The Westin Denver International Airport is scheduled to open in November of 2015. This 433,000 square foot, 14-story hotel will be a modern and convenient destination for both business and leisure travelers at Denver International Airport (DEN).

With a sleek design by Gensler, the hotel boasts a range of world-class amenities. Each of the 519 guest rooms, including 35 suites, offers ultimate comfort, innovative technology, and floor-to-ceiling windows with sweeping views of the Rocky Mountains and Colorado’s High Plains. Guests are provided with refreshing accommodations, such as Westin’s signature Heavenly® Bed and Heavenly® Bath, featuring the Heavenly® Shower, and can indulge in multiple dining venues that offer a variety of cuisines and nourishing SuperFoodsRx™ menu options. Energize in the WestinWORKOUT® Fitness Studio, recharge in the 11th floor indoor swimming pool overlooking the iconic tent roof of the DIA terminal, and unwind in the hot tub while taking in views of the Colorado landscape, airfields, and the Rocky Mountain Front Range.

The 37,000 square-foot conference center will feature a Grand ballroom and a junior ballroom, both divisible by two, as well as 15 meeting/board rooms of varying sizes, and spectacular pre-function space providing 19 meeting rooms total when the ballrooms are divided. The meeting space also boasts a 10,000 square foot pre-function area that showcases a panoramic three-story, floor-to-ceiling glass curtain wall, approximately 100 ft. wide, making for a unique experience and view of the train station and Denver landscape.

Facts At A Glance:

- 35 suites – 15 executive, 1 renewal, 12 junior, 5 deluxe and 2 hospitality
- Hotel is centrally located within the United States – only two hours by air from the west coast and three hour from the east coast
- Conference center can hold up to 2,500 people
- The hotel lobby on the 6th floor will include a lounge area with a bar and views of the public transit center on the south side and Jeppesen Terminal on the north
DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

• Global architecture and design firm Gensler is designing The Westin Denver International Airport hotel and transit center. DIA awarded design of the hotel and conference center to Gensler in 2009, and the design of the public transit center, plaza and site development in 2011.

• The design goal for the program is to elevate the experience travelers have before and after they take flight and create a relaxing destination for travelers with amenities that provide passengers with a world-class travel experience.

• The design of the hotel resembles a bird in flight and was inspired by the city, its surrounding natural environment and DIA’s iconic tents. The hotel is located on top of the public transit center and its curved roof mimics the concave shape of the existing Jeppesen Terminal tents. The transit center itself is inspired by the native landscape and appears as if it emerges from the earth serving as a solid base to the elegant glass hotel resting above.

• This single, integrated building is located perpendicular to Jeppesen Terminal to maximize hotel and plaza patrons’ views of the Rocky Mountains, downtown Denver and the Great Plains, as well as to preserve the vista of the airport terminal’s signature peaked roof through the “saddle” in the center of the hotel. The plaza connects the hotel and transit center with the Jeppesen Terminal and provides a place for entertainment, relaxation and dining.

• The driving force or inspiration behind the project include:
  - The concept of flight, motion, energy, etc.
  - The local environment/regional area
  - Natural light/Shading
  - Green Thinking/LEED Certification

The entire program is quite dense and complicated, as it is limited by the height limitations (set by the FAA) and the east/west boundaries defined by the roadways.
ART PROGRAM

• Since Denver International Airport (DIA) opened in 1995, world-class art has been an integral part of the architecture and environment of our airport. The new construction of the Westin Denver International Hotel and Transit Center continues this tradition. Artwork will be featured in all corners of the new facility.

• The public art budget for the new Hotel and Transit Center was approximately $5 million thanks to Denver’s “one percent for art” requirement for public facilities. Denver’s Executive Order requires one percent of construction dollars on large construction projects be set aside for artwork to be integrated into the site.

• “The artists who were selected through a competitive process to create public art for the hotel and transit center are world-class,” said Denver Airport CEO Kim Day. “Their artwork will integrate with DIA’s iconic architecture and will represent elements of Denver’s landscape and culture.”

EXTERIOR PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS
Three acclaimed artists were selected for large-scale sculptural commissions for the Hotel and Transit Center.

