



**We Make Lives Better
Through Connections.**

Reimagine RTD

Moving Everyone Forward

Denver LUTI

Oct. 11, 2022

Agency Overview

Created in 1969 by Colorado General Assembly
Eight-county service area; 2,342 square miles

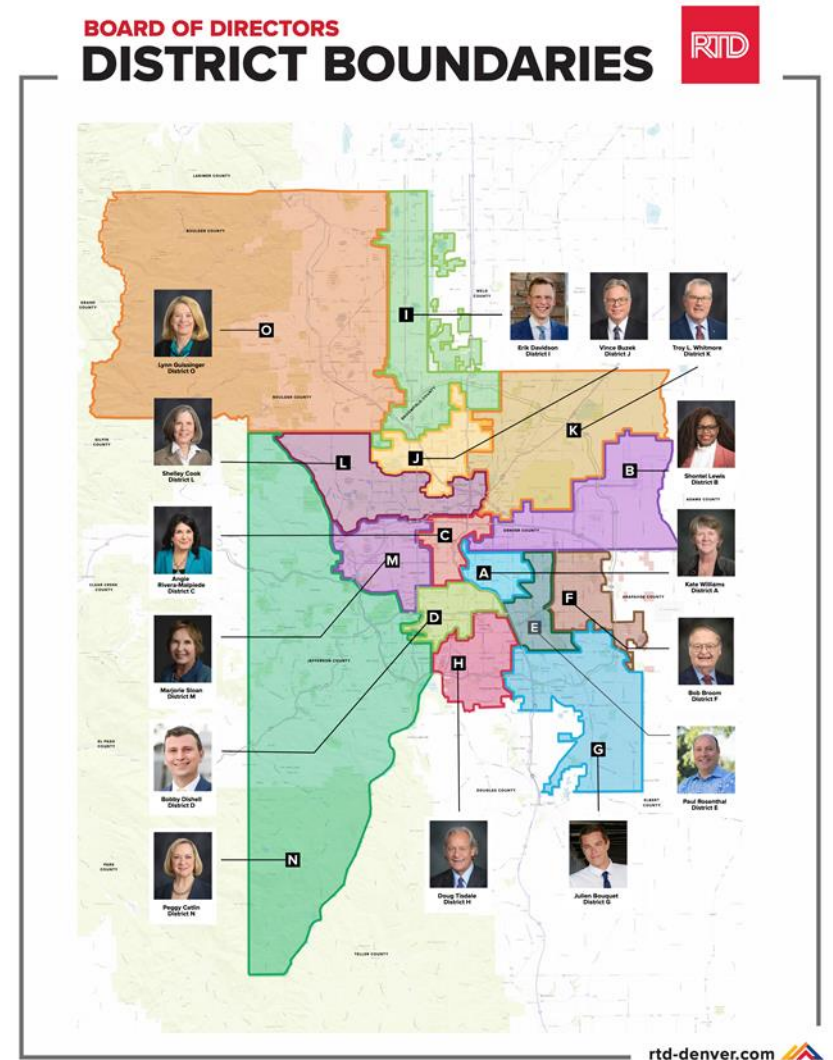
1 percent sales and use tax

0.6% Base System Operations

0.4% FasTracks

Primary modes

- 126 Bus Routes
- 8 light rail lines
- 4 commuter rail lines
- Paratransit
- Micro Transit



The National View

- “It is well recognized that the landscape of surface transportation is in a state of transformational change and flux. This new mobility paradigm requires public transit to be inventive, innovative and bold in forging partnerships with new providers, adopting cutting-edge technologies and meeting customers’ evolving desire for more flexible, customized service.”

- Paul Skoutelas, APTA President and CEO

Our Vision

Transit systems need to make themselves more competitive **now**.

It is time for a public transit **renaissance**.

The future of mobility depends on public transportation: practical, sustainable solutions that meet the needs of **everyone** in the Denver metro area.



Theme

**Stop Waiting on
What Was, Focus
on What Will Be**

Reimagine RTD

A white RTD train with orange and blue stripes is stopped at a station platform. The platform has a yellow tactile paving strip. The scene is illuminated by a warm, golden light from the setting or rising sun, creating a lens flare effect on the left side of the image. The train's windows reflect the interior lights and passengers.

What is Reimagine?

