

NEWS RELEASE



RTD joins public transit systems around the country in urging Congress to #SavePublicTransit

APTA-organized day of action and engagement will take place today

DENVER (Dec. 15, 2020) – The Regional Transportation District (RTD) is joining fellow American Public Transportation Association (APTA) members and industry partners today to collectively fight to **#SavePublicTransit** with a day of mobilization and engagement.

Organized by APTA, #SavePublicTransit Day will shine the light on the dire financial crisis facing the public transportation industry and urge elected officials to take immediate action.

It is critical that Congress move forward and provide emergency funding for public transit in the lame duck session before Congress recesses for the holiday. The industry is calling on Congress and the Administration to provide at least \$32 billion in emergency funding to ensure that public transit agencies can survive and help our communities and nation recover from the economic fallout of the pandemic.

Without at least \$32 billion in emergency funding for the industry RTD will continue to see impacts on service.

“Immediate action needs to be taken to address the public transportation industry’s dire financial situation so that we can continue to serve essential employees every day and can help with the nation’s economic recovery,” said APTA President and CEO Paul P. Skoutelas. “The industry’s very survival is at stake.”

“Additional federal assistance is needed to keep our buses and trains running for the thousands of customers who rely on us daily,” said RTD General Manager and CEO Debra A. Johnson. “RTD is facing a looming deficit of \$140 million in 2021 that directly impacts our ability to deliver transit service. Difficult decisions have been made and implementation is forthcoming such as reducing our workforce by about 350 people and imposing furlough days and salary reductions on some of our staff.”

#

ABOUT RTD

The Regional Transportation District develops, operates and maintains a public transportation system that meets the transit needs of close to 3 million people within an eight-county service area in the Denver Metro region. RTD’s buses, rail lines, shuttles and additional services provide approximately 100 million annual passenger trips. For more information, visit rtd-denver.com, call 303-299-6000 and follow along on social media: www.facebook.com/RideRTD, [@RideRTD](https://twitter.com/RideRTD) on Twitter, [@ridertd](https://www.instagram.com/ridertd) on Instagram and [rideRTDco](https://www.youtube.com/rideRTDco) on YouTube. For the most current RTD news, visit the News Stop, at rtd-denver.com/news-stop.

#