Ned Kahn (Sebastopol, CA)
“Air Field” - installation to begin in May, 2015
Location: Exterior plaza between Jeppesen Terminal & Westin Hotel
California-based sculptor, Ned Kahn, was selected for a $2 million commission to create a large wind-activated sculptural installation titled, “Air Field.” Kahn was inspired by the way the grasses of the plains expose the invisible force of the wind.

Patrick Marold (Denver, CO)
“Shadow Array” - installation will take place March - August 2015
Location: Train platform exterior
Local artist, Patrick Marold, was selected for a $1.5 million commission to create a large scale installation to enhance the expansive landscape area around the public transit station. The sculpture titled, “Shadow Array,” consists of approximately 250 beetle-kill spruce logs from southern Colorado, which will create an active experience for travelers as they enter and exit the valley by train.

Yann Kersalé, (Paris, France)
“L’eau dans tous ses états” or “Water In All Of Its States” - begins installation in February - March 2015
Location: Levels 1 Train Hall and 5 canopies and central escalators
Paris-based light artist Yann Kersalé was selected for a $1 million commission to provide a lighting design
for the Train Hall and Level 5 canopies and a unique video-based installation inside the escalator connecting the Public Transit Center to the Level 5 plaza.

**HOTEL INTERIOR PUBLIC ART**

In the public spaces inside of the Westin Hotel, local Colorado-based artists have been invited to create two-dimensional installations.

- **Mindy Bray (Denver, CO)**
  **Untitled Mural - installing Summer/Fall 2015**
  **Level 1 Hotel Entrance Hallway**
  Mindy Bray was commissioned $200,000 to create a mural (as yet to be designed) for the long hallway at the entrance to the Westin Hotel.

- **Wopo Holup (Lyons, CO)**
  **Untitled Artwork - installing Fall 2015**
  **Level 2 Pre-function Area, West Wall**
  Wopo Holup was commissioned to produce a $100,000 series of canvases to grace the west wall of the Westin Conference Center pre-function Area.

- **Heather Patterson (Grand Junction, CO)**
  **Untitled Artwork - installing Fall 2015**
  **Level 2 Pre-function Area, East Wall**
  Patterson was commissioned to produce a $100,000 series of canvases to grace the west wall of the Westin Conference Center pre-function area.

**HOTEL ROOM & CORRIDOR ART**

In the private rooms and corridors inside of the Westin Hotel, the work of eight local Colorado-based artists and photographers will be featured. This artwork was part of the hotel furnishings budget, rather than the public art program funding. Artists include:

- **Bonny Lhotka, Boulder, CO**
- **Brenda Biondo, Manitou Springs, CO**
- **Gayle Waterman, Basalt, CO**
- **Jane Guthridge, Denver, CO**
- **John Boak, Denver, CO**
- **Kate Zari Roberts, Longmont, CO**
- **Nancy Myer, Denver, CO**
- **Robert Newman, Lakewood, CO**
**PUBLIC PLAZA**

- The 82,000 square-foot open-air plaza is designed as the new urban “hub” between the Jeppesen Terminal and the Westin Denver International Airport hotel and will create a community connection between the airport and downtown Denver through special event programming by Denver Arts and Venues.

- During normal hours it will be populated by travelers, hotel guests, airport employees and our community at large who, thanks to the commuter rail, will have easier access to the public elements of the airport. The plaza will be the Denver’s newest venue for art, entertainment, relaxation. There is really nothing like it in the United States. One would have to look at Europe, such as Munich Airport, for something similar.

- The public plaza, which will be programmed by Denver Arts and Venues, the City agency that operates Red Rocks Amphitheater and the Denver Center of Performing Arts. They will provide a mixture of performance, static displays, educational activities and celebratory events.

- The space available will accommodate up to 2,000 people during a normal day and up to 4,500 with special permits.

- The canopy from the public transit center will extend toward Jeppesen Terminal, providing both covered and uncovered areas for actives.

- The plaza’s square footage is equivalent to the size of one football field and two basketball courts.
TRANSPORT CENTER

• The 22.8-mile East Rail Line will provide both passengers and employees a new travel option between DIA and Denver Union Station, allowing passengers to connect to downtown Denver and beyond.