- Reimagine RTD is an effort to evaluate and forecast the changing transportation needs of our region

What are the Deliverables?

- **Near Term:** System Optimization Plan (SOP)
- The Effect of COVID
- **Long Term:** Mobility Plan for the Future (MPFF)

System Optimization Plan

Why did RTD Conduct an SOP?

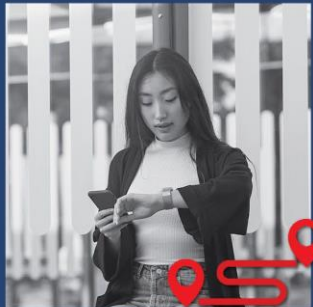
- Address declining ridership trends
- Improve transit service performance / efficiency
- Provide services within RTD's budget
- Address changing travel demand including shifts resulting from the pandemic
- Remain a competitive transportation service provider
- Improve transit service quality

What were RTD's goals?

- Set a new baseline for RTD in preparation for future growth
- Align service levels with workforce availability
- Clarify service priorities including prioritizing service to social equity groups
- Engage and build consensus with stakeholders and partners
- Evaluate services at a regional and subregional level

Guiding Principles

- Mobility – Safe and reliable service
- Equity – Remove barriers to accessing transportation
- Financial – Act as good stewards of taxpayer dollars
- Partnerships – Identify innovative opportunities to improve transit
- Workforce – Recognize team members as RTD's greatest asset
- Sustainability – Reduce RTD's environmental impact



Mobility



Equity



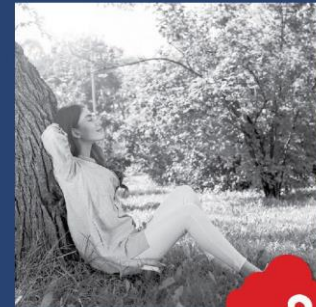
Financial



Partnerships

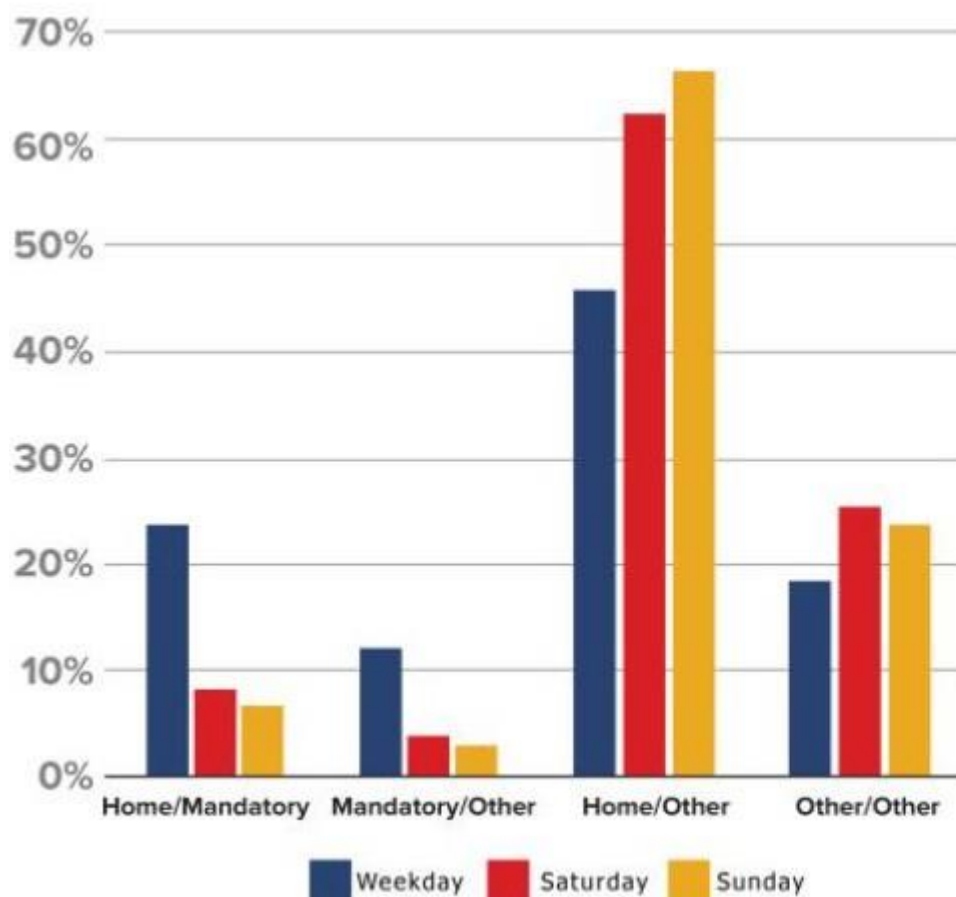


Workforce



Sustainability

Detailed Evaluation of Existing Travel Patterns



Key Statistics

Location-based Services Data

Almost 16 million travel-days and 50 million trips by residents observed in the sample

