



# **Planning Department Overview**

April 8, 2019





## **Planning Department**

"Provide long-range regional transit systems & capital investment planning leadership for RTD & provide support to transit policy & project

implementation."

- Environmental clearance
- Technical analysis
- Transit oriented development & communities
- Stakeholder coordination
  - Public & private
  - Federal, state, & local
- Pursue funds
- Continuous Improvement







## **2018 Accomplishments**

- Mobility Choice Blueprint: Achieved RTD goals & objectives for the project, including a transparent & open process
- 16th Street Mall: Selected a Locally Preferred Alternative & obtained Board approval of agreement with Denver on RTD's share of future capital & maintenance costs
- FasTracks Program Overview: Finalized & presented to the Board







#### **2019 Goals**

- Transportation Transformation (T2) Comprehensive Plan: Initiate
   Project & make substantial progress on key early actions including
   the Comprehensive Operational Assessment
- Regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Feasibility & First & Last Mile
   Projects: Complete Studies with actionable recommendations
- Continuous Improvement & Innovation: Expand Integration Network
  Teams across RTD to support employees & supervisors in training &
  utilizing Continuous Improvement techniques











## **2019 Challenges**

- State Highway 119 BRT Preliminary Engineering & National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Study: Complete work & achieve stakeholder & Board alignment on recommendations
- Manage stakeholder expectations for outcomes related to: T2 & T2
   Comprehensive Plan; 16th Street Mall; BRT Feasibility; First & Last Mile; Pass Program / Low Income program; etc.
- Employee Communications Process: drive adoption & maturity of Employee
  Communications Process, including launch of on-going employee survey
  approach









# Planning Department Structure

AGM, Planning Bill Van Meter

> Senior Administrative Assistant Melissa Dubinsky

Senior Manager, Planning Technical Services Brian Welch Senior Manager, Transit Oriented Communities Bill Sirois Senior Manager, Continuous Improvement & Innovation Ruth Seleske











## **Planning Technical Services**

- Planning and environmental technical study preparation and project management
- Division Disciplines:
  - Environmental analysis
  - Ridership modeling (travel forecasts and microsimulation)
  - Fleet management planning
  - Operating cost and fare revenue modeling
  - Planning and operations (bus, rail, & other modes)
- Major Projects & FTA Capital Investment Grant Program











#### **Transit-Oriented Communities**

#### **Enriching Communities with Transit**

#### Planning Coordination

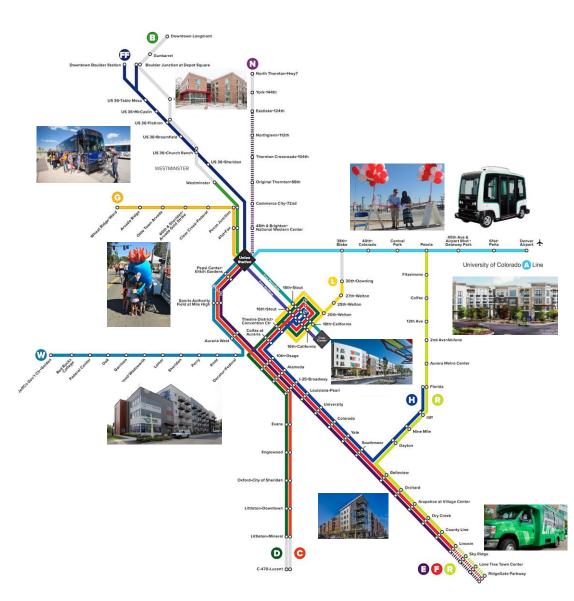
 Facilitates iterative and open dialogue between RTD, public sector partners, and private service providers to meet local needs with regional services

#### Transit Equity

- Engages community on and examines equity impacts of regional service distribution
- Ensures service access compliance with Title VI and environmental justice executive order

#### Transit-Oriented Development

- Promotes station-area development
- Manages joint development proposals
- Contributes to industry best practices













## **Continuous Improvement & Innovation**

Formal approaches to improvement (e.g., Quality Circles, Total Quality Management, Process Reengineering, Lean Six Sigma) have helped many organizations dramatically increase their ability to meet goals.

