

# **Denver City Council Transportation and Infrastructure Committee**

October 15, 2025













## Finishing FasTracks Report

Denver City Council Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

### **Outline**











**Key Takeaways** 

**Next Steps** 



October 10, 2025

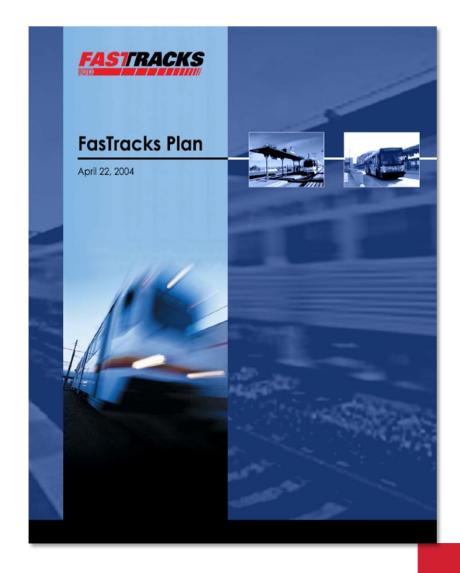
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# Background

### **Background – FasTracks**

- FasTracks ballot initiative voter approved in 2004
- Since 2004, RTD has achieved 75% program completion
- Four rail corridors remain:
  - Northwest Rail Peak Service
  - North Metro completion
  - Southwest Extension
  - Central Extension

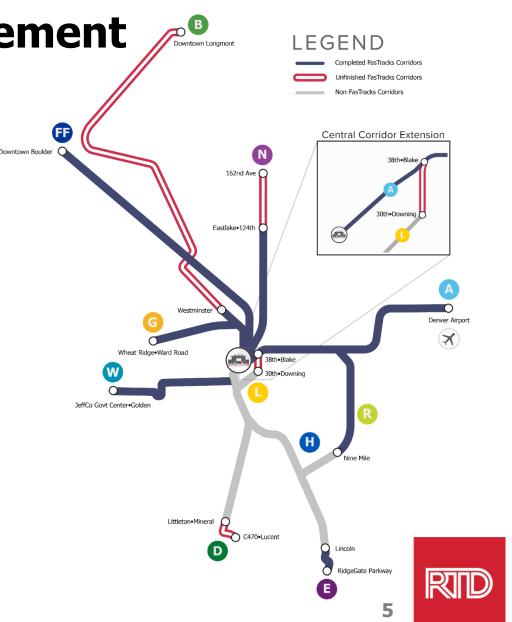




**Background – Legislative Requirement** 

Senate Bill (SB)24-230 and SB25-161 direct RTD to:

- Prioritize Northwest Rail and North Metro completion
- Develop Report to show how FasTracks can be completed by 2034 with submittal by December 1, 2025



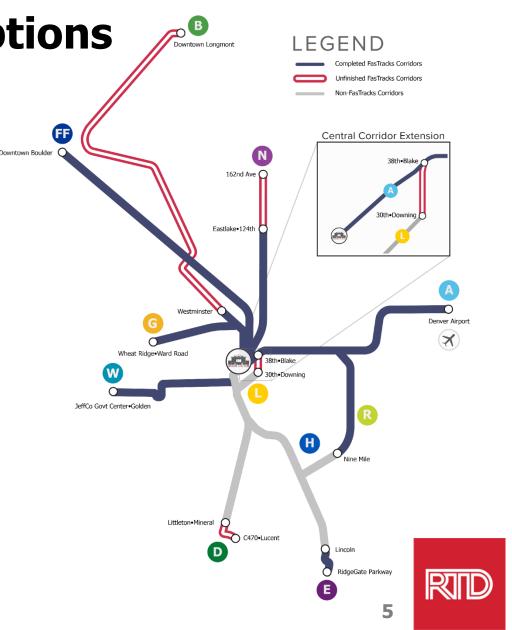


## **Updated Corridor Costs**

**Updated Corridor Costs - Assumptions** 

Updated most recent set of costs (2015) for remaining corridors

NW Rail Peak Service costs were updated from 2024
 NW Peak Service Study



### **Updated Corridor Costs**

In \$ millions and in 2024 dollars

Corridor	Capital Cost	Annual Operating Cost	Daily Boardings* in Horizon Year (2045)
Northwest Rail Peak Service	\$650	\$14.0	1,100
North Metro	\$396	\$5.4	1,500
Southwest Extension	\$344	\$2.5	700
Central Extension	\$211	\$0.7	300
Total	\$1,599	\$22.6	3,600**