Once normalized, ~10 million trips on an avg weekday, and 6.5 million trips on avg weekend

The Denver area residents work hard, but relax on the weekends (see graph)

Denver, Arapahoe, and Jefferson counties all have over 1.5 million trips a day

Visitors make between 3-6% of all travel in the region (highest on Saturdays)

SOP Recommendations



Simplification

Well-defined corridor routes



Consistency

Fewer irregular trip patterns
Consistent service spans



Reliability

Elimination of long routes



How the SOP Will Improve RTD's Service

- 57% increase in district-wide access to 15-minute or better service
- Increase service to communities who rely on transit for their transportation needs
 - 50% increase in access to 15-minute or better service for these populations
 - 20% increase in mid-day service
- SOP balances frequent services in high-density areas with connecting services to the suburbs



*Metrics as compared to September 2021 RTD service levels

Operationalizing the SOP

- Implementation initiated October 2022
- Speed and timing of implementation resource-dependent (workforce and financial)
- Dialogue on service ongoing through sub-regional service councils
- Performance measures tracked quarterly to inform and continuously refine
- Significant changes to SOP recommendations addressed by the Board of Directors

Mobility Plan for the Future

What is the Mobility Plan for the Future (MPFF)?

RTD's Mobility Plan for the Future (MPFF) is a comprehensive, forward-thinking plan that identifies strategies to address the future mobility needs of the region.

Why did RTD Conduct the MPFF?

- To address industry advancements and societal shifts that are substantially altering how and when people travel, how cities function, and how mobility options are factored into broader visions and goals
- To remain a relevant part of mobility solution in the region

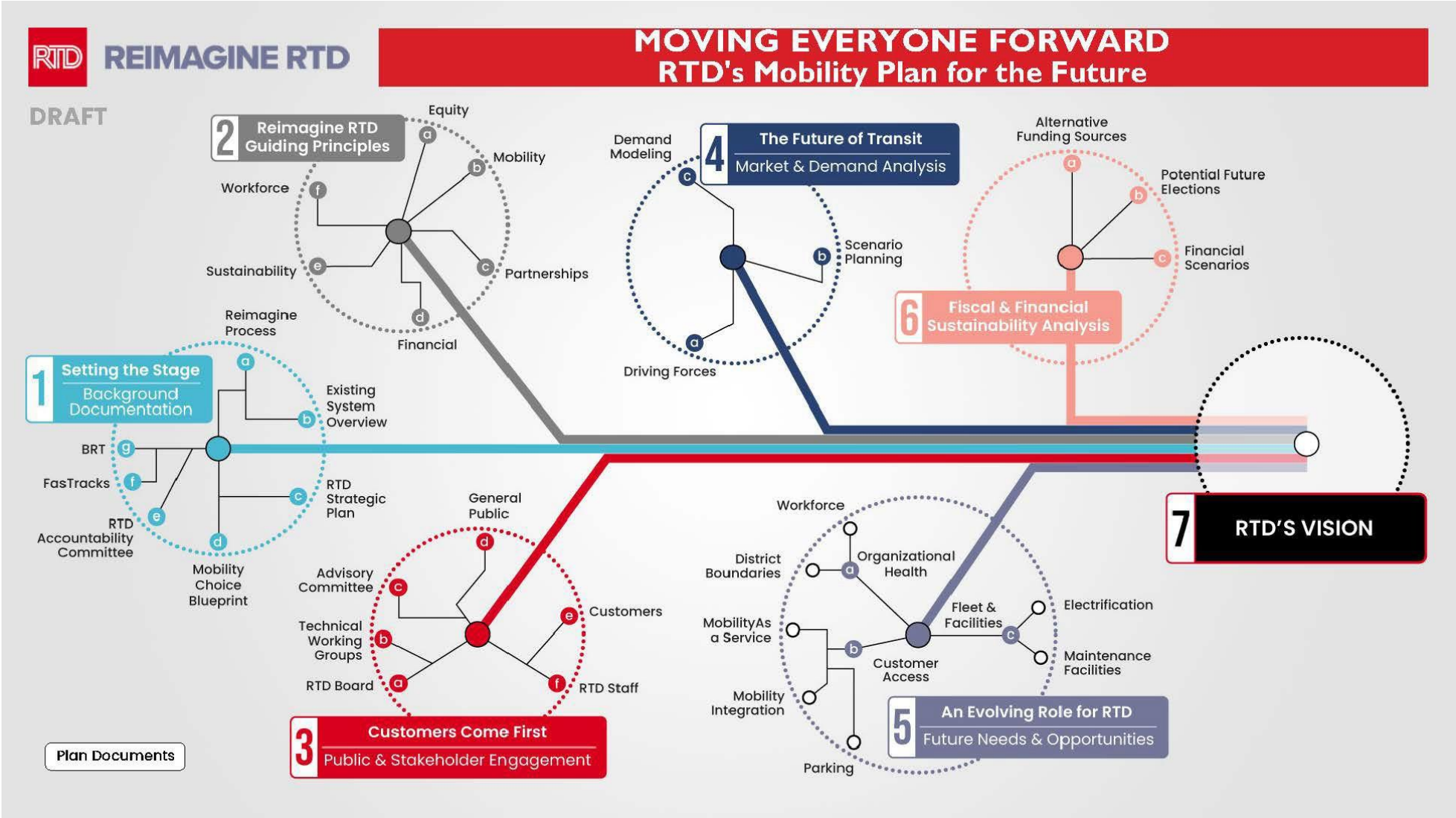
What were RTD's goals?

