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## Denver's transformation attracts Rail~Volution conference to Denver next month

RTD and local partners host country's only event exploring all aspects of building livable communities with transit

DENVER (Aug. 22, 2017) – The <u>Regional Transportation District (RTD)</u> and local partners will host <u>Rail~Volution</u>, the nation's pre-eminent conference on building livable communities through transit and multimodal investments, when it comes next month to the Mile High City. National leaders, planners and advocates will examine and discuss all that the Denver region has accomplished since it last served as the host city for the gathering 17 years ago.

<u>Registration</u> is open for this national event. Rail-Volution, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, takes place Sept. 17 through Sept. 20 at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel. During 25 mobile workshops and more than 75 sessions over four days, leaders and practitioners from the fields of government, transit, real estate, business, finance, environment and advocacy will explore pertinent transit issues, opportunities and challenges common to the Rocky Mountain West. Conference-goers include local elected officials, developers, engineers, nonprofit and business leaders, transit operators and government officials from around the country.

"Denver has an extraordinary story to tell about how transit investments and cross-sector collaboration have changed the economic trajectory of the region," said Dan Bartholomay, CEO of Rail~Volution. "The Denver community found the right mix of investments that lead to truly livable places – places that take care to ensure affordability and access to jobs, good homes and healthy lifestyles. The Denver region's integrated approach is exactly what other cities and regions are hoping to learn about at Rail~Volution."

<u>Discounted conference registration</u> and <u>reduced lodging rates</u> are available through Aug. 25. Separate fees are required for the <u>mobile workshops</u>, which highlight livability projects across the Denver region, as well as pre-conference networking events and Regional Day, Sept. 20. More information is available through the Rail~Volution website, <a href="http://railvolution.org/">http://railvolution.org/</a>.

"Leaders from throughout the world have taken note of the staggering levels of development and change occurring in Denver right now, and they are seeking a deeper understanding around how it happened and what it all means," said RTD CEO and General Manager Dave Genova. "Our agency recognizes the prominent role we play in this process, and we are humbled to share all that we continue to learn with other leaders and agencies from across the country seeking to serve the public to the best of their ability."

Featured speakers include Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper; Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock; Peter Rogoff, CEO, Sound Transit, Seattle; Phil Washington, CEO, L.A. Metro; Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer; Maurice Jones, President, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, New York; Christine Marquez-Hudson, President and CEO, The Denver Foundation; and John Martin, President and CEO, Southeastern Institute of Research Inc., Richmond, VA.

Media outlets interested in covering the conference can request credentials through the conference Media page.

## **ABOUT RAIL~VOLUTION**

For more than 20 years, Rail~Volution has been the place to engage in thoughtful discussions with change makers and influencers, the place to share ideas and breakthroughs, frustrations and inspiration about building livable communities with transit. We provide opportunities to learn best practices and connect with leaders in the public transportation, transit-oriented development, placemaking and community development fields. Through the annual conference, place-based events and an online resource library, Rail~Volution showcases how land use, transportation and development can transform communities into livable places — healthy, economically vibrant, socially equitable and environmentally sustainable. More details are at http://railvolution.org/.









## **ABOUT RTD**

The Regional Transportation District develops, operates and maintains a public transportation system that meets the transit needs of close to 3 million people within an eight-county service area in the Denver Metro region. The agency's buses, rail lines, shuttles and additional services provide 100 million annual passenger trips. For more information, visit rtd-denver.com or call 303-299-6000.