\*2024 average daily boardings systemwide: ~178,000

<sup>\*\*</sup>Equivalent to ~2% of 2024 daily boardings systemwide



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# Fiscal Capacity

### **Fiscal Capacity - Constraints**

- Limited RTD reserve funds
- TABOR debt capacity limitations
  - Approximately \$2.7 million remaining bond capacity
- Limited opportunity to issue Certificates of Participation (COPs)
- Asset renewal needs





### Fiscal Capacity — Additional Revenue Sources

- FasTracks Internal Savings Account (FISA)
- SB21-260: Multimodal Transportation Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF)
- SB24-230: Oil and Gas Production Fees
- SB24-184: Congestion Impact Fee on Vehicle Rentals
- Federal Funding Opportunities



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## Fiscal Capacity – Remaining Funding Gap

- Approximately \$1.2 billion shortfall, not inclusive of additional costs
  - Unfinished corridors cost is approximately \$1.6 billion\*
  - Five-year financial forecast 2030 FISA balance: \$145 million\*
  - Possible RTD allocation assumptions from SB21-260, SB24-230 and SB24-184 funding (2026-34): approximately \$296 million
- To complete the corridors by 2034, revenue sources beyond those currently identified would be needed
- Additional funding source(s) needed for operating and maintenance costs and asset renewals





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<sup>\*</sup> Per proposed 2026-2030 Five-year Financial Forecast



## Key Takeaways

## **Key Takeaways**

- ~75% FasTracks program complete
- Insufficient funds to complete program
- Additional funding (beyond SB21-260, SB24-230 and SB24-184 funding) needed for construction as well as operations, maintenance, and asset renewals
- Additional design for all projects will be required
- Cost estimates provided in report are a snapshot of current costs and will change with design levels







## **Next Steps**

### **Next Steps**

- **Tuesday, Oct. 21:** Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC) presentation
- Tuesday, Oct. 28: Public Comment Open forum during Board meeting
- Friday, Nov. 14: Comment period closes
- Tuesday, Nov. 25: Submission of Final Report to the Legislature

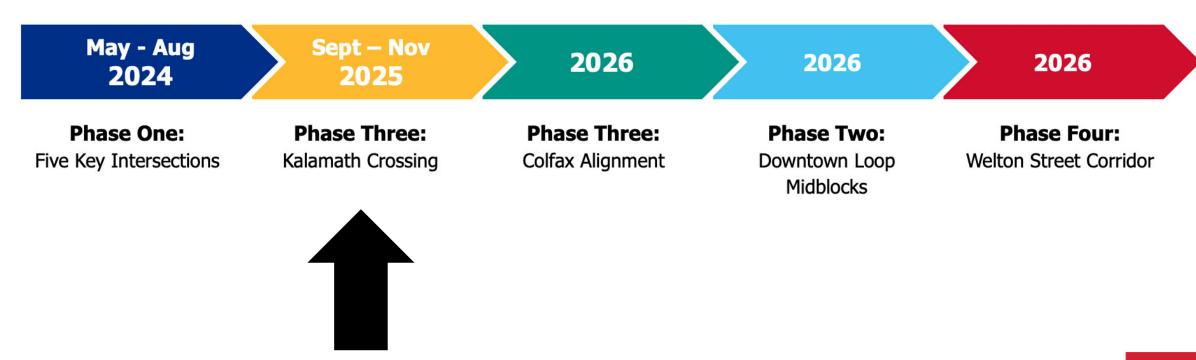
Report, appendices and comment form can be found at: <a href="https://www.rtd-denver.com/fastracks">https://www.rtd-denver.com/fastracks</a>



# Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

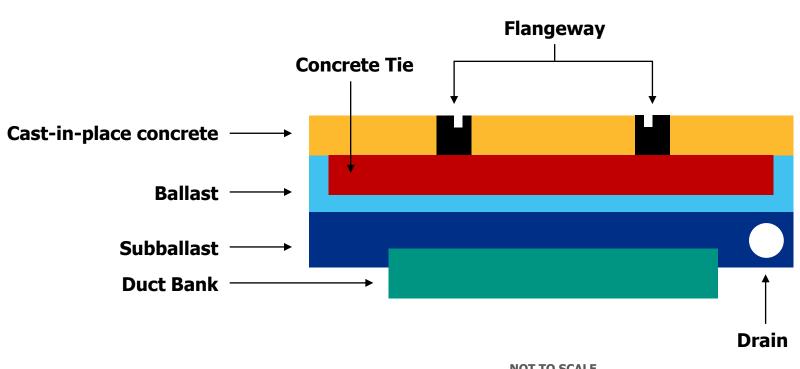
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## **Project Timeline**