- Understand RTD's financial capacity
- Determine travel demands and needs in 2050
- Identify RTD's role in responding to travel demand needs in 2050
- Clarify investment priorities and guide long-term decision making
- Engage and build consensus with stakeholders and partner

GUIDING PRINCIPLES



What process did RTD follow?

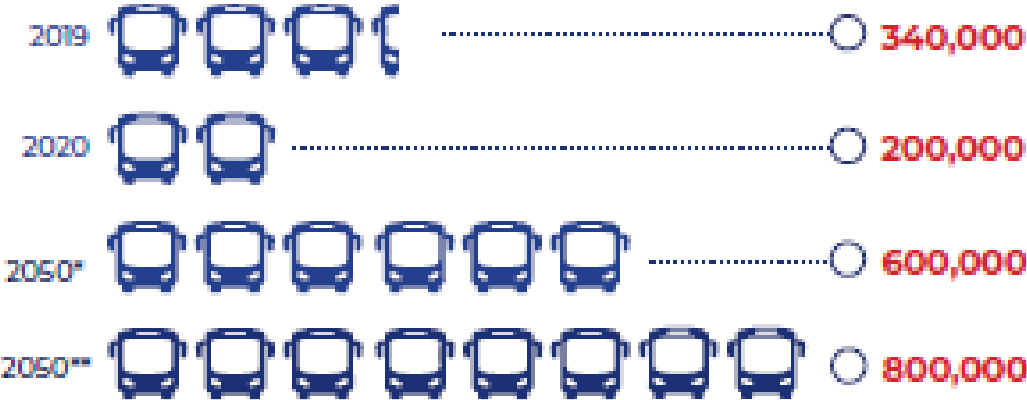


Market and Demand Analysis

REGIONAL POPULATION (millions)



