

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 007, SERIES OF 2025

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A PILOT PROGRAM TO INCREASE ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation District (RTD) recognizes that access to public records is fundamental to ensuring transparency, accountability, and public trust in government institutions;

WHEREAS, open records serve a critical role in informing the public about the operations and activities of RTD, supporting public oversight, and promoting civic engagement;

WHEREAS, the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) and Colorado Criminal Justice Records Act (CCJRA) encourage broad public access to government records while permitting custodians to charge reasonable fees for the retrieval and production of documents;

WHEREAS, costs associated with public records requests can create barriers to transparency, particularly for public agencies, nonprofit organizations, researchers, journalists, and others working to advance the public interest;

WHEREAS, the RTD remains committed to reducing barriers to accessing public information as it has done for many years through comprehensive online resources, reduced open records, fees, and a digital request portal;

WHEREAS, the RTD Board of Directors furthers this commitment by providing limited fee waivers for requests that serve a public purpose, consistent with Colo. Rev. Stat. § 24-72-205(4);

WHEREAS, the RTD Board of Directors supports a Pilot Program to allow a limited number of public records requests for a public purpose to qualify for one additional hour of staff time without incurring any fees, promoting greater accessibility to public records while ensuring responsible stewardship of agency resources; and

WHEREAS, the RTD Board of Directors intends to evaluate the effectiveness of the Open Records Pilot following its implementation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation District:

- 1. Open Records Pilot Program
 - a. Effective July 1, 2025, a requestor shall be eligible to receive a waiver of the fee for one additional hour of staff time for each CORA or CCJRA records request that serves a public purpose as defined in Colo. Rev. Stat. § 24-72-205(4).
 - b. The Pilot shall waive the fee for one additional hour of staff time for up to 170 public purpose requests per calendar year.

c. For purposes of this Resolution, "public purpose" includes, but is not limited to, public agency program support, nonprofit activities, journalism, and academic research, consistent with Colo. Rev. Stat. § 24-72-205(4).

2. CORA Request Form Update

RTD shall provide the definition of "public purpose" on the CORA request form. RTD shall offer requestors the option to request an additional hour of staff time upon attesting that their request serves a public purpose.

3. Administrative Procedure

The RTD General Manager/CEO or their designee is entrusted with the administration of the Pilot.

4. Sunset Review

The Open Records Pilot shall be subject to sunset review in November 2026. Nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted to restrict or prohibit the RTD Board of Directors from making enhancements to the Open Records Pilot prior to its sunset.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy reaffirms the RTD's commitment to fostering accountability, transparency, and responsiveness to enhance public trust and engagement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be in effect until December 31st, 2026.

Dated this 29th day of April 2025

Julien Bouquet, Chai

Chris Nicholson, Secretary

Attest