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# NATE II UPDATE

Commerce City Council August 3, 2015



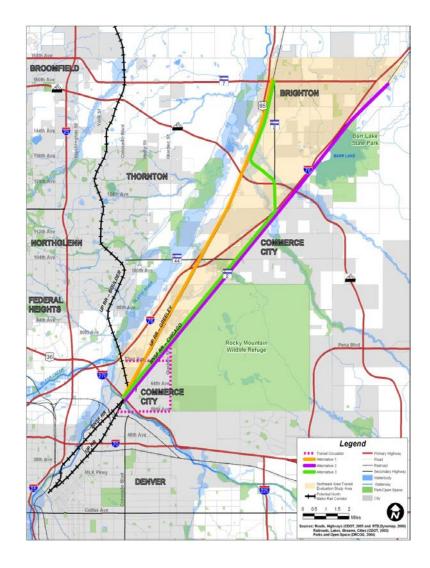
### Background

- Original NATE Study investigated options to extend future, post-FasTracks, fixed guideway bus and/or rail transit between Denver and Brighton
- Objectives:
  - Develop/analyze alternative concepts for transit service, technology
  - Identify potential investment opportunities
  - Consider strategies for preservation of ROW for future transit envelope



## Background

- Three rail alignments identified:
  - Union Pacific along US 85
  - BNSF along SH 2 and I-76
  - "Cross country" routes in between the UP and BNSF





### NATE II Purpose

- Develop technical fatal flaw analysis to allow RTD, CDOT and local jurisdictions to implement strategies and funding for transit within the Northeast
- Expand analysis of original 2007 NATE Study:
  - Provide fatal flaw analysis of Commuter Rail & Light Rail Technology
  - Develop and analyze alternatives for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
  - Develop a bus-to-rail transition



### Participants

- Adams County
- Brighton
- CDOT
- Commerce City
- RTD



### Status

- Existing bus service – North-South
  - R, 145X, 104X
  - East-West
    - AA SkyRide, 120
  - Other Local Routes
    - 48, 72, 88





### Status

- Modeling Results for following BRT alternatives:
  - No Action
  - Enhanced Bus Service
  - BRT with Exclusive Lanes to Colorado
    Boulevard Station on East Rail
  - BRT with Exclusive Lanes to Central Park (Stapleton) Station on East Rail



# Commerce City Alignment

Alternatives





## Modeling Results

#### **Northeast BRT: Brighton to Denver**

| Scenario                                   | Ridership* |
|--|------------|
| No Build:                                  | 0          |
| Enhanced Bus Service:                      | 1,450      |
| Exclusive Lanes to Colorado<br>Station     | 2,600      |
| Exclusive Lanes to Central Park<br>Station | 3,200      |

\*2035 Estimated Average Daily Ridership



### Modeling Results

#### 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue BRT

| Scenario                                   | Ridership* |
|--|------------|
| No Build:                                  | 0          |
| Enhanced Bus Service:                      | 4,600      |
| Exclusive Lanes to Colorado<br>Station     | 4,300      |
| Exclusive Lanes to Central Park<br>Station | 4,000      |

\*2035 Estimated Average Daily Ridership



### **Capital Cost Estimates**

|  | Colorado<br>Station | Central Park<br>Station |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Trunk Line (Brighton to Quebec Street) | \$41M               | \$41M                   |
| Connection Alternative                 | \$30M               | \$12M                   |
| Total Corridor                         | \$71M               | \$53M                   |

\*2035 Estimated Average Daily Ridership



## Alignment Pros/Cons

#### **Colorado Boulevard**

<u>Pros</u>

- Could spur redevelopment
- Serves disadvantaged populations

<u>Cons</u>

- Costlier
- Slightly lower ridership projections



### Alignment Pros/Cons

#### **Central park**

<u>Pros</u>

- Serves prime development areas
- Slightly higher ridership projections

#### <u>Cons</u>

Does not serve existing communities



### Next Steps

- Seek additional input from local jurisdictions
- Develop prioritization of alternatives
- Research funding sources / Develop implementation strategies
- Final recommendations



### Questions

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