Bus Rapid Transit in the Denver Region

Board of Directors – September 18, 2024



Flatiron Flyer

- Region's first BRT service.
- Opened 2016.
- Frequent service.
- Semi-dedicated lanes/bus-on-shoulder.
- Off board fare collection.
- Transit signal priority.

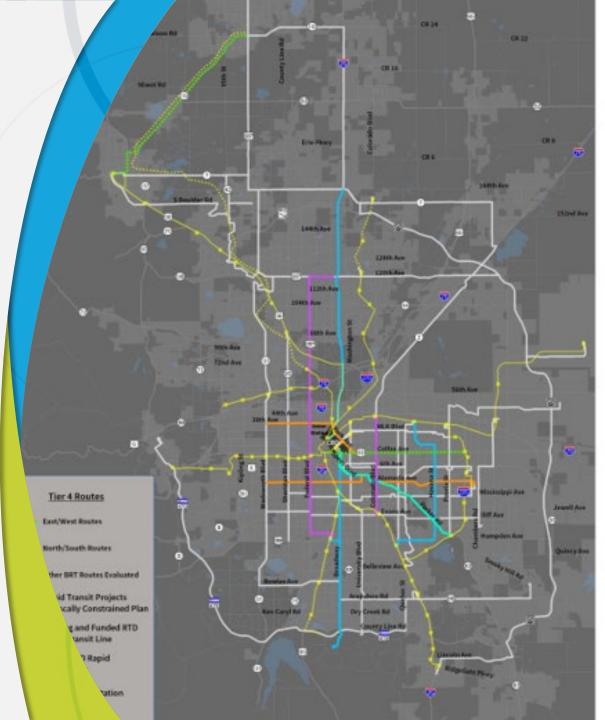


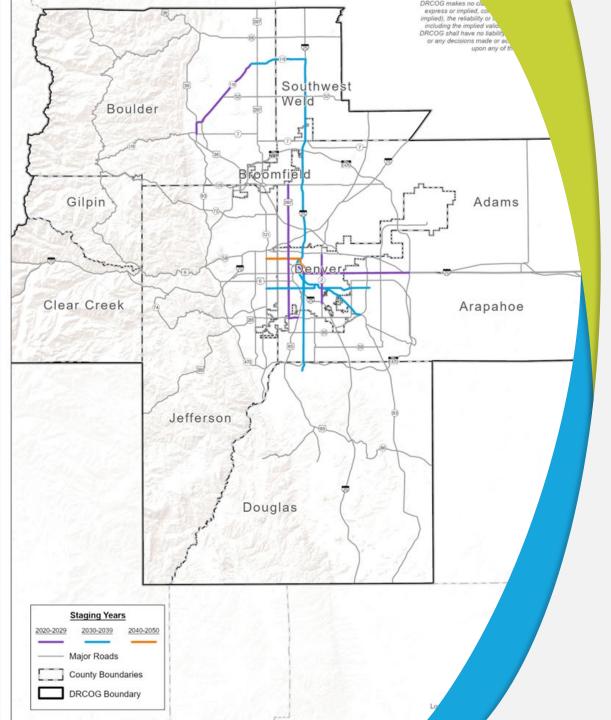


Regional BRT Feasibility Study

- Completed 2019.
- Evaluated all major corridors.
- Identified 8 priority corridors for BRT.
 - 38th Avenue/Park Avenue.
 - Alameda Avenue.
 - Broadway/Lincoln.
 - · Colorado Boulevard.
 - Federal Boulevard.
 - Havana Street/Hampden Avenue.
 - North I-25.
 - Speer Boulevard/Leetsdale Drive/Parker Road.







Regional Transportation Plan BRT network

2020-2030 (5 corridors).

- Colorado Boulevard.
- East Colfax & Extension.
- Federal Boulevard.
- Colorado State Highway 119.

2030-2040 (5 corridors).

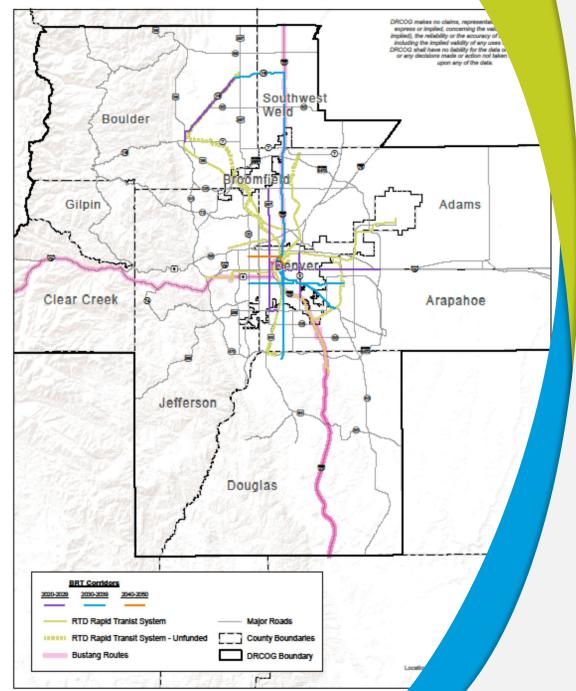
- Alameda Àvenue.
- · Broadway/Lincoln.
- I-25 North.
- Speer Boulevard/Leetsdale Drive/Parker Road.
- Colorado State Highway 119 Extension.

2040-2050.

- 38th Avenue/Park Avenue.
- Bus Maintenance Facility.



