RESOLUTION NO. 2026-23
OF THE FRONT RANGE PASSENGER RAIL DISTRICT
AMENDING THE LOCAL RETURN PROGRAM DEADLINE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 32-22-101, *et seq.*, C.R.S. (the "Act"), the Front Range Passenger Rail District (the "District") was established as a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of Colorado to research, develop, construct, operate, and maintain an interconnected passenger rail system within the front range that is competitive in terms of travel time for comparable trips with other modes of surface transportation; and

WHEREAS, except as otherwise specifically provided, the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board") exercises and performs all powers, privileges, and duties vested in or imposed upon the District in the Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 32-22-105(1)(a)(II), C.R.S., the Board is empowered to approve station locations for Front Range Passenger Rail, and the Board and District staff have engaged extensively with local governments across the corridor on station locations, station area planning, and the District's funding model; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2026, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2026-11 approving of the District's Local Return Program as an optional mechanism through which local governments hosting permanent stations may elect to receive District funding directly and take responsibility for planning, developing, and managing station areas in their communities, enabling local control over station delivery while ensuring consistency and quality across the corridor; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the approved Local Return Program, any local government with a designated station that provides written support for the District's Station Summary by June 30, 2026, would receive an additional 10 percent increase to its annual Local Return funding amount; and

WHEREAS, the deadline of June 30, 2026, falls during a period when council and board calendars are constrained by end-of-fiscal-year obligations, summer recesses, and scheduling limitations outside the control of partner staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend the Local Return Program to extend the deadline for local governments provide written support for the District's Station Summary to receive an additional 10 percent increase to its annual Local Return funding amount as from June 30, 2026, to August 14, 2026, as further described in the memorandum attached as **Exhibit A** and reflected in the revised Local Return Program attached as **Exhibit B**; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the Local Return Program, with its revised deadline, better facilitates a timely and meaningful basis for local governments to express public support for Front Range Passenger Rail in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the District that:

1. The Local Return Program in the revised form attached hereto is adopted as the formal policy of the District.

2. The General Manager is authorized and directed to implement the Local Return Program consistent with this Resolution and the attached Local Return Program including administering the 10 percent incentive for local governments that provide timely public support for their District Station Summaries by the revised deadline of August 14, 2026, as described in this Resolution.

3. The General Manager is directed to continue outreach to local governments across the corridor and to report to the Board on the status of station summaries and local government support prior to and following the potential ballot referral.

APPROVED this 26th day of June 2026.

Chair

ATTEST:

Joan Peck

Secretary

EXHIBIT A

Memorandum Regarding Local Return Program Policy Update

[*See attached*]

FRONT RANGE PASSENGER RAIL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO:	FRPRD Board of Directors
FROM:	Sal Pace, General Manager
DATE:	June 26, 2026
RE:	Local Return Program policy update

ACTION REQUESTED

Staff requests that the Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Directors the approval of an amendment to the Local Return Program adopted at the April 24, 2026 Board meeting. Staff requests an extension of the incentive deadline for receipt of written public support from June 30, 2026 to August 14, 2026. Staff recommends the Committee approve this amendment for consideration by the Board.

BACKGROUND

The Board formally adopted the Local Return Program at its April 24, 2026 meeting, establishing a population-based framework for annual funding allocations to each station partner local government over a 25-year period following voter approval of a potential funding measure. The program also includes an incentive provision under Principle 3, offering a 10% increase to the annual Local Return funding amount for any station partner local government that provides written confirmation of its FRPRD Station Summary by June 30, 2026.

Since the April 24 meeting, outreach to station partner communities across the corridor has confirmed that multiple local governments are actively engaged in developing their station narratives and wish to provide written support, but require additional time past June 30th to complete that process through their own deliberative bodies.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: EXTENSION OF THE INCENTIVE DEADLINE TO JULY 31, 2026

Under Principle 3 of the adopted Local Return Program, station partner local governments may receive a 10% increase to their annual Local Return funding amount by providing written confirmation of their FRPRD Station Summary—through a council or board resolution or letter of support—by June 30, 2026. Staff recommends extending this deadline to August 14, 2026.

Since the April 24 Board meeting, staff has conducted active outreach across corridor communities, and multiple station partner local governments have expressed genuine interest in providing written support for their Station Summaries. Several of these communities are in the process of developing their station narratives collaboratively with FRPRD staff, and their elected or appointed governing bodies require additional time to schedule agenda items, conduct public review, and take formal action. The June 30 deadline, while intentionally designed to generate early momentum, has proven in several cases to fall during a period when council and board calendars are constrained by end-

of-fiscal-year obligations, summer recesses, and scheduling limitations outside the control of station partner staff.

The incentive mechanism was designed to reward early and meaningful engagement, not to exclude communities that are actively and constructively participating in the station summary process. Extending the deadline to August 14, 2026 preserves the incentive's intent while accommodating the practical realities of local government scheduling. Several communities have specifically indicated that a later deadline would allow them to complete the process in good faith.