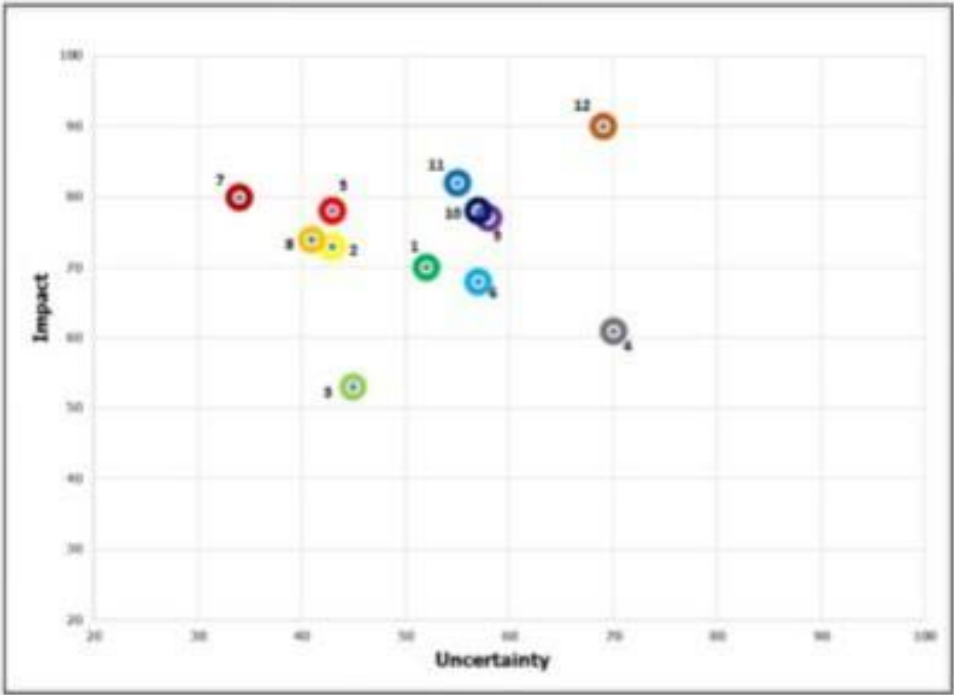
WEEKDAY TRANSIT TRIPS



*2050 DRCOG Fiscally Constrained Plan (600K) Aspirational Projection

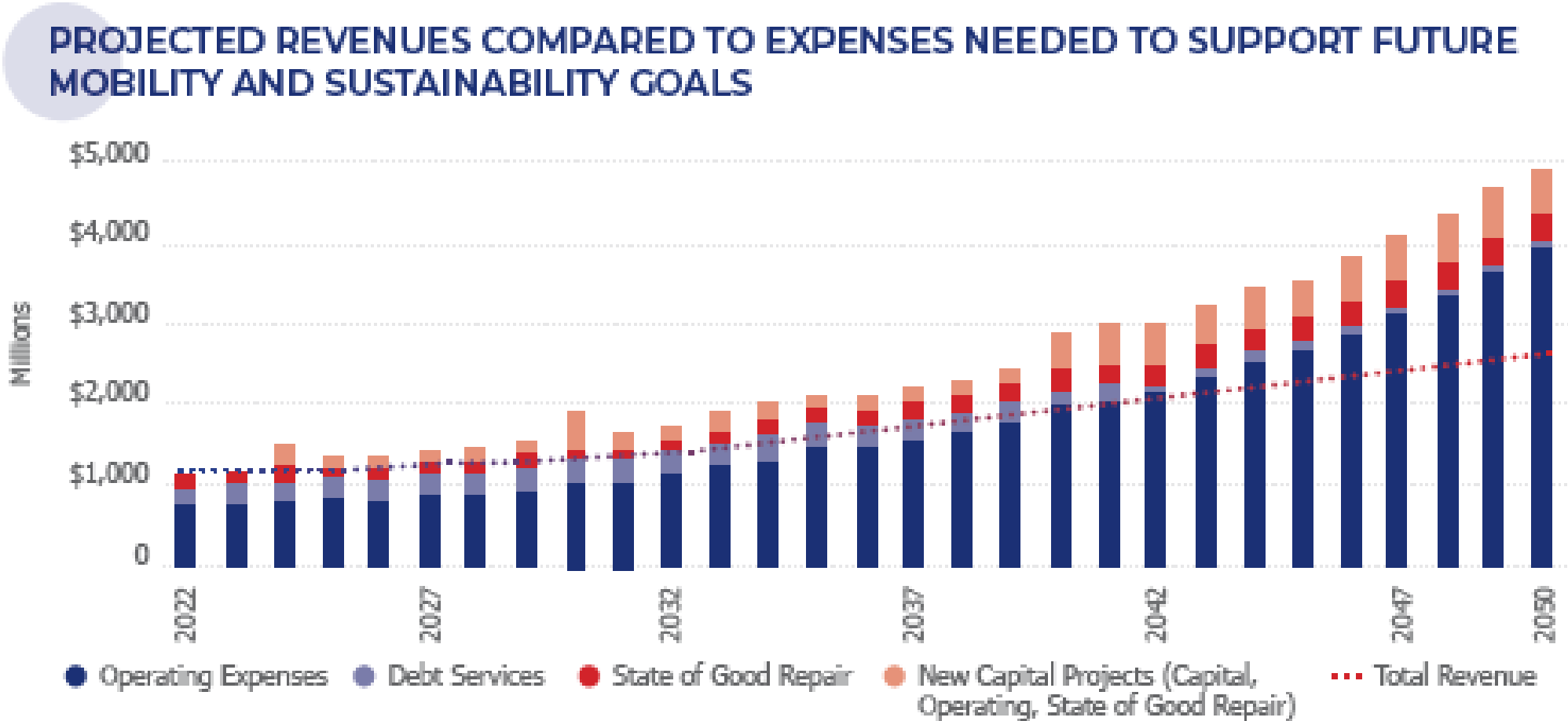
**2050 Aspirational Scenario

INDUSTRY DRIVING FORCES



- 1 – On-demand Mobility Services
- 2 – Universal Apps
- 3 – Electrification
- 4 – Disruptive Technologies
- 5 – Parking Costs
- 6 – Competition
- 7 – Population Changes
- 8 – Telework Trends
- 9 – Workforce Availability
- 10 – Local Gov Support
- 11 – State & Federal Policy
- 12 – Funding

Fiscal and Financial Analysis



Stakeholder and Public Outreach

181 Total Meetings – Over 4,000 attendees	31 Telephone Town Halls –Over 29,000 Attendees
13 Meetings Each - Technical Working Group & Advisory Committees	43 Targeted Listening Sessions
16 Presentations - RTD Board	1,069 Statistically-Valid Survey Participants
Seven Public Meetings	18 Meetings with Service Sectors
