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Fitch gives "A" to Union Station lien note

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July 20, 2011

Denver Post

Fitch Ratings said Tuesday that it has affirmed its "A" rating on the Denver Union Station Authority \$145.6 million senior lien note No. 2010 and said the rating outlook is stable. Fitch said the senior lien note rating relies solely on the Regional Transportation District's portion of pledged revenue.

July 22, 2011

Ryan Budnick, 7NEWS

DENVER -- Light rail service to several downtown stations will be closed beginning on Saturday.

Daria Serna of RTD said beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday direct service on light rail to the stations at Auraria West Campus, Mile High at Invesco, Pepsi Center / Elitch Gardens and Union Station will be closed for three weeks during FasTracks work.

RTD will have bus shuttle service between all of the stations and the 10th and Osage station, except for the Auraria West Campus station. That light rail stop is being moved and will remain closed until the fall.

"People can still come downtown if they want to use rail, they just have to use 16th to California," Serna said.

Bus Service Between Stations

While there will be the bus shuttle service connecting the stations in the interim, commuters should expect some delays, Serna said.

"We are going to have bus bridges that go station to station," she said. "But that is just going to add more traffic and going to add more time to people's commute."

The closure, which is anticipated to last through Aug. 14, is happening so construction workers can cut into the existing light rail tracks and connect the new tracks from the West Corridor FasTracks project, Serna said.

The tracks from the West Corridor, which will run to Golden when completed in the spring of 2013, will tie into the 'C' and 'E' lines north of 10th and Osage Street.

Auraria Station Moving

Due to the new alignment of the tracks, RTD engineers said the Aurara West Campus station needed to be moved.

Serna said the station will move further west toward Invesco Field. She added that there will be some improvements and upgrades to the new Auraria Campus station, which will open sometime in the fall.

Because the station will be completely closed, there will not be bus service to the terminal either, Serna said.

Serna said while the downtown part of the two rail lines is closed, workers will also be completing work as part of the Denver Union Station Project.

RTD will be constructing a new light rail platform and be opening it permanently on Aug. 15. Serna said the new light rail platform will be located 2 1/2 blocks west of the existing platform.

RTD said during the construction, light rail passengers can pick up the bus shuttle at 17th Street and Wynkoop Street.

More information about the closures, as well as detour maps, can be found at RTD's website.