



# Citizens Advisory Committee

**CAC Summary**  
**March 12, 2026**  
**3:30pm – 5:30pm**

## **1. Introductions**

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

## **2. SB 25-161: Transit Reform - Accountability Committee Update**

### **a. Discuss Final Report to Legislature and Minority Reports**

Joe Meyer, CAC Co-Chair, facilitated a continued discussion on the RTD Accountability Committee's Final Report to the Legislature and related Minority Reports. Joe noted that the CAC's previous discussion and positions on governance recommendations from the February meeting had been shared with the RTD Board.

Additionally, the CAC focused on Local Government Recommendation 2, which relates to performance metrics and how RTD tracks and communicates system performance.

Members discussed the importance of ensuring that performance metrics are both meaningful and accessible to the public. While RTD currently maintains a performance dashboard, members noted that the information could benefit from clearer communication and formatting to make it more understandable and useful for the general public.

Several members raised questions about how metrics are framed and prioritized, as well as what additional metrics could be included to provide a more comprehensive picture. The discussion included the following considerations:

- The balance between ridership growth and service reliability, with members cautioning that focusing solely on increasing ridership may overlook other important service quality indicators such as frequency and reliability;
- The importance of including customer experience measures, such as customer service, public education, and access to information about RTD programs and events;
- Whether safety data should be accompanied by clear goals or trend analysis, rather than simply reporting incident numbers, to help the public better understand progress and outcomes;

- Opportunities to track rider retention or regular ridership patterns, such as analyzing mobile ticketing data to understand how occasional riders become frequent users;
- The value of identifying patterns in safety incidents, including where assaults occur and whether trends suggest a need for targeted safety resources or interventions;
- Measuring mode shift from personal vehicles to transit and capturing the impacts of service cancellations on frequency and reliability; and
- Exploring tools such as onboard kiosks or surveys that would allow riders to provide feedback directly during their trips.

Overall, the discussion emphasized that performance metrics should provide clear context, track meaningful outcomes, and communicate system performance in a way that is transparent and accessible to the public.

### **3. CAC Outreach, Email, and WhatsApp**

Eric Smith, CAC Co-Chair, and Caitlynn Fortner, CAC member, facilitated a discussion about improving communication among CAC members between meetings. Members expressed interest in establishing an informal communication platform to share transit updates, news, and relevant information more easily.

The Committee agreed to create an optional WhatsApp group to facilitate informal communication among CAC members. The platform is intended to provide a space for quick updates and information sharing but will not replace formal CAC meetings or official communications. Participation in the group will be voluntary, and members will be able to join using a shared link.

Members also discussed the possibility of establishing a general CAC email address that could serve as a central point of contact for public inquiries submitted through the CAC webpage. The Committee emphasized that this email would not replace communication with RTD Board Directors but could help streamline responses to questions directed to the CAC. RTD staff would monitor and respond to messages submitted through the account.

### **4. Initial Conversation on New Broncos Stadium**

Joe Meyer facilitated an initial discussion regarding RTD's potential role in supporting transit access to a proposed new Denver Broncos stadium at the Burnham Yard redevelopment site.

Members discussed the importance of identifying key questions and recommendations that the CAC could share with the RTD Board as planning for the stadium and surrounding redevelopment progresses. At this stage, the CAC has not taken a formal position on the project but has expressed interest in helping inform future discussions.

Members noted that the City of Denver and the State have proposed several infrastructure improvements in the area, including new streets, at-grade crossings at 9th, 10th, and 11th Avenues, and changes to the 8th Avenue viaduct. Members noted that comparison of new at-grade crossings to the existing downtown loop crossings is missing context around the slow

speeds and compromised reliability in the loop, and the impact of these crossings is unlikely to achieve the reliability and efficiency of service needed for large event venues. It was also noted that ~~the~~ previous redevelopment plans included space reserved for expanded RTD infrastructure, with members highlighting the potential future need for addition of a third rail track or platform.

