

For Immediate Release:

RTD Accountability Committee Preliminary Report Released

January 2021 (Denver, CO) – The RTD Accountability Committee released its [Preliminary Report](#) that begins to shed some light on what will ultimately become recommendations to enhance delivery of the region’s transit service by the Regional Transportation District (RTD). This past summer, state leaders partnered with the RTD Board to form a committee to undergo an independent and objective analysis of the agency, and ultimately to make recommendations for improvement to the operations of and statutes related to RTD. Those recommendations will be delivered to the board and staff of RTD, the governor, the Colorado General Assembly, and the public.

The committee, made up of 11 members from diverse backgrounds, has been meeting since August to focus on three key areas: finance, governance and structure, and operations. Integral to the process was development of an Equity Assessment. The committee will use the assessment to test the effects of their recommendations. This Preliminary Report highlights many of the discussions, areas needing further investigation, and includes some initial legislative recommendations for consideration by the Colorado General Assembly and the governor.

“While this is just our preliminary report, I’m grateful for the collaborative spirit, dedication and hard work our committee members have shown, and the good progress we’re making,” said Elise Jones, outgoing Boulder County Commissioner, who co-chairs the group with Aurora Councilmember Crystal Murillo. “While our interim report won’t by itself fix all of RTD’s challenges, the legislative recommendations it includes are designed to give RTD the flexibility to pursue innovative and strategic solutions to boost transit ridership and improve the agency’s finances. Meanwhile, our committee is working diligently on additional suggestions for improvement to be included in our final report this summer.”

The committee’s research has underscored the vital role the transit agency plays in providing equitable mobility to the metro area’s residents and workforce, while simultaneously reducing transportation-related air pollution and climate emissions. Even as COVID-19 has worsened the outlook for transit agencies across the country, it is important to have a concerted effort underway to ensure RTD emerges from the pandemic with a blueprint for success.

The group is anticipated to complete its work and present a final report including an Equity Assessment evaluating the impacts of their recommendations to state officials and the RTD Board by July 2021.

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