



MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 14, 2006
Time: 10:30 AM
Re: West Corridor Stakeholder Meeting
Location: FasTracks Office – Express Conference Room
In Attendance:

Dennis Cole, RTD-FasTracks	Rob Ball, RTD-FasTracks
Brenda Tierney, RTD-FasTracks	Gideon Berger, RTD-FasTracks
Gina McAfee, RTD-FasTracks	Larry Warner, RTD-FasTracks
Kim Podobnik, Praco	Kevin Flynn, Rocky Mtn. News
Dave Baskett, City of Lakewood	Roger Wadnal, Lakewood
Anne Heine, Lakewood	Rob Smetana, Lakewood
Gail Spencer, Lakewood	Kate Newman, Jeffco
Steve Glueck, Golden	Dave Ridenour, CCoD
Lisa Morpurgo, GSA	Bob Kochevar, CCoD
Keith French, CCD	Tony Ogboli, CCD
Bill DeGroot, UDFCD	Andy Leong, DEA
John Rinard, DTCG	Peter Zurawel, IBI
Sara Farrar-Nagy, The Lakewood Collaborative	

Minutes

1. INTRODUCTIONS
 2. REVIEW OF JULY 13, 2006 ACTION ITEMS
 - o RTD to send Jeffco and Golden their draft IGAs for review and comment - Completed
 - o City of Lakewood to expedite their comments to RTD on their IGA - Completed
 3. DISCUSSION ON ELECTED OFFICIALS BRIEFING
- The elected officials briefing is scheduled for September 15th at Denver's Human Resource Bldg. Center offices. Briefing topics include the following:
- o Outreach efforts update - Coffees with Dennis held in August; next round in October (Coffees are going well and are well received on all sides.)

- UDC meetings coming up on September 27th @ Denver Human Services Bldg. and 28th @ Jefferson /County Fairgrounds
- Neighborhood meetings; next meeting on Oct. 19th with Sun Valley Park neighborhood
- o Bridge update – Bridge types shown at Wadsworth, US 6@ Union, Kipling and Eldridge – possible aesthetics treatments shown for Wadsworth
- o Fences and Barriers – Barrier types in use on other transit properties were shown for information. Ballast walls and possible fencing patterns were shown for consideration on West Corridor. Ballast walls will range in height from 18 inches to contain ballast to approx. 4ft if use for wheel noise attenuation. Fencing would range from pickets on the higher wall to fencing panels of 3 to 4 feet high on the lower ballast walls.
- o Noise study update – Purpose of the noise study in final design is to validate the background noise levels and any changes in mitigations from PE. 14 receptor locations initially identified with 4 additional locations added with the west end alignment changes. Background noise levels determined for each measured location; modeling in progress to establish background levels for all affected properties in areas represented by receptors. RTD will develop an “OPT OUT” process similar to TREX for property owners or businesses that choose not to accept the mitigation.
- o Bike paths – A summary of the existing bike path routes was presented and an overview of West Corridor responsibilities relevant to bike paths.
- o Explanation of PUC process – A handout was distributed that explained the PUC process for filing applications for grade crossings. This will be discussed in more detail by Pamela Fischhaber at the elected officials briefing.

4. MAJOR WEST CORRIDOR CHALLENGES

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

- o Jefferson /County End of the Line – RTD and Jeffco have agreed on the location and general layout of the station and parking facility, and are meeting on a regular basis to go over design progress. Pending issues are funded related – i.e. baseline budget and pedestrian bridge.
- o GSA Federal Center – RTD is still waiting to receive the updated appraisal for the 15 acres needed for the station and parking facilities. Clarifying the alignment and acreage for both the permanent easement and temporary construction easement is in progress. Completing the documentation for RTD’s 15 acres and the 50 acre hospital site is urgent. Master plan discussion related to the station platform, alignment, grade crossings, etc. will be arranged in mid October.
- o AHEC – Meeting held on Sept. 13th with Urban Ventures to further discuss the station layout and pedestrian circulation. Discussion with AHEC and master plan consultant to be arranged to establish parameters and guidelines. Track alignment and station location are fixed parameters.

