



**We make lives better
through connections.**

August 9, 2023

Transportation Legislation Review Committee



Outline



- Agency Overview
- RTD Accountability Committee Recommendations
 - Systemwide Fare Study and Equity Analysis
 - Partnership Program
- People Power Update
- Zero Fare for Youth Pilot
- Zero Fare for Better Air Update



Agency Overview

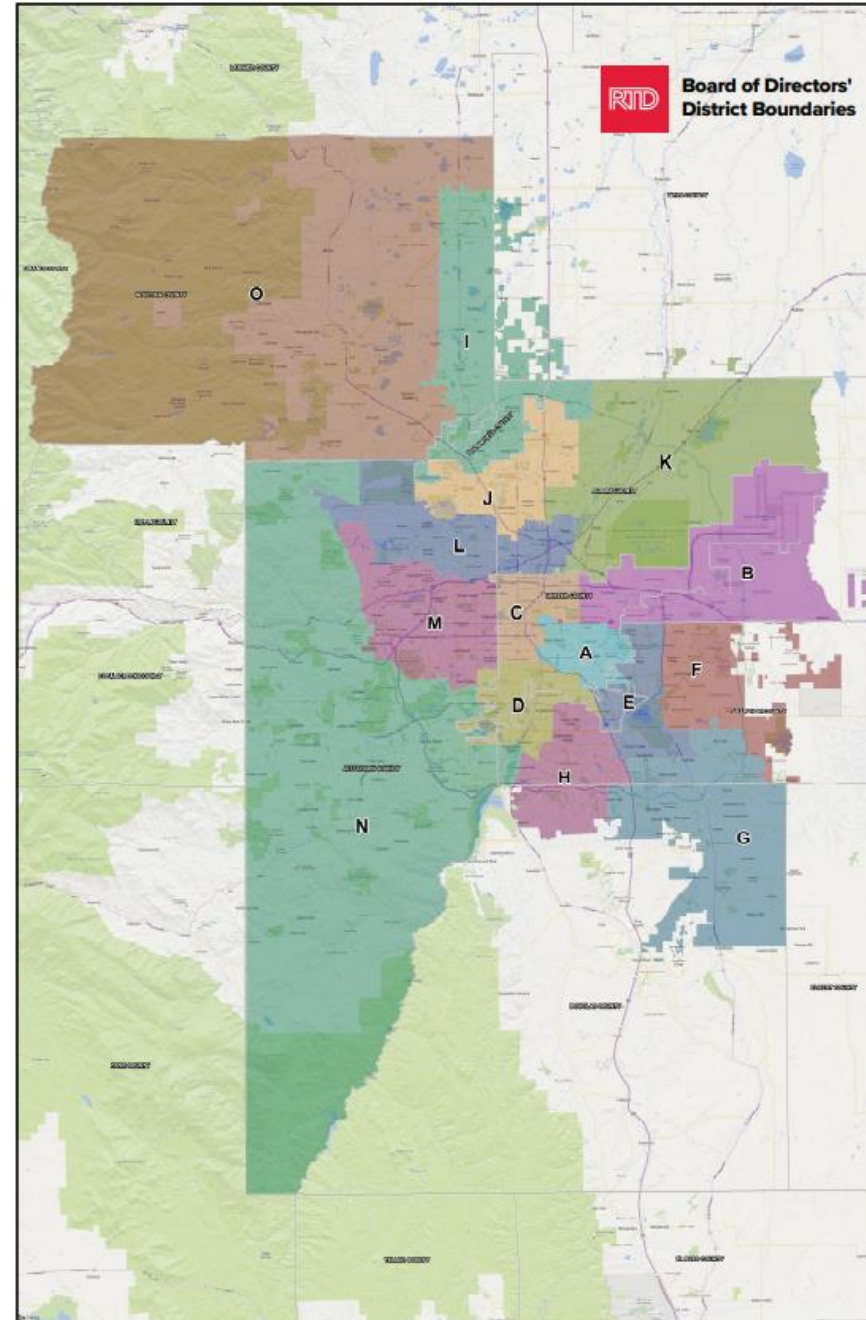
Background



- **Created in 1969 by Colorado General Assembly**
- **Publicly elected Board of Directors**
 - 15 members, each representing more than 200,000 constituents
- **Primary modes**
 - 126 bus routes
 - Eight light rail lines
 - Four commuter rail lines
 - Paratransit
 - Microtransit

