

Submitted as Public Comment to the RTD Special Board Meeting, Jun 24th, 2025

June 23rd, 2025

Julian Bouquet, RTD Board Chair
Regional Transportation District
1660 Blake Street
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Chair Bouquet,

Greater Denver Transit (GDT) writes regarding to the following two agenda topics:

“Yes” on the Joint Service Intergovernmental Agreement for Northwest Rail

GDT urges a “yes” vote on the upcoming motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Joint Service motion to keep critical collaborative tasks between RTD, CDOT, the Governor's Office and the FRPR District moving on Northwest Rail with confidence that further approval from the RTD Board will still be required when (a) costs are presented after the Joint Service study is complete and (b) a track access agreement with the line's owner (the BNSF Railway) is on the table.

It is vital that RTD be seen as doing everything it possibly can to deliver on the promises of FasTracks, and at this stage, there is only one path on the table with new funding, and this involves a partnership with the State of Colorado, under whose authority RTD was created at the consent of voters.

Joint Services Executive Oversight Committee Representation

GDT supports the tightening of the requirements for a quorum for meetings of the Joint Services Executive Oversight Committee (JSEOC) that mandates that all parties must be represented at a meeting for a vote to take place.

GDT also welcomes the weighted voting arrangements which any JSEOC member may call for. We would expect RTD to request weighted voting on motions where the agency is responsible for a significant proportion of the funding to avoid a scenario where the other JSEOC members functionally have full control over allocation of RTD's funds.

GDT once again would like to urge Directors to vote “yes” on approving the IGA.

System Advertising Contract Termination

It is hard to convey in writing how much GDT welcomes the opportunity to terminate an extremely problematic system advertising contract that has been shown to be at odds with a truly customer-focused experience on RTD that will support ridership growth. From enduring dark and gloomy vehicle interiors due to excessive and often unnecessary window wraps to frustrating experiences locating transit service information using digital signs that often display irrelevant promotional and advertising messages, it is clear that RTD's relationship with advertising needs to be completely redefined. The termination of the system advertising contract will provide an ideal opportunity to do this.

GDT urges RTD to create new policies as regards to advertising on the system in line with [wayfinding best practices](#) and providing a welcoming transit environment for customers. Some parts of the customer experience must now become off-limits for advertising, these include [vehicle windows](#) and [digital signs](#) that display next bus or train information.

These policies should be adopted in advance of any new advertising contract being approved by the Board and should also relate to RTD's own promotional messages. Put simply, when a customer who has purchased fare has two minutes to board a train and is seeking scheduling information, "Zero Fare for Youth" is not the message they need to see from RTD at that exact moment in time.

Thanks for all you do,



James Flattum



Richard Bamber



Emma Griffin



Joe Meyer

CC: RTD Board of Directors
Debra Johnson, RTD General Manager & CEO
Angel Peña, RTD Deputy CEO