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## **Full-Depth Reconstruction**









**NOT TO SCALE** 



### WORK COMPLETED TO 10/13/25



86

Days

Sept. 2

to

Nov. 27





Track Replacement

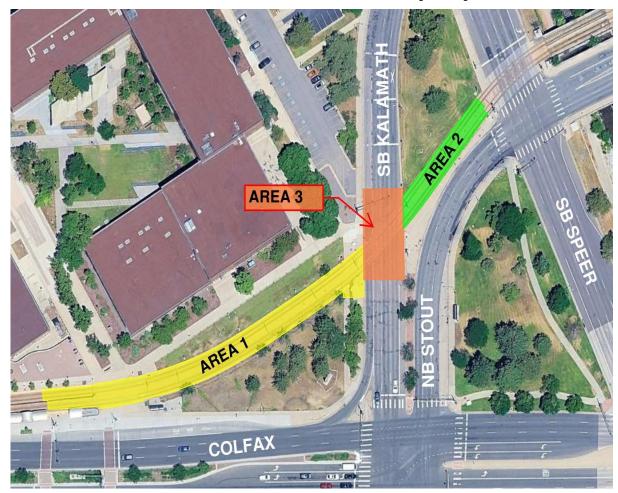
Full depth rail reconstruction





**Safety** 







COLFAX

WESTOUT

SERVALANATH

SOURCE

SERVALANATH

SOURCE

SOU





AREA 1 PHOTOS
Work Completed As Of Friday, October 10, 2025



### **AREA 1 Progress (Friday, October 10, 2025)**

- Concrete Paving, Rail, Ties and Ballast Removals Complete
- Subgrade Compacted, Tested and Accepted
- Initial Ballast Layer Complete, New Ties and Rail Set
- Rail Welding Started







COLFAX

COLFAX

COLFAX

**AREA 2 PHOTOS**Work Completed As Of Friday, October 10, 2025





### **AREA 2 Progress (Friday, October 10, 2025)**

- Concrete Paving, Rail, Ties and Ballast Removals
   Complete
- Subgrade Compacted, Tested and Accepted
- Initial Ballast Layer Complete, New Ties and Rail Set









AREA 3 PHOTOS
Work Completed As Of Friday, October 10, 2025





#### **AREA 3 Progress (Friday, October 10, 2025)**

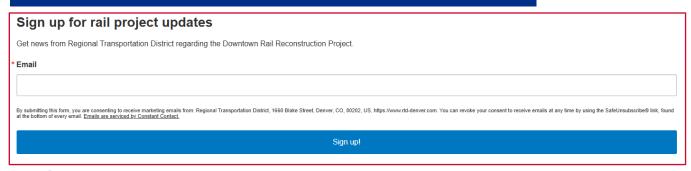
- Work to start 10/19/25
- Currently Receiving Concrete Panels to be Used in the Construction of the Crossing

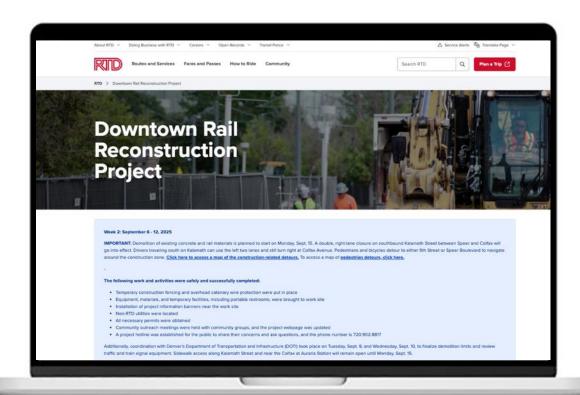
## **Project Webpage**

- Weekly status updates and activity reports
- Detour maps and service impacts
- Photos, videos, and illustrations
- FAQs and communication toolkits
- Sign up to receive Rail Project Update



### rtd-denver.com/railproject







# Thank you.

