

# NEWS ADVISORY

## “PEOPLE-ORIENTED PLACES” NEEDED NEAR RAIL STATIONS; TRANSIT ALLIANCE STUDY DETAILS OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

- WHAT**
- With more than a million riders a month, our 10-year-old light rail line is popular; property values and development opportunities close to rail are rising and the I-25 corridor opens to rail on 11.17.06; 250,000 residents will locate by rail stations over 20 years or so.
  - 20 metro municipalities are struggling to comprehend and accommodate growing interest in rail-related living, as well as profound cultural and demographic shifts in our population.
  - A new study shows that metro municipalities will have to develop more “people-oriented places” if they are to capture the potential opportunities associated with the growing ranks of those most attracted to rail living.
- WHO**
- Transit Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to a balanced multi-modal transportation system in Colorado, has commissioned the study, “Creating and Sustaining ‘People-Oriented Places,’” which is available at [transitalliance.org](http://transitalliance.org).
  - Seniors, singles, couples and minorities will gravitate to rail-oriented villages in record numbers. This diverse worldwide-connected new demographic likes to live in close quarters by rail with conveniences nearby. Is metro Denver ready?
- WHERE**
- A growing number of people-oriented places are emerging along rail and in anticipation of its coming, but, in other locations too. Some of our favorites include a myriad of downtown Denver locations, Five Points, Uptown, the Gates Rubber Company redevelopment, Belmar, Englewood, Old Towne Arvada and many of the I-25 stations that come on line this fall.
- WHEN**
- Urban planners, developers, builders, property managers, and service providers of all sorts, are considering this profound cultural shift now.
  - Community leaders will join world-renowned “placemaking” expert Prof. Jan Gehl of Copenhagen at the Colorado Convention Center for a workshop on Thursday, Apr. 6, 2006, from 8-10 a.m.
  - The workshop is presented by Transit Alliance, in partnership with RTD, Denver Regional Council of Governments, Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation and Home Builders Association of Metro Denver.
- WHY**
- Transit Alliance wishes to help area leaders focus on the profound cultural and demographic shifts associated with metro Denver’s \$4.7 billion FasTracks investment.

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