

RTD CONNECT: Fall Update

Network Alternatives and Community Outreach



Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Transit connects us to opportunities across our region, and shaping its future requires collaboration with our partners and communities.

This summer, the Regional Transportation District (RTD) launched **RTD CONNECT** (Comprehensive Operations and Network Needs Evaluation for Community Transit) to evaluate our transit network and build short- and long-term service roadmaps. Following our Phase 1 evaluation of current conditions and regional travel patterns, we are preparing to move into Phase 2: Network Alternatives at the end of September.

Upcoming Milestone: Presenting Network Alternatives

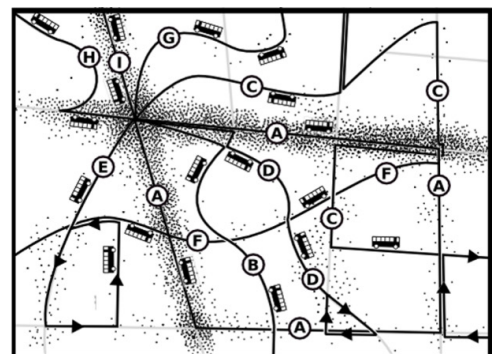
Starting at the end of September, RTD will share two contrasting, value-neutral network alternatives designed to illustrate key transit trade-offs:

- **Ridership Alternative:** Concentrates service on high-demand, high-density corridors to maximize overall boardings per service hour.
- **Coverage Alternative:** Distributes service geographically across lower-density areas to guarantee basic access and lifeline connectivity.

These concepts are diagnostic tools to spark regional dialogue and help calibrate our policy priorities before developing concrete service plans.



Maximizing Ridership



Maximizing Coverage

Fall Public Engagement Rollout

Beginning in late September, RTD will launch a comprehensive regional outreach campaign to gather feedback on these alternatives.

Engagement opportunities will include:

- Stakeholder and community workshops across the region
- Multilingual in-person and virtual public meetings
- Districtwide online surveys and interactive mapping tools



Final Days: Community Ambassador Applications Close September 4

To ensure diverse, representative community voices guide this process, we launched the RTD CONNECT Community Ambassador Program. Ambassadors will act as liaisons between RTD and their communities during our fall and summer engagement phases, earning a \$2,500 stipend (\$1,250 per phase). Extended Deadline: Applications close this Friday, September 4, 2026.



- Call for Geographic Diversity: We are seeking 30 ambassadors—two from each of RTD’s 15 director districts. We encourage partners to share the opportunity with local leaders, community groups, and historically underrepresented networks.

Learn more and apply in English or Spanish at rtd-denver.com/about-rtd/rtd-connect.

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



We look forward to collaborating with you this fall as we shape the future of regional transit together. For questions about RTD CONNECT or the Community Ambassador Program, please reach out to RTDCONNECT@rtd-denver.com.

Angel Peña and the RTD CONNECT Team

Deputy Chief Executive Officer