- 13th Avenue – Harlan to Oak – RTD, COL and West Metro Fire have agreed on a 20 ft. road width where 13th Avenue parallels the tracks today. RTD is laying out the utilities along this corridor and identifying envelopes for the utility relocations. This is being reviewed with the utilities and will be discussed with COL on Sept. 26th.
- Myrtle Place under I-25 – RTD is proposing to acquire access rights on Myrtle Place and provide access to the adjacent properties. The concern is the width available for access to the properties is only 22 ft. as compared to the City's Fire Department criterion of 25 ft. The design team has met with Public Works and Fire Dept. in the field and is requesting the City to agree to the variance in criterion.
- Federal Blvd. Bridge – RTD has submitted the proposed channel improvements to UDFCD and UDFCD has indicated they are ok with the section under the bridge. Two bridge types have been evaluated and RTD advised the group that additional options are also under consideration due to budget concerns. This will be discussed further with CCD and UDFCD.
- IGAs – *City of Lakewood*: RTD is reviewing the city's comments on the master IGA and will return an updated draft to Lakewood this month. *Jefferson County and Golden*: IGAs handed out in the meeting today with a request to return comments by Oct. 20th. *CCD*: A draft IGA has been provided by CCD to RTD; further progress pending the completion of negotiations on S. Platte River improvements and the amount that is eligible towards the local agency contribution on West Corridor. RTD has offered \$4.4 million to come off the top of the total \$12.8 million local agencies contribution, and is awaiting the City's formal response. CCD and RTD will meet next week.

5. 65% DESIGN SUBMITTAL STATUS

RTD advised that the 65% submittal is still set for November 3rd. RTD explained that the submittal will not be a true 65% submittal, particularly the west end of the alignment between the Federal Center and Jeffco. RTD offered to walk each agency stakeholder through the submittal concurrent with issuance of the submittal documents to each stakeholder to help the reviewers in understanding the submittal and design progress. RTD will set up separate sessions with each stakeholder. It was also suggested that RTD arrange a follow-up presentation of its web-based electronic design review process.

6. TOD UPDATE

RTD has completed its initial review of a master developer process for parking garages at Sheridan, Wadsworth and Federal Center. RTD anticipates releasing a RFP in late 2007 following the purchase of land required for the parking garages. RTD is supporting and coordinating with Lakewood in its evaluation of TOD opportunities and the development of transit parking facilities on both sides of Wadsworth at the station site.

Lakewood mentioned the city's plan to adopt new zoning regulations. A study session is scheduled with city council next week and adoption of the new regulations planned by the end of November 2006.

Lakewood also mentioned the workshop on September 21, 2006 at 1:30 PM with prospective developers to review TOD opportunities at the Wadsworth station area.

CCD commented that their RFP for TOD studies at Decatur and Sheridan is out and expects to select a consultant by Sept. 30th. A separate RFP for market studies was issued and a shortlist should be made by Sept. 30th. The City's West Colfax plan is going for adoption next week.

7. UPCOMING PARTNERING SESSION WITH RTD, CM/GC AND STAKEHOLDERS

RTD informed the stakeholders that there is a need to reschedule the partnering session with the CM/GC contractor from October 12th to November 9th. The October 12th meeting will be a regular stakeholder meeting. A list of attendees is requested from each stakeholder. RTD will provide an agenda well in advance of the session.

8. EA SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS STATUS

RTD continues to make progress on the Environmental Assessment (EA), and is on schedule to complete the EA in December 2006. Public review is scheduled in mid January with a final decision document in late February 2007. RTD is anticipating that a FONSI will be the basis of approval by FTA for the EA.

The 404 permit process and input by agency participants that is needed for the EA will be discussed further at the Drainage Working Group coordination meeting on September 19th.

MS4 Water Quality issues in CDOT right-of-way are also being addressed.

9. FFGA APPLICATION PROCESS

RTD handed out a copy of a schedule that was worked out with FTA and RTD, and outlines the FFGA process and the documents that need to be completed for the FFGA application, which is scheduled to be submitted to FTA in late May 2007 with an FFGA executed in late September 2007. It was acknowledged that the schedule is tight and requires full cooperation by all parties. This was issued as information for the stakeholders.

10. 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 requested information on the systems safety meetings and would like to attend the meetings. RTD will provide sample meeting minutes and agendas to the stakeholders so they can decide if this meeting is of interest to them. Lakewood requested a rendering to better understand the Eldridge Bridge crossing. Lakewood also requested to see the parking model assignments.

City/County of Denver: CCD is interested in seeing the drainage channel designs and also seeing achieve RTD achieve quiet crossings in residential areas.

UDFCD: UDFCD is interested in reviewing other options RTD is considering for the bridge design relative to the drainage channel at Federal Blvd. Review comments on the MOU issued to UDFCD will be returned to RTD this month.

CDOT: Not in attendance at the meeting today.

Jefferson County: Jeffco is interested in seeing the S. Platte River discussions concluded between CCD and RTD so the eligible cost for each stakeholder can be finalized. Jeffco also requested to see the parking model assignments that have been used in determining Jeffco parking needs.

City of Golden: Golden is interested in seeing the Eldridge Bridge and south side alignment and understanding the bridge types and alignments at Colfax and Indiana.

GSA: Requested RTD's position with St. Anthony's relative to TOD opportunities.

11. ACTION ITEMS - See attached Action Item List.

Meeting ended at 12:00 PM.

cc: Gary Gonzales, CDOT