



## Public Utilities Commission

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## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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### **PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON RTD'S PLAN TO BUILD LIGHT RAIL CROSSINGS WITHOUT AUDIBLE WARNINGS**

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will take public comment on Thursday, Feb. 17, on plans by the Regional Transportation District (RTD) to construct “quiet” crossings along its new West Corridor light rail route. The public hearing will begin at 4 p.m. at the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250.

RTD is seeking authority to construct 11 at-grade crossings along its West Corridor route in Lakewood and Denver. RTD is requesting that it be allowed to operate these 11 crossings without auditory warning sounds from the train or the crossing signal.

The PUC, which holds primary jurisdiction over all public highway-rail crossings in Colorado, in December granted RTD authority to construct the light rail tracks through the crossings. But it referred the quiet crossing issue to an administrative law judge for hearing due to safety concerns.

Given the proximity of the proposed crossings to residential neighborhoods and at least one school, the administrative law judge determined that it was appropriate to take public comment on the quiet crossing proposal.

The judge also will examine the proposed timing operations of the four-quadrant gates at the crossings and the impact of the gates on the streets running adjacent and parallel to the crossings.

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