October 21, 2024

RTD Board of Directors 1660 Blake Street Denver, CO 80202

Dear Chair Davidson and RTD Board of Directors,

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to urge you to adopt a resolution committing to Vision Zero at your October meeting and pursue a plan to implement a Vision Zero plan, grounded in the recommendations of the RTD Denver Vision Zero Coalition (Coalition) and within the <u>Vision Zero Network framework</u> from which it came. These <u>well-researched</u> recommendations reflect the hard work and expertise of committed transit riders, subject matter experts, and advocates who are passionate about addressing the growing, urgent issue of safety in our transportation system.

The alarming rate of preventable fatalities and serious injuries within our transportation system demands urgent action—starting with a public commitment to Vision Zero. Public transit is a key part of improving roadway safety within our region.

The work of the Coalition reflects a strong commitment from community partners and a desire for RTD to more actively engage in improving the safety of our entire transportation system. The recommendations from the Coalition are actionable, meaningful, informed by best practices, and aligned with RTD's commitment to safety, and thus should be considered as RTD develops a Vision Zero action plan of its own.

Further, the recommendations highlight a number of opportunities for RTD to work more closely with local jurisdictions and community-based organizations to provide safe streets for *all*, which aligns with RTD's <u>Strategic Plan commitments</u> to transit equity, employee ownership, being a strong community partner, and providing exceptional customer excellence to all transit riders. As such, these recommendations should be viewed not as an entirely new undertaking, but more of a realignment of agency actions with its existing values and should be embraced.

Making a commitment to Vision Zero is the right thing to do for transit riders, workers, and the region at-large. We commend the RTD Directors and Coalition members for their leadership on this effort. We again urge you to adopt a resolution committing to Vision Zero without delay—and we look forward to our continued partnership and dialogue on this incredible opportunity.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

AARP CO ATU 1001 Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition Conservation Colorado CoPIRG Denver Bicycle Lobby Denver City Council Member At Large Sarah Parady Denver City Council Member At Large Sarah Parady Denver Streets Partnership Greater Denver Transit National MS Society, CO-WY Chapter Pedestrian Dignity PeopleForBikes RTD Transit Police FOP Lodge 72 Southwest Energy Efficiency Project YIMBY Denver