Service Area

- Regional transit network
- Eight-county service area
- 2,342 square miles
- 3M+ population within service area





RTD Accountability Committee Recommendations

RTD Accountability Committee

Committee Overview

- Comprised of 11 members appointed by General Assembly and Governor Polis
- July 2020: Work commenced
- July 2021: Final report issued

Final Report

July 2021

The RTD logo is a white stylized 'RTD' monogram set against a red square background.

Agency Responses

- August 2021: Final report issued
 - RTD agreed or partially agreed with nearly all recommendations
 - Highlights agency/committee alignment
- Two marquee initiatives resulting from collaboration:
 - Systemwide Fare Study and Equity Analysis
 - Partnership Program



Systemwide Fare Study and Equity Analysis

Overarching Goals



Equity

- Support transit-reliant/financially burdened customers
- Provide equitable and fair access to fares, products, and discounts
 - Regardless of race, color, national origin, income status, and for other marginalized communities



Affordability

- Align fares with service value



Simplicity

- Make fares easy to understand
 - Standardized discounts and streamlined fare payment options

Fare Structure

	Current			Commencing Q1 2024			
	Full Fare			Full Fare		Discount Fare*	
	Local	Regional	Airport	Standard	Airport	Standard	Airport
3-Hour Pass	\$3	\$5.25	\$10.50	\$2.75	\$10	\$1.35	
Day Pass	\$6	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$5.50	\$10	\$2.70	
Monthly Pass <i>(Multiple of 3-Hour Pass)</i>	\$114 <i>(38x)</i>	\$200 <i>(38x)</i>	\$200 <i>(19x)</i>	\$88 <i>(32x Local / Regional)</i>		\$27 <i>(20x)</i>	

*Discount Fare includes seniors 65+, people with disabilities, Medicare recipients, and customers enrolled in LiVE Program



LiVE Program Expansion

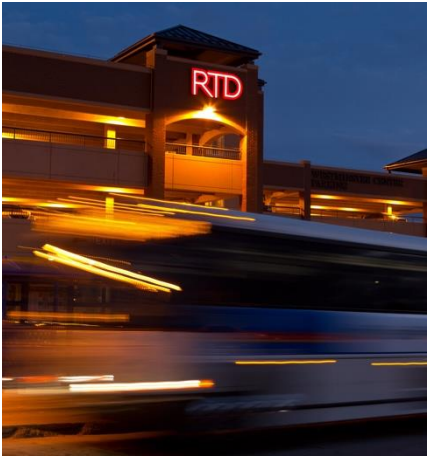
- Increase discount from 40% to 50% to align with other discount fares
- Increase income threshold from 185% to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Establish comprehensive outreach/engagement action plan
- Explore means testing expansion beyond current system



Next Steps



- Staff working with sales outlets
 - Colorado PEAK Program coordination
- Print and media materials updated
- Zero Fare for Youth Pilot launch



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Partnership Program

Program Overview

■ Why?