• Trains will depart every 15 minutes during peak hours and every 30 minutes during non-peak hours for the approximately 35-minute trip between downtown and DIA.

• The line between Denver Union Station is a commuter rail rather than a light rail which means the train will be flush with the platform, making it easy for passengers to carry luggage on and off the train.

• The transit center’s transparency infuses the train platform with natural light and offers unobstructed views of the Denver landscape.

• When complete, the glass and steel canopy over the new train platform will weigh 360 tons, more than a Boeing 787.

• The train platform canopy is made up of 18 individual modules welded together by a team of ironworkers from Loveland, Colorado. The welders placed nearly 11 miles of welded bead to connect the individual pieces.

• The Transit Center will include a convenient baggage drop to permit passengers to move from the transit center directly to the concourse trains and their gates. Adjacent to the platform will be a self-tagging operation permitting travelers to obtain a bag tag from a kiosk and a bag drop-off for security screening and transport to their flight. This eliminates the need for a passenger to stop at the ticket lobby.
**Gensler**

### Denver International Airport (DIA) Hotel and Transit Center

#### Design Fact Sheet

**Project Name:** Denver International Airport, Hotel and Transit Center

**Client:** Denver International Airport

**Design Team:**
- Architect: Gensler
- Associate Architect (Public Transportation Center): Anderson Mason Dale Architects
- Structural Engineers: S.A. Miro, ARUP

*Note: full consultant and construction team list available upon request*

**Westin Hotel Opening:** November 2015

**Transit Station Opening:** March 2016

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**Gensler**, the global design firm, designed the Westin Denver International Airport (DIA) Hotel and Transit Center. DIA awarded design of the hotel and conference center to Gensler in 2009, and the design of the public transit center, plaza and site development in 2011.

### Description

**Denver International Airport’s (DIA) Hotel and Transit Center** aims to reinvent the way people move between the DIA and the city — providing travelers a swifter and more convenient connection between the airport and downtown Denver — while transforming the airport itself into a travel destination. The realization of DIA’s original 1989 master plan, the Hotel and Transit Center includes three key elements:

- **A hotel & conference center:** the 519-room Westin at DIA is a swooping form of steel and glass, offering guests spectacular views of the Rockies as well as the iconic tents of the Jeppesen Terminal. The design redefines the entire concept of the airport hotel, providing an immediate sense of place, seamless travel experience and world-class amenities that even the savviest of travelers will admire.

- **A transit center:** The Public Transit Center will connect the airport to the city via the Regional Transportation District’s East Rail Line. The train station’s spectacular glass and steel canopy will offer passengers views through the train station and hotel, creating a dynamic, urban atmosphere.

- **A public plaza:** a beautifully landscaped outdoor plaza designed to host outdoor activities and community events connects the hotel and Public Transit Center to the existing Jeppesen Terminal.
Denver International Airport (DIA)
Hotel and Transit Center
Design Fact Sheet

Project Information

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<th>Program budget:</th>
<th>$544 million (per recent risk analysis, will be 5-10% over budget)</th>
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Site Information

- As the fifth-busiest airport in North America and the 15th busiest in the world, Denver International Airport is located 23 miles from the heart of the city. Currently, it is accessible only by car, taxi or bus.
- When complete in 2016, the RTD East Rail Line will arrive in downtown Denver at Union Station, the hub of Denver’s public transit system, and will enable passengers to connect to regional train and bus routes. The East Rail Line is a 22.8 mile commuter rail transit system connecting downtown Denver with DIA. The train ride between the city and the airport will take 35 minutes, unimpeded by traffic or weather, with trains running every 15 minutes.

