cross sections that show the LRT tracks, ROW, roadway and utility envelopes on 13th Avenue between Harlan and Oak. – Meeting set for June 20th; RTD will send cross sections in advance of the meeting.

3. ELECTED OFFICIALS BRIEFING

The elected officials briefing is scheduled for June 9th at RTD's Blake Street offices on June 9th. The agenda will provide an overview of the major cost containment items and will go over the upcoming public meeting schedule and the timeline for the West Corridor supplemental Environmental Documentation process.

4. MAJOR WEST CORRIDOR CHALLENGES

A brief update of the following challenges was given to stakeholders.

- Jefferson /County End of the Line – RTD and Jeffco/Golden staff met on June 1st to review the final consensus on station and parking facilities and discuss the baseline budget. A follow-up meeting is set for June 22nd to reach agreement on the basic of the baseline budget and move forward with design.
- GSA Federal Center – A workshop was conducted by GSA on June 6th with participants from RTD, Lakewood, DEA/IBI/O&V and EDAW to understand the concerns and goals of each party and to review and comment on GSA's/EDAW alternatives for the master plan buildout of the Federal site. All parties appear to be making good progress with land reconveyance. A major agreement was to pay cash for the RTD and hospital parcels in lieu of payment with infrastructure improvements that was problematic and would delay actual land transfer until improvements were constructed.
- 13th Avenue – Harlan to Oak – The challenge with the 13th Avenue segment continues to the narrow width of the corridor in which RTD will build two LRT tracks, re-configure the roadway and arrange for relocation of utilities outside the track envelope. RTD is completing cross sections by block along the corridor to illustrate how components will fit since additional right-of-way or permanent easements are not planned. This will be presented to Lakewood and West Metro Fire on June 20th.
- The challenge at Myrtle Place under I-25 is fitting in two LRT tracks, an access roadway/fire lane and a railroad spur. RTD handed to CCoD a revised concept that provides for a 22 ft. wide frontage road on the south side and two LRT tracks within the existing 54 ft. opening and shifts the Siegel Oil spur to the north. RTD is meeting with CCoD today to discuss the plan and cross section for Myrtle Place.
- Federal Blvd. Bridge - The design team has prepared two bridge alternatives and will discuss with CCoD and CDOT today. The bridge types and channel configuration were presented to UDFCD at the standing Lake wood Gulch meeting on June 6th. An interim submittal from Decatur to Perry will be submitted to UDFCD for formal approval next week.
- IGAs – RTD is awaiting comments from the City of Lakewood. Comments were requested by June 15th; Lakewood is compiling the comments. Draft IGA with Jefferson County and a separate IGA for the bike bridges at Wadsworth and Kipling

are being prepared and will be issued for review later this month. CCoD advised they are working on the IGA and will submit a schedule showing when the IGA needs to be completed to support RTD's completion date for execution at the end of October 2006. RTD requested CCoD to allow sufficient time for review by RTD

- o Cost Containment – RTD commented that cost containment will continue throughout the design phase. The next major milestone is the 65% Cost Estimate. Three separate construction estimates will be prepared – RTD, DEA and CM/GC.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

RTD advised that per discussion and direction from FTA, separate CAT EXs will not be prepared to document the major scope changes on the project but instead, an Environmental Assessment will be completed.

The EA will cover:

- o Moving Jeffco Govt. Center station
- o Shifting alignment at Colfax/US-6
- o Eliminating tunnel at North Street and crossing at-grade
- o Shortening the tunnel at Simms and Union and eliminating the tunnel across US-6
- o Shifting the alignment to the south side of US-6 from Federal Center to just east of Indiana Street
- o Reviewing the need for pedestrian bridges at Red Rocks and Jefferson County.
- o Eliminating the pedestrian tunnel at Howard Place
- o Reviewing the peak hour service plan for opening day from 5 to 15 minutes between the Federal Center and Jeffco.
- o Other minor design changes along corridor

RTD handed out a flowchart that illustrated the process starting with Data Collection and Design Refinement, Impact Assessment, Draft Documentation by RTD and Final Documentation by FTA. RTD is committed to completing and issuing the Draft EA to FTA in late December 2006 and FTA will turnaround by February 2007 to allow the Risk Assessment to be done and the FFGA application to be submitted in May 2007.

RTD is discussing with FTA the procurement approach to seek a master developer for the parking structures at Sheridan and Wadsworth, potentially integrated with TOD, and then leasing back spaces for park-n-Ride; this approach would transfer RTD's financial burden from capital cost to operations.

FTA asked if the EA process will delay the upcoming 65% submittal in November. RTD responded that this will be done concurrently so as not delay the 65% submittal although it is recognized that the work west of the Denver Federal Center will be less than 65% complete.

6. OUTREACH PROCESS UPDATE

RTD summarized the expanded public outreach process. Two public meetings are scheduled for the EA process on June 27th at the Jefferson County Govt. Center and June 28th at the Auraria St. Cajetan Center. The "Coffee with Dennis" sessions kicked off on Wednesday this week and have gone very well. The next Urban Design Committee meetings are set for the end of July and notices will be sent out.

