Coordinating Station Area Planning and Transit Design
West Corridor LRT

- 12-mile LRT corridor connecting Denver, Lakewood, Jefferson County and Golden
- 12 stations
Project Development History

• Initial planning/concept design – early 1980s
• Major Investment Study – 1995 - 1997
• Preliminary Engineering/EIS – 2001 - 2004
• FasTracks Funding Referendum – 2004
• Final Engineering – 2005 – 2009
• CM/GC Guaranteed Maximum Price – March 2009
• Scheduled opening – May 2013
Federal/Decatur Station

- Included in corridor since early planning
- Adjacent to major north-south bus route
- General location established in MIS
- Concept and preliminary design developed in PE/EIS phase
- Final design initiated based on PE design (2005)
- City and County of Denver requested study of alternatives in late 2007 ($225,000 effort)
Federal/Decatur Station Context

- Invesco Field
- Colfax Avenue
- Federal Blvd.
- South Platte River
- Power Substation
- Public Park
- Mixed Use Development
Design Challenges

- High crime area
- Pedestrian flows on game day
- Drainage channel
- Maintenance facility
- Train Storage on bridge
- Power Substation
- LRT Under Roadway
- Park Impacts
Station Area Objectives

• Address opportunities with relocation of maintenance facility and drainage channel
• Improve visibility and safety of station
• Enhance connection between station and mixed use development to the south
• Maximize redevelopment potential
Station Alternatives
Outcome

• Initial estimate of cost to relocate station - $3 million

• Subsequent estimate - $10 million
  - Redesign
  - Construction schedule
  - Construction re-sequencing

• Original station design retained – costs not affordable
Lessons Learned

• Inherent conflict between long, uncertain TOD process and schedule/cost driven and risk averse transit planning and design process

• Start station area planning early and integrate into the PE/EIS process

• Even more important with alternative project delivery

• Local agencies must take initiative and include all affected departments (Public Works and Planning)

• Strong champion and political will required to maximize benefits

• Maximize flexibility to respond to evolving opportunities
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