

# SOUTHEASTConnections

## TRIP to Continue in 2009; Percentage to Change



The South I-25 Urban Corridor Transportation Management Association has decided to offer the Transit Rider Incentive Program (TRIP) in 2009. TRIP 2009 has slight modifications from TRIP 2008. The main change will be a reduction in the subsidy offered from 50% in 2008 to 35% in 2009.

On January 1, 2009, RTD is raising fares. Due to this increase and the high demand for TRIP passes, the TRIP program will reduce its rate on regular monthly transit passes from a 50% subsidy to a 35% subsidy. Transit passes include access to RTD light rail, bus, and call-n-Ride services. The fare for a local monthly pass through RTD will be \$70; TRIP will offer the local passes for \$45.50. The fare for an express monthly pass through RTD will be \$128; TRIP will offer express passes for \$83.20. Finally, the fare for a regional monthly pass through RTD will be \$164; TRIP will offer regional passes for \$106.60.

The Transit Rider Incentive Program (TRIP) launched in January of 2008 to provide southeast employees with the advantage of purchasing monthly transit passes at a 50% subsidized rate.

Since the program's inception, 8,344 monthly transit passes have been purchased. 4,235 of those passes have been local, 3,000 have been express, and 1,109 have been regional. TRIP has saved users a year-to-date total of \$368,826 and a total of 217,068 commuter vehicle trips.

TRIP is the result of the South I-25 Urban Corridor Transportation Management Association's efforts. This group is a coalition of local governments including the City of Lone Tree, City of Greenwood Village, City of Centennial, Arapahoe County, Douglas County, the Southeast Public Improvement Metropolitan District (SPIMD), and the business community represented by the Southeast Business Partnership (SEBP). TRIP passes are available to eligible employees working in the South I-25 Urban Corridor. For more information contact [info@triptowork.com](mailto:info@triptowork.com) or 877-975-TRIP

*-Provided by 360 Media*

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## Douglas County Traffic Signal Modifications On Quebec Improve Traffic Flow

Drivers traveling on Quebec St. from County Line to University will now experience fewer delays, fewer stops, save gas, and emit fewer pollutants thanks to traffic signal modification completed by the Douglas County Traffic Division.

The Quebec Signal Optimization project involved: removing unnecessary left turn signals, removing a portion of some current medians to increase driver visibility for left turns, modifications to signage and creating a by-pass median at University and Quebec by the post office.

A before and after analysis determined that in just one hour during both the morning and evening rush hours a total from all cars traveling during this time period saves 198 hours of time; eliminates 4,979 stops; saves 225 gallons of gas; eliminates 15.73 kilograms of carbon monoxide and 3.06 kilograms of nitrous oxide.

This Quebec signal synchronization project is a direct result of Douglas County's 2008 Citizen Survey and the Highlands Ranch Transportation Improvement Program (HRTIP)

*-Provided by Douglas County*

For more information on transportation news in the Southeast Corridor, email [info@TriptoWork.com](mailto:info@TriptoWork.com)



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## RTD Named 2008 Best Transit Agency in North America

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) was once again named the #1 Transit Agency in North America by the American Transportation Association (ATA), the country's largest transportation association. It's a tremendous honor and one that's not new to RTD who also won the #1 Agency in 1993 and 2003.

This is a tough award to win even one time, and RTD is one of only three transit agencies on this entire continent to win three times. RTD won in the large transit agency category, which includes agencies with 30 million or more passenger trips. RTD's aggressive safety program, comprehensive training, community outreach and high performance standards are just a few reasons RTD was again honored with ATA's top award. RTD's commitment to providing the highest quality customer services is reflected in the hard work of RTD's 2,400 dedicated employees and contractors who provide 100 million passenger trips annually on our wide range of services, including buses, light rail, paratransit, call-n-Rides and vanpools.

RTD General Manager Cal Marsella said, "It is an honor for RTD to be recognized by ATA for the third time. I am privileged to work with the high caliber of employees we have at every level at RTD, and with an outstanding and very dedicated Board of Directors."

*-Provided by RTD*

## RTD Broke 100 Million Passenger Trip Mark for First Time Ever Over the 12 Month Period that Ended in July

**RTD reaches a record number of passenger boardings of 100,655,907 from July 2007 to July 2008, an increase of 9.15 percent**

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) announced that it carried more than 100 million passenger trips in the 12-month period ending in July 2008, which was up by 9.15 percent over the same period a year earlier. This is the first time RTD exceeded the 100 million passenger trip mark and is the largest number of passenger trips over a 12 month period ever carried in the transit agency's 30-year history.

The 100 million passenger trips on the full RTD system (bus, light rail, access-a-Ride and call-n-Ride services) from July 2007 to July 2008 compares with 92 million passenger trips from July 2006 to July 2007. This amounts to an increase of 9.15 percent. It is believed that the high price of gasoline, increasing traffic congestions and a growing interest in environmentally-friendly practices have contributed to RTD's record ridership levels.

Light Rail daily ridership reached an average of nearly 64,000 daily passenger trips in July 2008, an increase of 9.54 percent over July 2007 passenger boardings per average weekday.

RTD's systemwide service (bus, light rail, access-a-Ride and call-n-Ride services) also saw record average weekday ridership in July 2008, with 336,459 daily passenger trips. This compared with 304,643 average weekday passenger trips in July 2007, reflecting an increase of 10.44 percent.

*-Provided by RTD*