Continuous Improvement Senior Manager Ruth Seleske

- Continuous improvement is a set of methods for identifying opportunities to streamline work & reduce waste
- **Innovation** is an organization's process for introducing new ideas, workflows, methodologies, services or products.

Continuous Improvement
Consultant
Rebecca Tate

David Zimmerman

Graduate Interns

Faffs Riederer Nikhita Gaddam





## **Mock Board Meeting Exercise**



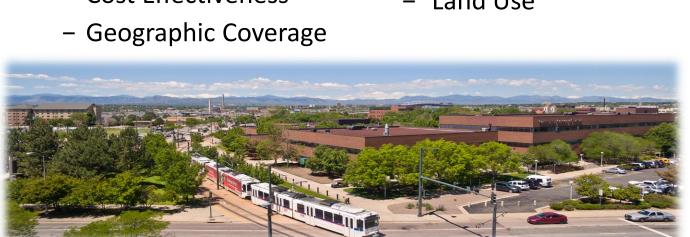




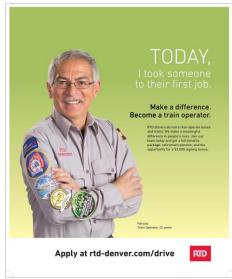
## **Current System Assessment**

- Review of Current RTD Services
- Identification of
  - Gaps
  - Deficiencies
  - Opportunities
- Evaluation of Service
  - Productivity
  - Cost Effectiveness

- Market Analysis
  - Population
  - Employment
  - Travel Patterns
  - Income
  - Automobile Ownership
  - Land Use







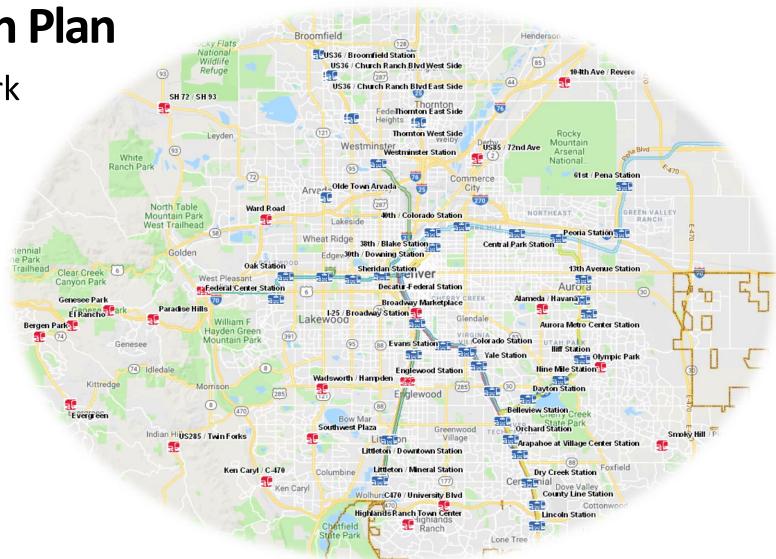






**System Optimization Plan** 

- Plan for Transit Network
- Focus on:
  - Frequency?
  - Coverage?
  - Combination?
- Existing Resources
   Maintained
  - Prioritize Future Improvements







#### **Instructions**

- Break into three groups
- Each group will be given a position to develop a case for the Board:
  - Focus on Frequency
  - Focus on Coverage
  - Focus on Combination of Frequency and Coverage
- Groups should assume:
  - No new resources for expanding service









## Instructions (con't)

- Items to address in your presentation:
  - The issue of equity Title VI, fare share of service
  - Suburban vs Urban focus
  - Manpower issues
  - Cost/Benefit of proposed approach
  - Other issues
- Allow 45-50 minutes to develop presentation
- Each group allowed 5-7 minutes to present w/ Q/A following