Staff recommends the Board approve the extension of the incentive deadline from June 30, 2026 to August 14, 2026, and direct staff to communicate the revised deadline to all station partner local governments promptly following Board action.

NEXT STEPS

Pending Board approval, staff will take the following actions:

- Update the Local Return Program document to reflect the revised incentive deadline of August 14, 2026 under Principle 3, and notify all station partner local governments of the extension.
- Continue FRPRD Station Summary development in coordination with corridor station partners, with particular attention to communities preparing to provide written support in advance of the deadline.

EXHIBIT B

Revised Local Return Program

[*See attached*]

Local Return Program & Station Planning Principles

Front Range Passenger Rail District (FRPRD)

Purpose

The Local Return Program is an optional program that local government with proposed permanent stations may opt into. The program proposes to send FRPRD funding directly to each station partner local government and allows them to control and manage the delivery of a station hall and station area infrastructure improvements in their community. Upon voter approval, FRPRD will directly fund the train and train service to each station location, including all improvements within the Class 1 freight railway rights-of-way. Station partners (local governments) would plan, develop, and manage station halls and station areas using dedicated funding if they chose to opt in.

The Local Return Program and the principles identified below simplify implementation and preserve local flexibility while ensuring high-quality station delivery and clear public understanding across the corridor. The Local Return Program is optional, and Principle 4 below identifies the path for local governments that do not wish to participate in the program.

Principle 1: Local Return Funding

Following voter approval of a regional funding measure, FRPRD will provide annual funding for a 25-year period to each local government hosting a passenger rail station.

Local Return funding must support the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a passenger rail station, and may support broader station-area investments that enhance access, connectivity, and functionality, including multimodal access and first- and last-mile improvements. Station-area expenditures may include operational activities for enhancing transit and multi-modal access, as improving access may fall outside of traditional capital expenditures. The train system's essential components, such as the platforms, sidings, canopies and ADA access to the platforms, will be paid for by FRPRD directly.

Final funding conditions, scopes, and obligations for the Local Return Program will be formalized through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) following voter approval of the referred ballot question.

Local Return funding amounts will be awarded for 25 years after ballot passage and will be based on community population:

- **Over 700,000:** $9.0 million annually
- **Over 300,000:** $3.5 million annually
- **Over 99,000:** $3.0 million annually
- **Over 75,000:** $2.5 million annually

- **Over 20,000:** $2.0 million annually
- **Under 20,000:** $1.5 million annually

Population will be determined using the current and most recent census or state demographic estimates.

Principle 2: Public Facing Materials for Station Areas

Public Facing Materials

FRPRD is obligated to educate the public around the proposed train service, including identification of station locations and planning efforts to date by each local government. FRPRD will be developing narratives and graphics that summarize station readiness across the District. FRPRD will work with local governments to share their relevant station and station area planning efforts to date within these summaries.

Anticipated information for each Station Summary will include materials that are consistent across the corridor and designed for general public understanding, including:

- Identification of planned station locations, including Joint Service station locations (for northern stations) which are expected to be identified publicly by the JSEOC in the coming weeks.
- Narrative summaries of key station and station area details, including adjacent land uses, proximity to major roads and trail systems, key regional destinations, transit connections within the station area, parking, and related transportation and land use information pertinent to an intercity rail system
- Graphics that highlight station locations and station areas, including possible station hall architecture and/or station design perspectives. As design details are not yet finalized, FRPRD expects that many graphics will be both conceptual and aspirational in nature.
- Identification of planning efforts to date for each station and station area, current planning efforts underway, and expected planning efforts post-ballot.
- Acknowledgement that additional planning is required for every station and station area, and that the FRPRD will be able to assist with local planning efforts through the Local Return Program.

These descriptions are non-binding, and local governments may modify them following passage of a ballot measure.

Principle 3: Incentive for Local Government Support of FRPRD Station Summaries

Any local government (with a designated station) that enters into an agreement with FRPRD or provides written confirmation supporting FRPRD's Station Summary (either a council/board resolution or letter of support) by August 14, 2026 will receive an additional 10% increase to its annual Local Return funding amount.

- The agreement or support document will speak to intent only, and does not lock in final designs, funding allocations, or implementation obligations. FRPRD's main goal for this public support document is to show local government support for FRPRD's public facing station summary.
- Local governments are encouraged to partner with FRPRD staff and consultants in shaping and refining the summary narrative.
- Final funding and implementation details will be established after ballot passage with IGAs.

Principle 4: Minimum Station Delivery

If a local government elects not to accept the Local Return funding, the District will deliver, operate and maintain a station sufficient to support safe, accessible passenger rail service. Under this scenario, the local government will be included in planning for the station delivery in their community, including the planning, design and construction components.

Additional Clarifications

- Local governments are not required to enter into agreements or confirm support for FRPRD's Station Summary ahead of ballot referral to receive the base amount of Local Annual Return funding.
- Local governments are not required to contribute to ballot access costs.
- The 10% incentive is tied solely to endorsement of FRPRD station summary by August 14, 2026.