



Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Summary
February 12, 2026
3:30pm – 5:30pm

1. Introductions

The February Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting began with introductions from all the attendees.

2. Discuss 2026 Meeting Format

Joe Meyer, CAC Co-Chair, facilitated a discussion on the structure and goals for CAC meetings in 2026. The Committee confirmed that meetings will continue to be held on the second Thursday of each month from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Meeting summary materials will continue to be posted to the RTD CAC website after each session.

Members expressed a desire to make meetings more action-oriented and to dedicate additional time toward developing formal group recommendations. Several structural improvements were discussed, including:

- Incorporating structured small-group breakout discussions with clearly defined prompts.
- Allowing more time for question-and-answer periods.
- Aligning CAC agendas more closely with topics currently under discussion by the RTD Board's Work Plans.
- Continuing to send out preparation materials at least one week in advance to allow members to prepare.
- Keeping agendas objective-driven with clearly defined outcomes.

Members noted that small-group work could strengthen engagement, deepen discussion, and help members build stronger working relationships.

3. SB 25-161: Transit Reform - Accountability Committee Update

The CAC reviewed the Accountability Committee's Final Report and Minority Reports to the Legislature. While the report outlines 31 total outcomes, the CAC focused primarily on

recommendations related to RTD Board composition, implementation timelines, governance authority, and transparency.

Recommendation 1: Board Composition & Implementation

The Committee discussed proposed changes to the RTD Board of Directors, including reducing the number of elected directors from 15 to 9, with five members representing districts of approximately 650,000 residents and four appointed by the Governor. Members debated whether such changes should be implemented through legislative action or referred to voters via ballot measure.

Several members expressed concerns that a 5 elected / 4 appointed structure could diminish geographic representation and shift governance authority away from district voters. Concerns were raised about potential redistricting implications, district boundary adjustments, and whether sufficient public polling or outreach had been conducted to assess voter sentiment. Members emphasized that RTD governance decisions should remain grounded in district representation.

The CAC formally voted against Recommendation 1, expressing opposition to the proposed 5–4 structure. While acknowledging that the legislature had not been receptive to certain elements of the proposal, members reiterated a preference for maintaining strong voter involvement in structural changes to RTD governance.

Recommendation 4: District-Based Elected Positions

Members discussed the concept of at-large seats and whether they would enhance board diversity. The CAC agreed to remain neutral on the at-large versus district-based representation question, recognizing both potential benefits and tradeoffs.

Recommendation 6: Timing of Implementation

The CAC discussed concerns about the timing of governance changes, particularly proposals that would align implementation with the 2028 election cycle. Members expressed concern that accelerating structural changes to meet a specific election date could lead to rushed decision-making and limited public engagement. There was acknowledgment that voter turnout concerns exist regardless of timing, but the Committee agreed that timeline decisions should be dependent on the substance of the final structural proposal rather than tied to a predetermined election year.

The CAC agreed to remain neutral on the specific timeline while emphasizing that governance changes should not be rushed and should instead reflect a measured, transparent process.

Recommendation 11: Statutory Change

The CAC voted against Recommendation 11, which would have allowed legislative changes to RTD governance without voter input. Members expressed a clear preference that significant

structural changes be referred to district voters rather than enacted solely through legislative action.

Recommendation 16: Candidate Supports and Staffing

Discussion also included reference to the report's proposed "Transit Academy" board training concept. Historical context was provided regarding prior transit advocacy training efforts in the early 2010s. Members noted that if a training program were developed in the future, it should include clearly defined criteria and potentially involve community-based organizations. It was also noted that while entities such as DRCOG could be considered as potential partners, no formal commitment or response has been made regarding such an initiative.

CAC Role and Board Engagement

The Committee discussed how the CAC can more effectively engage with the RTD Board and help address systemic governance challenges identified in the report. Members emphasized that the CAC has tools available to advocate constructively, including meeting directly with Board Directors and providing structured input prior to Board votes. Suggestions included hosting joint engagement opportunities and delivering formal "report-outs" during Board meetings more frequently.

Members were informed of upcoming discussions with state senators scheduled for February 24 at the RTD Board Meeting, which will provide additional opportunities to share CAC perspectives on governance reform.

4. CAC Outreach, Contact Information, Email Addresses, and Upcoming Events Calendar

The Committee discussed strategies to strengthen the CAC's visibility, accessibility, and responsiveness to the public. Members expressed a shared interest in presenting the CAC as an approachable and transparent body that serves as a bridge between the community and the RTD Board. As a result of the discussion, there was general agreement that contact information should remain clearly available on the CAC webpage and that a centralized group email address would help streamline and coordinate responses to public inquiries submitted through the website.

Members also agreed on the importance of improving internal coordination by exchanging contact information within the group. The Committee supported enhancing the CAC webpage by including relevant RTD-hosted events on a shared calendar to better inform the public of engagement opportunities. Overall, the discussion emphasized improving communication channels, clarifying public access points, and reinforcing the CAC's role as a visible and responsive advisory body.

5. Initial Conversation on New Broncos Stadium

The CAC had an initial discussion regarding RTD's potential role in supporting transit access to a proposed new Broncos stadium. The RTD Board previously heard from the project's lobbyist

and leadership team at its January 27 meeting, when Broncos representatives presented to the Board regarding the proposed Burnham Yard stadium location. Members noted that the Board may benefit from additional public input to help guide a cohesive transit strategy related to stadium access and service planning.

Members discussed how RTD should proactively consider operational impacts, service coordination, and long-term infrastructure implications associated with a new stadium location. The topic will be added to next month's CAC agenda for continued discussion. Background materials will be circulated to support a more in-depth conversation.

6. News from Your Community, Call for Timely Topics and Events, and Transit Wins

Members shared updates from their respective communities, noting that Arapahoe County is currently conducting a transit study and has released a public survey to gather input on future service needs and priorities. Members also highlighted that RTD's upcoming June service changes will include service increases, reflecting continued efforts to enhance system performance and respond to evolving ridership demand.

7. Next CAC Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2026

The CAC will re-convene on March 12. Planned topics include a review of the 2026 RTD Board Committee Work Plans and continued discussions about SB 25-161: Transit Reform.