Five Formal Focus Groups	Over 1,600 Comments Received on SOP
250 Participants in Employee Forums	18,307 Website Visits

Public and Stakeholder Comment Summary

1,600 comments received and considered

- RTD should integrate and partner with other mobility providers but not look to operate all services such as scooters, bike share, etc.
- RTD should focus on regional, cross jurisdictional services
- RTD needs to improve partnerships with local agencies in support community-based services
- RTD should prioritize service to those in need

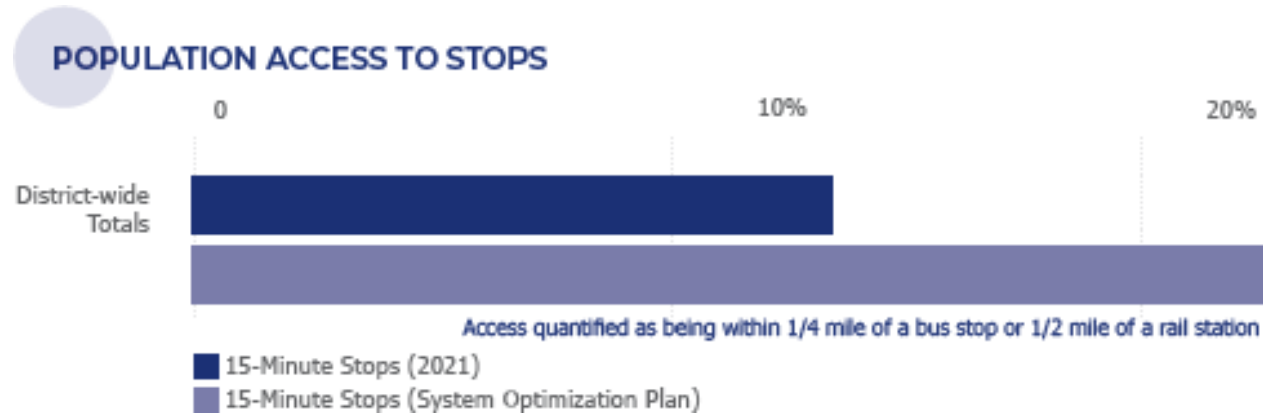
Recommendations

**Vision: Moving Everyone Forward with
Accessible, Equitable, and Sustainable
Transit Solutions**

Access Vision

Mobility integrator that provides high-quality/high-capacity **regional transit backbone** and partners with a broad group of stakeholders to support community-based services

