Quality of Life

Presentation to the Denver Regional Data Consortium

November 2018
Quality of Life Program

The Quality of Life (QoL) Study is RTD's data-driven evaluation of progress toward meeting the FasTracks Program goals.

Goal 1: Balance Transit Needs with Regional Growth
Goal 2: Increase Transit Mode Share
Goal 3: Improve Transportation Options and Choices
GOAL 1

Balance transit needs with regional growth
In Metro Denver, housing starts increased 27% between 2015 and 2017. The mix of housing built has shifted from mostly single family to an equal balance of multi and single family homes.
The rapid transit network has more than doubled in the past 10 years. It will continue to grow as future FasTracks lines open.

Source: RTD FasTracks Website
GOAL 2
INCREASE TRANSIT MODE SHARE
In the Metro Denver region, daily vehicle miles traveled (VMT) increased by 13.5% from 2006 to 2016.

Source: Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
Vehicle Miles Traveled

Daily VMT per capita has decreased 3.8% from 13.6 in 2006 to 13.1 in 2016. However, there has been a clear upward trend from 2013 to 2016.

Source: Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), US Census
Annual transit boardings increased between 2010 and 2014. However, there has been a slight downward trend in ridership since 2014.

Source: RTD Report to NTD
Annual boardings per capita peaked in 2008 at 38.6. However, from 2008 to 2017 boardings per capita decreased by 12%. This is a trend that has been seen in many peer cities.

Source: RTD Report to NTD
Ridership on rapid transit lines has remained relatively steady. E/F/H has the highest ridership and continues to increase. University of Colorado A Line experienced a 20% increase in ridership after the first year.
TRANSIT BOARDINGS AT STATIONS

Average weekday boardings have increased at many stations and Park-n-Rides. Union Station had over 27,000 boardings in 2017, growing 49% since 2011.

- **Union Station**: 27,000 daily boardings, 49% increase since 2011
- **10th & Osage**: 2,100 daily boardings, 30% increase since 2011
- **Denver Airport**: 7,300 daily boardings, 44% increase after University of Colorado A Line opened in 2016
- **Lincoln Station**: 3,800 daily boardings, 44% increase since 2011

Source: RTD RideCheck Plus
GOAL 3

IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS AND CHOICES
TRAVEL TIME & VARIABILITY

Transit and auto travel times are similar in 5 of the 7 open rapid transit corridors. In 2017, variability added an average of 13% to transit travel times and 60% to auto travel times.

Source: RTD, INRIX, Google Maps
Note 1: Variability is the amount of time that must be budgeted in order to ensure that you will arrive at your destination on time.
Note 2: Table Mesa and Aurora Metro Center Stations were chosen as representative end-of-line stations for the Flatiron Flyer and the R Line.
In 2017, 93% of Park-n-Ride users were in-district, while 7% were out-of-district. This is consistent with 2015 trends. The average trip distance was 7.3 miles and the median trip distance was 3.4 miles.

- **Under 2 Miles**
  25% of trips were less than two miles long, a potential bike trip.

- **Under 1 Mile**
  9% of trips were less than one mile long.

- **Under 0.5 Mile**
  2% of trips were less than a half mile long, a potential walk trip.

Source: RTD License Plate Survey
WHAT COMES NEXT?

• State of the System Reporting
  • Move all data online
  • Focus on full system, not just FasTracks
  • Support RTD’s Transportation Transformation (T2) Comprehensive Plan
THANK YOU

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