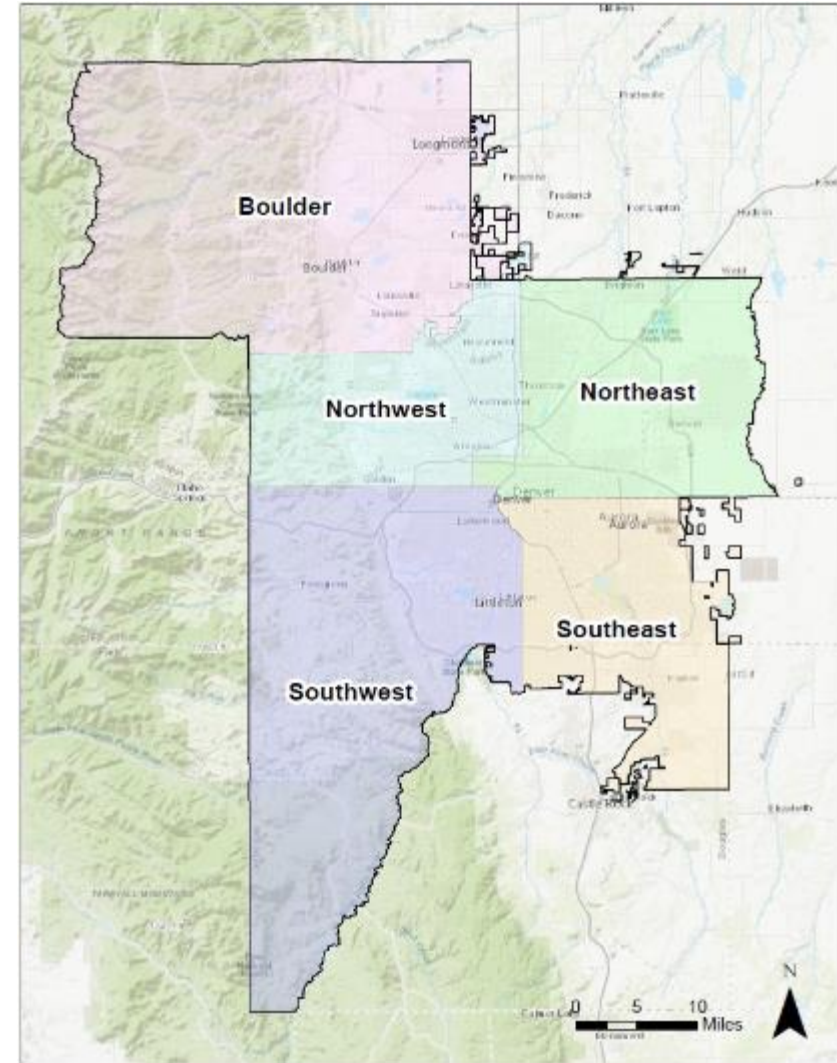
- Limited resources to serve as both regional and local transit provider
- Region's governments conveyed requests for more localized public transit service

■ What?

- Call for Projects Partnership Program created in 2022
- Program expands partnerships through cost sharing agreements

■ How?



- Local entities submit applications for projects through Subregional Service Councils for evaluation





People Power – Recruitment and Retention










People Power

Employees (FT/PT)	2022 (Q1)	2023 (Q1)
Hired	74	148 
Separated	100	82 

- FY2023 budgeted full time (FT)/part time (PT) employees: 3,199
- Active employees as of March 31, 2023: 2,675
- Excludes contractors



People Power – Vacancy Rate

Bus Operations	Vacancy	Rail Operations	Vacancy	Transit Police	Vacancy
Bus Operators (FT)	20% 	Rail Operators (FT)	15% 	Commanders	10% 
Bus Operators (PT)	15% 	Rail Operators (PT)	0%	Sergeants	17% 
Maintenance General Repair/Body Shop	33%	Light Rail Vehicle Maintenance	32% 	Corporals	38% 
Service/Cleaning and Service/Vault	14% 	Maintenance of Way/ Infrastructure	40%	Officers	75% 

Negative trend + >15% vacancy rate

Positive trend + >15% vacancy rate


Positive Trend + 15% or less vacancy rate

No Change from prior quarter

* As of March 31, 2023



Applicant Traffic

Applications Received	2022 (Q1)	2023 (Q1)
	1,822	2,818 



Zero Fare for Youth Pilot

Zero Fare for Youth Pilot

- RTD Board approved a one-year pilot program to align with school year
- Zero fare for those 19 years of age or younger
- Coordinating with public and private schools, youth organizations, activity centers, and community groups to communicate and promote
- Upon pilot completion, staff will:
 - Evaluate effectiveness
 - Determine disadvantaged or minority communities' impacts
 - Assess possible future funding opportunities





Zero Fare for Better Air

Program Highlights

- Zero fares collected across the entire system
- Partnering with 75+ entities for promotion
- Focus on changing habits and introducing transit usage
- Comprehensive survey being conducted to:
 - Understand program's impact
 - Participants' mode shift



Thank you.