Design and Architectural Highlights

- Global architecture and design firm Gensler is the designer of DIA’s Hotel and Transit Center. Initially engaged to design the hotel and conference center in 2009, Gensler is now responsible for the design of the entire new development, including the public transit center.
- The design goal for the program is to elevate the experience travelers have before and after they take flight.
- The new building brings dynamic urban amenities to DIA, yet takes its formal inspiration from the existing terminal and the surrounding landscape. The 14-story structure is anchored by a precast plinth housing a train hall, two-story conference center, and security processing. The hotel rises up from the plinth. The hotel roof dips at the center to form a "saddle" that defers to the Jeppesen Terminal’s iconic roofline and frames the public plaza.
- This single, integrated building is located perpendicular to Jeppesen Terminal to maximize hotel and plaza patrons’ views of the Rocky Mountains, downtown Denver and the Great Plains, as well as preserve the vista of the terminal’s signature peaked roof through the “saddle” in the center of the hotel.
- The concept of connection is seen throughout, in details such as extending the grid of the Public Transit Center’s netted canopy into the interior ceiling of the conference center. Views from one element of the project into provide travelers with an intuitive sense of where they are in relationship to the Public Transit Center, hotel, plaza and terminal. From the hotel lobby, for example, travelers can watch trains arriving and departing from the train station below.
The design objective for the hotel was to create an enticing destination for travelers with amenities that provide the 21st century passenger with what he or she is looking for in the travel experience. Haven, Westin’s hotel lobby concept that serves as a modern-day oasis for today’s demanding travelers, will have a dynamic, urban feel, with views extending through the train station (departing and arriving trains will be visible) and on to the city and Rocky Mountains. The structural roof of the plaza canopy extends into the interior of the hotel lobby, becoming its ceiling. Haven will be a place that is full of activity for both hotel and convention guests.

The pre-function space at the conference center also will offer guests a view into the train station and out to the Denver landscape.

Guests at the hotel pool and The Westin WORKOUT® Fitness Studios will enjoy views of Denver, the Rocky Mountains and the existing terminal. This area is on the 11th floor of the hotel, immediately under the “saddle” in the exterior façade. Denver’s distinctive sunlight—bright and clear thanks to the city’s high altitude—will glisten on the glass and pool surfaces.
Denver International Airport (DIA)  
Hotel and Transit Center  
Design Fact Sheet

**Public Transit Center**

- Open-air on its sides with a glass sheath above, the Public Transit Center is designed with a focus on connectivity and an eye towards DIA’s long-term growth. The building’s transparency allows the hall to be infused with natural light and with views out to the Denver landscape.

- Departing from the train, plans call for passengers to ride escalators either directly to Jeppesen Terminal  
Existing concourse passenger train and airport baggage systems will be extended underneath the Public Transit Center, increasing operational capacity for both systems.

- The canopy of the Public Transit Center is supported by a thinsheal steel diagrid structure, enabling the canopy to appear very light as it provides an extensive, unobstructed space. The canopy is 300 feet long and is supported at two points. It cantilevers 150 feet on both sides.

![Rendering of Public Plaza](image)

**Plaza Highlights**

- The plaza forms the civic heart of the project—a venue for public events that is equally accessible to air travelers and the community. This generous gathering place gets added prominence form the signature design element of the complex. This is the dramatic 150-foot-long canopy that cantilevers beyond the building in the direction of the existing terminal. The canopy is mirrored on the south side of the building, where its 150-foot-long counterpart serves as the train hall’s vaulted roof. This expansive volume creates a grand sense of arrival for passengers, which the hotel tower—rising above them—accentuates.

- With the convenience of the airport being just a short train ride away, the plaza will be another component that will draw visitors to spend time at DIA, even if they’re not flying.

- At the crossroads of pedestrian circulation between Jeppesen Terminal, the Westin hotel and the Public Transit Center, the plaza’s landscape design is in harmony with the surrounding environment.

**About DIA**

Denver International Airport is the 15th-busiest airport in the world and the fifth-busiest airport in the United States. With more than 52 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DIA is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world’s largest aviation market. DIA is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than $26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit [www.flydenver.com](http://www.flydenver.com), check us out on [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com) and [Pinterest](http://www.pinterest.com), like us on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com) and follow us on [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com).

**About Gensler**

Gensler is a global design firm grounded in the belief that great design optimizes business performance and human potential. Our 5,000 practitioners networked across 46 offices use global perspective and local presence to innovate at every scale. Whether we are refreshing a retailer’s brand, planning a new urban district or designing a super tall building, we strive to make the everyday places people occupy more inspiring, more resilient, and more impactful. For more information visit [www.Gensler.com](http://www.Gensler.com).