

Media Contact:
Steve Caulk
303-410-4971
srcaulk@proconnectpr.com

Sen. Rachel Zenzinger is Transit Alliance Finalist

Her focus on TOD includes study of construction defects issue

ARVADA, Colo. (Oct. 15, 2014) – [State Senator Rachel Zenzinger](#) has been named a finalist by the Transit Alliance in competition for the “Outstanding Graduate of the Citizens’ Academy” award. The Denver-based [Transit Alliance](#) will have its annual event Nov. 14 when the awards will be announced.

The awards recognize leaders who have advanced transportation, transit and mobility in the area; and during Sen. Zenzinger’s participation with the Citizen’s Academy in 2008, she focused on transit oriented development (TOD). She remains convinced of the importance of effective TOD in Colorado and the Denver area, especially in this period of FasTracks build-out.

“My study with the Citizen’s Academy was one of the most productive times spent in a classroom, given the condensed time period,” Sen. Zenzinger said. “I’m honored to know that the Transit Academy thinks enough of my work to make me a finalist for this award.”

A critical element of any kind of effective TOD is the establishment of affordable, multi-dwelling residences such as condominiums and town homes, Sen. Zenzinger said; but issues connected with construction-defect laws have dampened the enthusiasm for condo-construction among homebuilders in Colorado.

“I have followed the issue of construction defects and the law that has made the threat of homeowner lawsuits too much of a hurdle for homebuilders,” Sen. Zenzinger said. “I am convinced that we need to study this issue to try to agree on some solutions that will be palatable for everyone involved so that transit and TOD can thrive.”

Traditional TOD includes a mix of housing, retail, commercial, restaurants and entertainment in areas near rapid-transit stations; and housing is considered the most critical component.

About Sen. Rachel Zenzinger

Sen. Rachel Zenzinger serves Colorado Senate District 19, which spans most of Arvada and the Jefferson County portion of Westminster. She was appointed to her seat and sworn into office on Dec. 13, 2013. She serves on the Senate Education Committee and Senate Local Government Committee, and she is a Senate advisor to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. Her professional background is in education, and she was coordinator of the Regis University Master of Arts in Education program. She

spent four years working for Catholic Charities of Denver. For more information about Sen. Zenzinger, please go to www.RachelForColorado.com or call her at 303-748-0880.