

**Submitted as Public Comment to the
RTD Operations, Safety and Security Committee Meeting, June 12th, 2024.**

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Troy Whitmore, RTD Operations, Safety and Security Committee Chair
Regional Transportation District
1660 Blake Street
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Chair Whitmore,

E and H Line “Slow Zones”

Greater Denver Transit (GDT) writes with concern regarding the batch of 10mph “slow zones” that were imposed en masse on the morning of Monday 3rd June. These “slow zones” have broken an already delicate E and H Line schedule imposed due to the Coping Panels project. While GDT appreciates the photos of “railhead burn” posted on the RTD website yesterday, the agency has failed to adequately explain the reasoning behind the sudden imposition of the “slow zones” or when riders can expect the problems to be resolved by.

As a severe operational issue, GDT hopes this committee shares our concerns regarding RTD’s busiest light rail line and is of the opinion that anything less than full transparency risks further degrading the trust the traveling public still has in RTD. We would therefore like to seek responses to the following questions:

1. What exactly in the “enhanced inspection methodology” has prompted the imposition of the “slow zones”?
2. How does this “enhanced inspection methodology” differ from what was done in prior inspections?
3. Prior to conducting inspections with the “enhanced inspection methodology” did MoW staff believe that the result would likely be the wide scale imposition of “slow-zones”.
4. On what timescale does the agency anticipate being able to return the track back to full line speed?
5. Are inspections on any other light rail lines planned?

Vision Zero

GDT has been notified that there will be a presentation on a proposal for RTD to adopt Vision Zero principles as part of the agency's strategic planning and wider leadership culture. As a stakeholder in the community-driven process that has led to this, GDT fully supports the initial recommendations being presented today and urges Directors to fully support adopting Vision Zero's systems driven principles throughout RTD.

Best Regards,



James Flattum
Greater Denver Transit



Richard Bamber
Greater Denver Transit

CC: RTD Board of Directors
Debra Johnson, RTD General Manager & CEO.