

Subject: The Gold Line

By Tom Graham

Support of the Gold Line is counter-productive. Up-to-date DRCOG info shows a less-than-one half-of-one-percent traffic reduction lasting only a few months, while BRT/express lanes would have many times the riders. Tax \$2,600 for the average family before any service begins. The project has never been the \$4.7 billion cost referred to daily. It may be closer to \$13 billion, with another tax added to the current 67% increase, because of need to replace all equipment and track probably 5 years before the current debt is retired. RTD lies about the debt service.

Gold Line is currently \$237.2 million over the MIS lowball given to the public, and it's half of the original length. The West Corridor is in the hole \$122.5 million before construction starts. The East Line is double the last lie fed to the people. RTD and consultants don't know what routes, costs or mode will be.

Every transit engineer and planner knows that rail is not a solution in the Denver region. Recently completed T-REX and SW line are gross disappointments. Tax revenues are \$1 million short.

FasTracks was conceived to benefit the two groups who dictated the misleading study outcome. Speculators on land near proposed stations, and developers, who quote environmentalist recommendations of 600 residents per acre. Most of these are connected to elected officials. The slum-type "Water Tower Project," is harming local schools with bi-lingual demands. These TOD (transit-oriented developments) produce worse congestion. A Federal report shows that there is negligible economic development resulting from these rail projects.

The other category is consultants and contractors, who manipulated the election to win wired contracts. The political action committee (PAC) "FasTracks Yes," with a \$3.5 million budget was run by Maria Garcia Berry, who, it appears, has her fingers in many major campaigns for voter approved tax increases.

Laws were ignored.

* RTD spent \$300,000 tax money on a single glossy newspaper insert, in violation of campaign finance laws.

The records show that some significant contributors received significant contracts.

28 companies donated and received contracts. Donations were up to \$250,000. This is blatant abuse. The Secretary of State has requested legislative review.

Another main PAC received contributions from 22 cities, all in violation of campaign laws. A mayor represents a firm that assisted in passage of the measure, and uses his position to further promote the scam. An RTD Board member received campaign support from a rail equipment manufacturer. Some of the most vocal proponents are public officials are in line for jobs related to the rail system.

Does the name "Clay Wade" ring a bell?

Clay Wade was the City of Golden "Zoning Administrator" in 1986. A "final development plan" (FDP) document was filed with the County Clerk on October 23, 1989 that was signed off on by Wade on June 24, 1986. "Reviewed and checked for compliance with Planned Unit Development procedures and documentary requirements," is followed by his signature.

That document showed no name in the blank for the name of the owner. There is no name shown in the Notary's sign-off section.

Beyond that, it is stated on the face of the document that, prior to recording, several requirements needed to be met. A document was to be prepared and signed by all affected parties, which redescribed the alignment of Golden Circle Road ... It was to be recorded at the same time as the FDP. No evidence has been found that all the then owners of Golden Ridge condominiums who had an interest in and use of that road signed such a document.

Interestingly, current City of Golden Director of Planning and Development Steve Glueck had the same problem with an amendment to the FDP - no owner name and no name in the Notary Box, dated May 18, 1994.

Speaking of Steve Glueck - he took exception to observations about Golden Ridge in the July VOG. He did not bring attention to the Golden Municipal Code 18.20.050 (2) that reads: "(2) No oversight or dereliction or error on the part of the Director or on the part of any other official or employee of the City of Golden shall legalize, authorize, or excuse the violation of any of the provisions of this Title 18 Ordinance."

Nor did he bring attention to *Anderson v. Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals*, 931 P.2d 517 that reads: "Judicial deference to the decision of the zoning official and the Board cannot extend to allowing those officials to amend the ordinance in the guise of interpreting it."

FAMILY TREE - 7th Annual Feast for Families - October 4, 2007. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Main Auditorium 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden, CO 80401 Doors Open @ 5:00 P.M. Dinner Served @ 6:00 P.M. Family Tree - safe, strong, self-reliant families.

Family Tree invites you to attend the 2007 Family Tree Feast for Families. Come hungry for some Colorado Cuisine featuring delicious grilled meats, vegetable, potato cakes and pie, all served family style. Enjoy your dinner along with the sounds of a local bluegrass band and be ready to bid on some fabulous silent and live auction items.

Dust off your boots -- we encourage western wear or Colorado casual.

Please RSVP by calling 303-422-2133, no later than September 28th. No admission charge. A request for contributions will be made. If you are interested in hosting a table, contact Kathy Wells at 303-2133. If your company is interested in a corporate sponsorship, contact Angie Overlie at 303-467-3794, ext. 705.

For more information about Family Tree and the 2007 Feast for Families, visit www.thefamilytree.org. Dig deep in your pockets to support Family Tree.

Jeffco Budget cuts hit Family Tree and similar organizations hard. About one and a half million dollars a year have been budgeted in the past for these organizations to apply for grants. This will probably not be available in the future. They will have to raise the money to help people in need some other ways.

Jefferson County Historic Landmark Program Accepting Nominations - *Public Participation is Strongly Encouraged*

The Jefferson County Historical Commission (JCHC) is accepting nominations for the Landmark Designation Program. This voluntary program not only recognizes the historic significance of various buildings and sites located throughout unincorporated Jefferson County, but encourages citizens to nominate buildings or sites. The program generates properties listed on the Jefferson County Register of Historic Places.

Nominations for the Historic Landmark Program may be submitted at any time. However, to ensure completion of the process for the 2008 awards ceremony, it is recommended that nominations be submitted by December 1, 2007. Once Landmark Designation is approved, the recipients will receive a Certificate of Designation at the Hall of Fame Ceremony that will be held in October 2008. The ceremony will take place at the Jefferson County Administration & Courts Facility in Golden. Nomination forms and a Landmark Designation Program description are available through the Historical Commission Liaison of the Jefferson County Planning & Zoning Division, or online at www.planning.jeffco.us "Programs," "Historical Commission."

In order to qualify for the program, buildings or other cultural resources must have a high degree of integrity and meet at least one of 11 criteria identified on the nomination form. Anyone can nominate a property, but the owner must formally consent prior to nomination review. The Landmark Designation Committee evaluates the properties and makes recommendations to the JCHC, which makes the final decision.

For more information, please contact Dennis Dempsey at 303-271-8734 or ddempsey@jeffco.us.

From: Brian Starling

Date: Feb 17, 2006

Bigger Is Not Better

There appears to be some misunderstanding about size as the City Council and GURA continue to pursue their newest building erection at the "Old Hested" building site, across the street from the downtown Starbucks. Yes, GURA and the majority of City Council are very excited about this over-inflated project. Of course, after the initial excitement there is always the very predictable deflation and interest in other big projects. It may be big and erect, but will it truly give pleasure to the majority of residents of Golden, or will it just be another pleasure trip for the developers at the expense of the tax payers. Don't forget that another parking garage will also be required