Success Metric: Increasing number of transit trips linked to services funded or operated by other mobility providers



Access Strategies

■ Opportunities with Current Funding Sources

- Focus operating budget on regional backbone
- Enhance partnership program
- Develop integrated trip planning and payment platform
- Foster a dynamic and diverse workforce
- Improve safety and security

■ Opportunities with Increased Funding

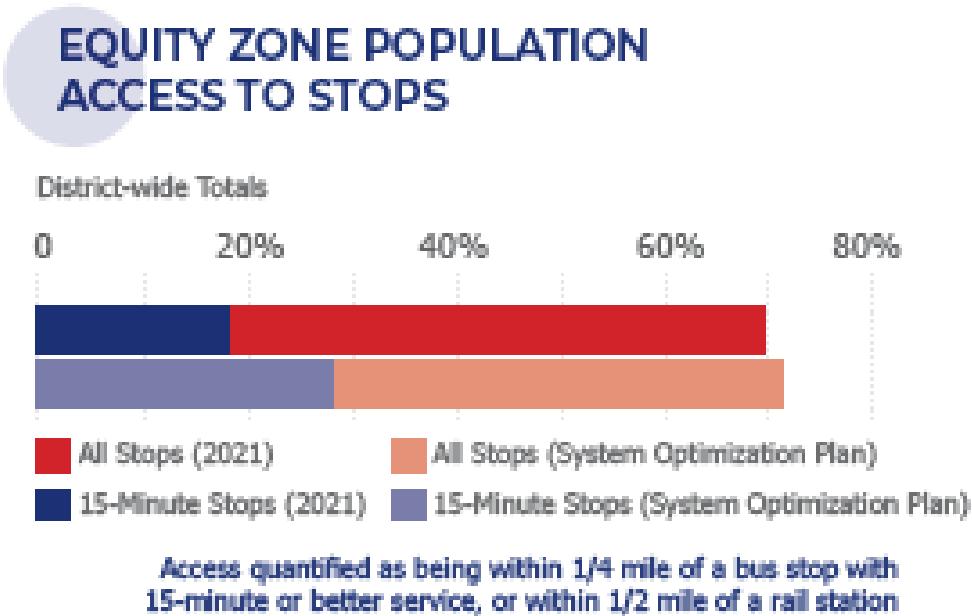
- Implement Bus Rapid Transit system
- Increase bus and rail system capacity

Equity Vision

Mobility provider that maximizes access to opportunity by **prioritizing** service to **those who need it most**

Success Metrics:
Increasing portion of social equity populations served with high-frequency transit service

Increasing portion of highly satisfied on-board survey responses from social equity groups compared to non social equity responses



Equity Strategies

■ Opportunities with Current Funding Sources

- Prioritize social equity communities
- Connect social equity communities to their destinations
- Develop innovative fare programs

■ Opportunities with Increased Funding

- Enhance bus accessibility
- Convert light rail system to level boarding

Sustainability Vision

Mobility leader that defines and evolves transit’s role in mobility and environmental sustainability through proactive collaboration

Success Metrics: Increasing number of person miles traveled on transit per capita

	2020	2050
Population	3,376,724	4,428,066
Person miles traveled on transit	1,790,088	3,154,394
Person miles traveled on transit per capita	0.530	0.712

Source: DRCOG 2050 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan

Sustainability Strategies

■ Opportunities with Current Funding Sources

- Test emerging technologies
- Provide local agencies with technical support
- Lead mobility and climate action initiatives
- Create seamless operation between services
- Promote transit supportive development

■ Opportunities with Increased Funding

- Transition to zero emission fleet
- Incorporate sustainable practices in capital projects

What Does The Mobility Plan for the Future Accomplish?

- **Focuses RTD's resources on regional services** that would be difficult for local agencies to provide
- Increases **involvement of local agencies** in the provision of community-based services
- Puts RTD in the lead of developing a customer-focused, regional trip **planning and payment integration platform**
- Better **defines RTD's service priorities** by focusing resources on high-demand corridors and customers in need of service
- Encourages RTD to lead **mobility and climate action initiatives**
- Aligns RTD's **expenditures** with anticipated **resources**

Questions?

Thank you.