The suite of mobility options available to consumers has expanded dramatically in recent years, with shared vehicles, shared micromobility, electric vehicles, and other emerging technology offering exciting new ways to travel. Mobility hubs, a relatively new transportation planning concept, unite emerging and traditional mobility options around transit.

Mobility hubs are central locations—usually high frequency transit stations—where multiple mobility options converge in order to make it easier for people to navigate the transportation system and expand service coverage by providing first and last mile connections. Crucially, hubs advance climate and equity goals by widening transportation choices for consumers beyond single occupancy vehicle travel and by improving access to opportunity for all users.

Planners in the Denver region have begun proactively thinking about mobility hubs, with CDOT and DRCOG funding hub development along key regional corridors, RTD outlining applicable hub amenities based on station contexts, and the City and County of Denver and Transportation Solutions conducting station area mobility hub planning studies along the southeast rail line. However, the City and County of Denver lacks an overarching plan that prioritizes hub selection, categorizes hubs, and specifies needed amenities based on the scale and context of the hub.

Ultimately, this study prioritizes 34 stations for mobility hub implementation based on daily ridership, density, and equity factors. In the short term, mobility hubs have the potential to dramatically reinvent transit as a relevant choice for consumers and aid RTD’s recovery as Denver emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic. Beyond that, mobility hubs hand Denver residents the freedom to travel via safe, affordable, reliable, convenient transportation.

In an environment in which users have many transportation options, including private vehicles and other enticing new travel technology, mobility hubs improve access to economic opportunity while reducing impacts on the environment.

BY ANNIE RICE