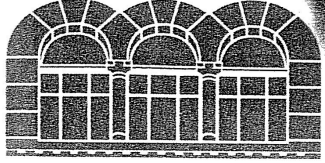


# THE WESTMINSTER WINDOW



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## *Westminster Window*

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### **Keep FasTracks on track**

RTD has announced that they will not be going to the voters this year to ask for a .04 percent tax increase, but all indications are that they will be asking for some increase by 2012. We know that there is a \$2 billion deficit in funding needed to complete full build out of FasTracks, and we need to bridge this gap. Without approval of this increase, lines that currently do not qualify for federal dollars, like the Northwest Line that would serve Westminster, won't see build out until 2042. We also know that the economy is bad and there is a shortage of jobs across the board; a full FasTracks build out will

create more than 9,000 jobs per year for a total of more than 29,000 jobs through completion. If we don't support additional funds and we can't close the gap, thousands of these jobs will be lost, not to mention the lack of transit access for those of us in Westminster.

The good news is that if voters approve this public investment we will see complete build out by 2019, this is a two-year delay but it is still completion within this decade. As voters we can't allow ourselves to become complacent and forget the goal of FasTracks, which is to provide transit to those who need it most, but also to remember this project will create jobs, and once complete will reduce pollution and

traffic congestion on the roads. And based on recent legislation and RTD's discussion of affordable housing, it's also a chance to ensure regular, working families will be able to live near the transit, not just high income folks.

We need to remember FasTracks is underway and by and large is wanted by all communities; we need to ensure build out in this decade. View this as a public investment that is going to benefit the people of Colorado! If you would like a detailed presentation on what we can do from a community perspective, please contact me at 303-477-6111 ext 15 or at [aapodaca@fresc.org](mailto:aapodaca@fresc.org).

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