RTD also advised they will publish a monthly newsletter to the public and will mail out and post on the West Corridor website.

7. DESIGN REVIEW – THIRD PARY REQUIREMENTS

RTD commented that very few stakeholders have provided their third party requirements. RTD emphasized again that the purpose for identifying specific third party requirements and incorporating into the project data base, and that these requirements should come from the stakeholders for review and acceptance by RTD.

8. DRAFT DESIGN TIMELINES

A draft timeline showing when design elements would be brought forward for public input was handed out. It was noted that this was a draft and will be expanded. Comments are welcome.

9. CM/GC CONTRACT

RTD reported that the West Corridor Committee supported staff's recommendation to award a contract to the joint venture of Herzog/Stacy and Witbeck and is expected to be approved by the Board on June 20th. A kickoff is planned with the Contractor. RTD will arrange for an introduction of the Contractor to stakeholders.

10. WEST CORRIDOR MONTHLY REPORT

RTD thanked those stakeholders from FTA, Lakewood and Jeffco for comments on the April report. RTD will incorporate comments into the May report. A newsletter is also planned for distribution to stakeholders and public, and will come out at the end of the following month of each reporting period.

11. QUESTIONS., CONCERNS , ISSUES BY STAKEHOLDERS

RTD gives each agency stakeholder an opportunity to express their concerns, questions and issues at this meeting. The following were raised in today's meeting.

City of Lakewood: COL expressed the following concerns:

- Resolution and agreement on 13th Avenue cross section for trackway and roadway, and delineation of the right-of-way owned by the parties.
- Bike bridges – Getting NTP out to DEA, and looking at how to build and maintain.
- Resolution of improvements in S. Platte River and eligibility for local match – RTD responded they have replied to Bill Vidal's' letter questioning this as eligible for local match and have requested a meeting to resolve.

- Lamar Street – COL raised concerns about the tight access for redevelopment along 13th Avenue in this block. RTD responded that the City can accommodate improved access through a development process. Lakewood responded this is not true in all cases. A property owner with existing zoning can simply walk in and get a building permit if it is in compliance with existing zoning. No right of way or street exaction would be allowed in that case.
- Wadsworth TOD Kickoff Evaluation – Lakewood commented about its recent kickoff for EDAW - No concerns raised.
- Richey Park – Lakewood is planning to undertake the construction work as compared to the CM/GC contract performing the work and is looking to complete as an early contract. RTD responded that this is certainly open for discussion and supports completion as an early contract.
- Definition of ROW along Corridor – Lakewood is very interested in reaching an agreement on how to define the ROW along the corridor and establishing ownership. In their opinion, the 1988 MOU between Lakewood and RTD contemplates Lakewood granting a 50 year easement to RTD for development and use of the corridor for mass transit purposes. RTD agreed the ROW needs to be pinned down and ownership determined as it is unclear along this segment of the project.

City/County of Denver: CCoD expressed the following questions and concerns:

- Does RTD support reimbursement of FTEs as part of local match? RTD responded that the FTEs need to be performing value to the project such as design reviews, writing permits, construction inspections, etc. RTD would accept FTEs in lieu of permit fees but would like to see a staffing plan and budget.
- CCoD wants to discuss an IGA for the transfer of excess land from RTD to the City along the corridor. RTD has agreed to this in principle but this does need to be discussed further and agreed to.
- Auraira and Invesco Field LRT Stations – CCoD is interested in what will happen to the Invesco Field station after West Corridor is completed.

UDFCD expressed the following concerns:

- Design and coordination of Lakewood Gulch improvements – RTD expressed confidence that the parties are working well together.
- Richey Park – UDFCD wants input into the contractor selection, and has some reservations about the CM/GC performance on drainage work, stemming primarily from not being familiar with Herzog /Stacy and Witbeck.

CDOT expressed the following concerns:

- CDOT wants to make sure the NW Corridor EIS is interfaced with the West Corridor alignment at the Jefferson County EOL. RTD stated they have made contact with FHU and are looking for clarification on the limits of the proposed project with respect to CDOT's right-of-way.

- CDOT is interested in working with RTD on the updated PE traffic analysis. A kickoff with RTD's Traffic consultant and CDOT is set for June 15th at 9:00 AM.
- CDOT noted that MS4 permitting may be an issue; particularly for the Federal and Sheridan CE's.

Jefferson County / Golden raised the concerns:

- Like Lakewood, Jeffco/Golden are interested in the outcome and eligibility of the S. Platte River improvements.
- Jeffco is interesting in reaching resolution on the overmatch over RTD's baseline budget. RTD responded that the parties need to reach agreement at the upcoming June 22nd meeting where additional information will be supplied by RTD to support the baseline.
- Jeffco is interested in working with RTD on a satisfactory solution for impacts to the Memorial Garden and Bike Path.
- Jeffco looks forward to seeing and commenting on the EOL station design.

12. ACTION ITEMS

- Send Jefferson County and Golden a copy of Lakewood's draft IGA. This IGA format will be used to draft their IGAs – ASAP
- Develop scope of work for bike bridges at Wadsworth and Kipling and send to DEA for cost proposal – DUE ASAP

Meeting ended at 11:45 AM.