

Introducing RTD CONNECT

Shaping the Future of Transit



Tuesday, August 4, 2026

RTD CONNECTs Us:

Transit connects us. To jobs. To schools. To services. To recreation. To family and friends. To community. To the people and places that matter most. This summer, the **Regional Transportation District (RTD)** launched **RTD CONNECT**, an initiative to take a fresh look at how the RTD network can best serve the needs of today and tomorrow.



RTD CONNECT, which stands for **Comprehensive Operations and Network Needs Evaluation for Community Transit**, will create a roadmap for the future of transit service across the region.

Why CONNECT Now?

The RTD region is evolving, and so are the ways people travel. **Travel patterns, community needs and customer expectations** have changed over time. At the same time, **fiscal conditions** are shifting as costs increase faster than new revenues.



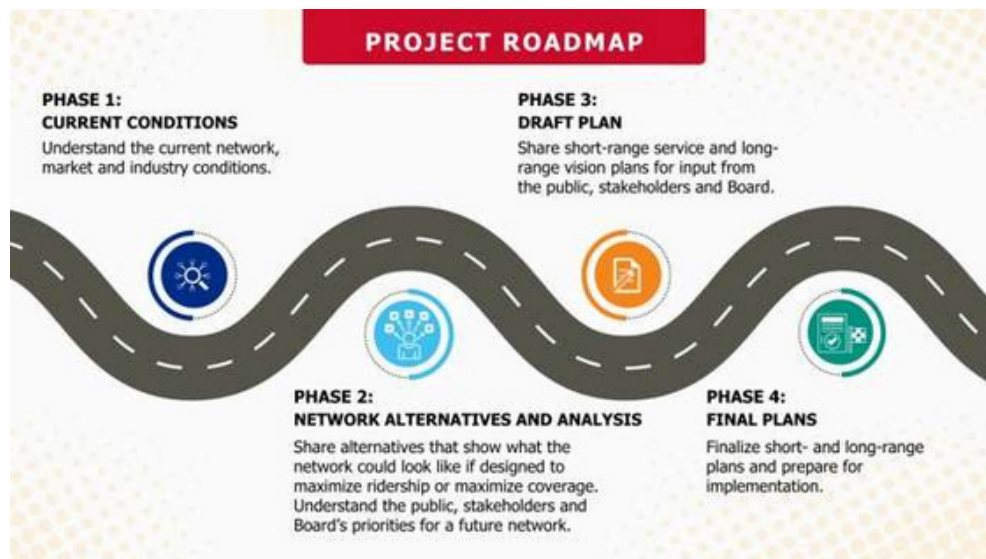
RTD CONNECT provides an opportunity to evaluate the current transit network, connect with **customers** and the **community** to understand what matters most, and design a network that provides **reliable, sustainable** service today while planning for **future growth**.



Safety Moment: When on or near transit, look up and around! Make eye contact with drivers when crossing streets or boarding vehicles. Be aware of others around you. Smile, say hello and look out for each other. Take the opportunity to make a connection!

How Do We Get There? The RTD CONNECT Road Map

RTD CONNECT will develop **both short- and long-term service plans** designed to ensure RTD's transit network leverages available resources to best meet the community's transportation needs. Those plans will be developed over the course of **four phases**:



Spring and Summer 2026: Evaluating Current Conditions

This summer, RTD CONNECT focused on understanding today's network, evaluating regional travel patterns, ridership trends and industry benchmarks.

Fall 2026: Understanding Priorities

This fall, RTD CONNECT will share two example network alternatives. The alternatives will illustrate service plans that prioritize either:

- **Ridership:** The total number of customers using transit
- **Coverage:** The number of people and places located near RTD service

The alternatives are intended to spark conversation amongst community members about what direction RTD should take. That direction will shape the design of short- and long-range service plans.



Winter 2026 – Fall 2027: Exploring and Refining Possibilities

Over the course of 2027, the community will see and provide feedback on three proposals:

- **May/June 2027 Service Changes:** Short-term service changes to operate within the agency's current fiscal constraints
- **January 2028 Short-Range Service Plan:** A plan for optimized routes and service levels at a sustainable funding level
- **Long-range vision:** A guide for future investments and system growth

CONNECT with Us: Shape the Future of Transit, Together!



Transit provides connections for our communities. Our communities will shape the future of transit in the region, **together.**

Starting **September 30**, RTD customers, staff, community members, local governments, nonprofits, and other stakeholders are invited to share their **ideas** and **perspectives** through a series of **stakeholder workshops**, online and in-person **events, surveys** and **community ambassadors.**

CONNECT with us this fall! Stay tuned for more updates, including our web page, launching soon. Reach out to RTDCONNECT@rtd-denver.com with questions about the project.

Angel Peña and the RTD CONNECT Team Deputy Chief Executive Officer



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We make lives better through connections.