Several members emphasized that the Burnham Yard redevelopment is expected to include high-density development beyond stadium events, which could create long-term transit demand in the area in addition to event-related travel.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of considering multiple transit modes, including bus access, when evaluating transit service for the area.

Members committed the CAC to develop a list of questions and recommendations for the RTD Board to consider as discussions with the Broncos organization and local governments continue, to be shared as a formal letter to the Board, encouraging the Board to articulate a clear position regarding RTD's future transit needs at the stadium site.

The CAC will continue discussing the topic in future meetings as additional information about the Burnham Yard redevelopment becomes available.

## **5. Review 2026 Board Committee Work Plans**

Jack Kroll provided an overview of the 2026 RTD Board Committee Work Plans, including the Performance Committee, Finance and Planning Committee, Operations, Safety and Security Committee, and Executive Committee work plans.

Members were encouraged to review the Board committee agendas and timelines when identifying CAC discussion topics. Jack noted that CAC feedback is most effective when it aligns with the timing of Board committee discussions, allowing the CAC to provide input while topics are actively under consideration.

## **6. Compile List of CAC Work Plan Focus Areas**

Eric Smith and Joe Meyer facilitated a discussion to identify potential focus areas for the CAC's 2026 work plan. Members expressed interest in prioritizing fewer topics per meeting and allowing additional time for deeper discussion and development of recommendations. The Committee discussed focusing on approximately two to three primary topics per meeting.

~~Potential~~ Initial focus areas identified during the discussion included:

- April: NW Joint Service Agreement
- April or May: EcoPass and Neighborhood EcoPass program updates, including progress against SB25-161 legislative requirements
- May: Microtransit contract updates (to allow recommendations in time for June 10 Operations, Safety, and Security Committee Meeting)

- June: Bus stop infrastructure accessibility assessment report and investment planning (following the Finance and Planning Committee discussion on May 12)
- June: September 2026 service changes (following the Operations, Safety, and Security Committee meeting on June 10)
- July: Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) process overview and discussion. Plan for follow up with a separate meeting between CAC and the consultant team (Jarrett Walker & Associates)
- September: January 2027 service changes (following the Operations, Safety, and Security Committee meeting on September 16)
- October: Quarterly Key Organizational Metrics deep dive (following the Performance Committee meeting on October 12)
- November: Update from the RTD Police Department
- Topics with timing to be determined include:
  - Local Transit Signal Priority (TSP) implementation
  - CAC Input as budget cuts and financial constraints create tradeoffs affecting transit service levels

Members also discussed the possibility of hosting a separate meeting outside the regular CAC schedule dedicated to the launch of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis, potentially including RTD staff and the consultant team.

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

Members discussed initiatives led by the Lavender Hill Queer Cultural District, a coalition of community organizations including The Center on Colfax, the Colfax Avenue Business Improvement District (BID), and Black Pride Colorado. As part of this effort, the coalition is exploring the potential reclassification of Colfax Avenue from a federally owned highway to city ownership. This change would allow transportation planning and corridor design to better reflect and support the district’s cultural identity, community priorities, and economic development goals.

### Upcoming Events Calendar

EVENT	DATE & TIME	LOCATION	NOTES
Colorado Black Round Table Denver Public Safety Summit	Mar. 23, 8:00AM – 5:00PM	New Hope Baptist Church: 3701 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205	Join community leaders, advocates and residents for the Colorado Black Round Table Denver Public Safety Summit. A full day of conversation, learning and solutions focused on public safety and community well-being. Pre-registration required. <a href="https://5280vibe.com/events/colorado-black-round-table-denver-public-safety-summit/">https://5280vibe.com/events/colorado-black-round-table-denver-public-safety-summit/</a>
The Future in Motion: A Community Conversation	Mar. 23, 5:00PM – 6:30PM	Servicios de La Raza: 3131 West 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Denver, CO 80204	Community conversation about RTD services and future planning for District C. Registration required: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-future-in-motion-a-community-conversation-about-rtd-for-district-c-tickets-1985099685597">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-future-in-motion-a-community-conversation-about-rtd-for-district-c-tickets-1985099685597</a>

About RTD (District C)			
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