



## MEDIA ADVISORY

April 30, 2015

### RTD marks progress on its Aurora Line/I-225 Rail project

- WHAT:** Connecting Aurora Through Rail -- Celebrating Progress event
- WHEN:** Thursday, April 30, 10 a.m.
- WHERE:** The future 13th Avenue Station (on 13th Avenue, west of Sable Boulevard)
- SPEAKERS:** RTD Board Directors Tom Tobiassen, Barbara Deadwyler and Claudia Folska; Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan; CDOT Region 1 Transportation Director Tony DeVito; RTD Assistant General Manager for Capital Programs Richard (Rick) Clarke

#### BACKGROUND

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) is commemorating progress on its latest light rail construction project. Aurora Line/I-225 Rail is nearly 60 percent complete and the project team is hosting the "Connecting Aurora Through Rail -- Celebrating Progress" event to mark this milestone.

#### Construction progress highlights include:

- Design work on the entire project is 99 percent complete
- All seven light rail bridges are complete or nearing completion
- Drainage improvements for Aurora are underway
- All eight stations are under construction
- Catenary poles have been erected to the Mississippi Avenue Bridge
- Overhead wire has been strung to just north of the Iliff Bridge
- Track and ballast have been laid up to Exposition Avenue and from 13th Avenue





to south of the South Toll Gate Bridge

- Construction in the city center area, where the train will be street running, will soon require street closures.

The partners from RTD, Kiewit Infrastructure Company, the Colorado Department of Transportation and the city of Aurora will string together hand-carved wooden pieces of rail to symbolize how collaboration is moving the project forward.

The 10.5-mile Aurora Line/I-225 Rail will extend light rail service from the current Nine Mile Station near I-225 and Parker Road, travel through major activity centers in Aurora, such as the Aurora City Center and Anschutz Medical Campus, Children's Hospital and the new VA Hospital, and end at the Peoria Station. There, riders will be able to connect to the East Rail Line to Denver International Airport or Denver Union Station. The Aurora Line/I-225 Rail will open in 2016.

FasTracks is RTD's voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to connect the eight-county district better. For more information, visit [www.rtd-denver.com](http://www.rtd-denver.com).

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