Denver Region BRT Corridors and Rapid Transit System



Overall transit network

- BRT network designed to connect region's rapid transit network.
- Existing: light rail, commuter rail, BRT.
- Fiscally constrained: BRT, Northwest Rail peak service, mobility hubs.
- Future: FasTracks buildout, Front Range Passenger Rail, I-70 mountain rail, Northwest mountain rail.



Regional BRT Network and Partnership

- BRT is important investment priority within the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan.
 - State Greenhouse Gas Rule and federal air quality conformity especially implementation timing.
 - Also included in Colorado Department of Transportation, City of Denver, and other plans.
- Regional BRT Partnership: multi-agency planning, funding & implementation collaborative.
 - Unique only multi-agency partnership in the United States?
 - More work (especially by 2030) than any single agency could lead or do alone.
 - Voluntary partnership and participation.
- Collaborate and assist multiple BRT corridors simultaneously.



Regional Bus Rapid Transit Partnership Members





COLORADO Department of Transportation Region 1











The Regional BRT Partnership

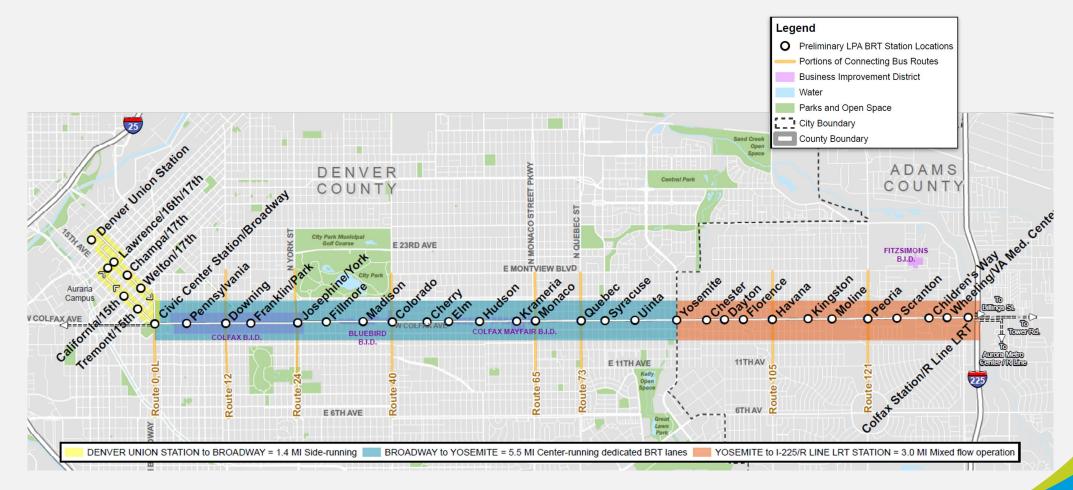
- Accelerate project development & implementation for multiple BRT corridors simultaneously, leverage resources and efficiencies.
- Costs & funding: updating project costs, developing innovative funding/financing strategies.
- Design standards: defining BRT components/elements, how to apply at project and system levels.
- Partnership development: Exploring charter, management plan, other tools.
- Pursuing federal grant(s) and potential consultant assistance.
- "Building a regional network and system, not 11 individual BRT projects."



Bus Rapid Transit corridors status

Bus Rapid Transit Corridor	Current Project Status	Staging Period	Current Lead Agency
East Colfax Avenue (Denver Union Station to Colfax Station)	Preparing for construction	2020-2029	Denver
Colorado State Highway 119 (Boulder to Longmont)	Preparing for construction	2020-2029	CDOT
Federal Boulevard (Wagon Road Station to Englewood Station)	Starting design, applying for FTA Small Starts	2020-2029	CDOT
Colorado Boulevard (40th/Colorado Station to Intersate 25/Colorado Station)	Starting design (Alternatives Analysis)	2020-2029	CDOT
East Colfax Avenue Extension (Colfax Station to E-470 Tollway)	Alternatives Analysis study starting 2024	2020-2029	DRCOG
Speer Boulevard/Leetsdale Drive/Parker Road (Colfax Avenue to Nine Mile Station)	Various partial corridor studies completed	2030-2039	TBD
Alameda Avenue (Wadsworth Boulevard to R Line)	Initial corridor study concluding summer 2024	2030-2039	DRCOG
Broadway/Lincoln (Colfax Avenue to Highlands Ranch Parkway)	Initial partial corridor study concluding summer 2024	2030-2039	TBD
I-25 North (Denver Union Station to Colorado State Highway 119)	Not yet started	2030-2039	CDOT
SH-119 Extension (Longmont to Intersate 25)	Not yet started	2030-2039	TBD
38th Avenue/Park Avenue (Wadsworth Boulevard to Colfax Avenue)	Corridor study starting 2024	2040-2050	Denver

East Colfax Avenue BRT scope and alignment



We make life better!

BRT station design





Project schedule



Public Engagement continuous through design & construction phases



Colorado State Highway 119 Bus Rapid Transit

- Boulder to Longmont, with later extension to Interstate 25.
- Two routes (blue and orange).
- Coalition partnership.
- Recipient of federal RAISE grant.
- Will include bikeway, bus queue bypass lanes, and other corridor improvements.
- Service start anticipated in 2027.



What is DRCOG's MPO role?

- Leadership/collaboration in Regional BRT Partnership.
- Led 2 of 3 Partnership working groups.
- Defined BRT network in Regional Transportation Plan.
- Leading development of potential Partnership consultant SOW.
- Applied for federal grant (Build America Bureau).
- Led/funded "first steps" corridor study for Alameda.
- Transportation Improvement Program corridor and project funding.
- Leading/funding Alternatives Analysis (East Colfax Extension).





Thank you!

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