



## **New RTD rail service from Lone Tree to Aurora opens February 24**

### ***R Line will carry passengers from Lincoln Station to Peoria Station connecting passengers through the eastern metro area***

DENVER – The Regional Transportation District (RTD) today announced that the [R Line](#) will open for service on Friday, Feb. 24, 2017, bringing light rail through the heart of Aurora.

The new light rail R Line (formerly known as the Aurora Line/I-225 Rail during construction) extends service from the existing Nine Mile Station north 10.5-miles to Peoria Station connecting to the [University of Colorado A Line](#) to Denver International Airport. The full R Line service will travel 22 miles from the Lincoln Station to Peoria Station. This project also extends RTD’s current H Line from Nine Mile to the new Florida Station. It will be the fourth transit line RTD will open within the last fourteen months.

“The R Line is a signature project for RTD, the City of Aurora, and our region,” said RTD General Manager and CEO Dave Genova. “The line is significant in that it completes another important connection and mobility opportunity on the eastern side of the metro area, connecting commuters to important destinations throughout the line. RTD has successfully operated light rail trains for over twenty years and being able to provide additional light rail service when the R Line opens is very exciting.”

The R Line will connect riders to major activity centers like the Aurora Metro Center, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Children’s Hospital, and the new Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital.

Designed in part to encourage an urban feel through Aurora’s city center, the R Line will provide access to numerous businesses, restaurants and government offices bringing new transportation and transit-oriented development options to the entire area.

“Light rail will transform Aurora,” said Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan. “This is not just a train line running through a part of our community. This rail line traverses the core of the city, and when it opens on Friday, February 24, it will truly connect the entire metropolitan region to Aurora.”

The R Line is part of RTD’s FasTracks 2004 voter-approved transit expansion plan to build new rail lines, add bus rapid transit service, new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District. For more information, visit [www.rtd-denver.com](http://www.rtd-denver.com).

