

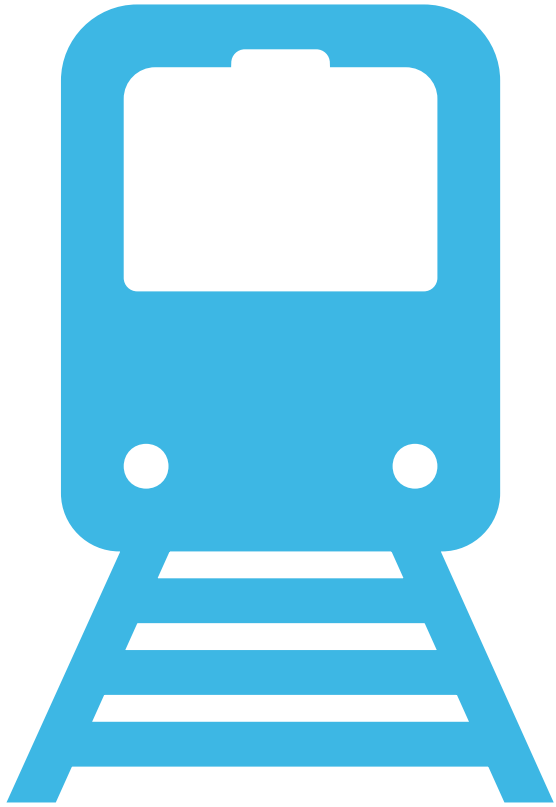


Front Range Passenger Rail

Corridor Wide Meeting # 1

Summer 2023

RideTheFrontRange.com



Welcome & Introductions

Introductions

CDOT

FRPR District

HNTB

Peak Consulting

Kearns & West



David
Singer



Andy
Karsian



Dominic
Spaethling



Mandy
Whorton



Angela Jo
Woolcott



Celina
Milner Leon



Chrissy
Breit



Lisa
Sakata



Morgan
Lommele



Colin
Johnson



Caitlin
Sheridan

Corridor Wide Roster

- 350 Colorado
- Action22
- Alliance
- Bicycle Colorado
- Black Parents United Foundation
- Boulder Chamber of Commerce
- Center for People with Disabilities
- Colorado AFL-CIO
- Colorado Asian Chamber of Commerce
- Colorado Association of Regional Organizations
- Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA)
- Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce
- Colorado Black Round Table
- Colorado Business Roundtable
- Colorado Chamber of Commerce
- Colorado Communities for Climate Action
- Colorado Concern

- Colorado Counties Inc.
- Colorado Cross Disability Coalition
- Colorado Competitive Council
- Colorado Education Initiative
- Colorado Forum
- Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy, & Research Organization
- Colorado Municipal League
- Colorado Public Health Association
- Colorado Sierra Club
- Colorado Tourism Office
- Colorado Women's Alliance
- Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce
- ColoRail
- Common Sense Institute
- Community Educational Outreach

- Conservation Colorado
- COPIRG
- Good Business Colorado Association
- Green Latinos
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- History Colorado
- Keep it Colorado
- LiUNA
- One Colorado
- Public Education & Business Coalition
- Regional Air Quality Council
- Rocky Mountain NAACP
- RTD
- Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
- Women's Lobby of Colorado

Agenda

Welcome Participants

Discuss Engagement Process

Review FRPR Background

Review the Service Development Plan Process

Preview the Preliminary Purpose & Need

Look Ahead and Adjourn

Meeting Purpose

Create a common understanding of FRPR and the SDP process.

Address corridor-wide questions.

Inform stakeholders and communities along the corridor.

Preview the Preliminary Purpose & Need.

Preview what's next in the SDP process.

Describe the roles of the FRPR District and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

Guidelines



Share the perspective of your organization or community, not your individual interest.



Participate in a collaborative manner.



Contribute to the polls and chat (if desired) throughout the meeting.



Hold questions until the designated questions and answer slide.



Stay engaged with the process throughout its entirety.

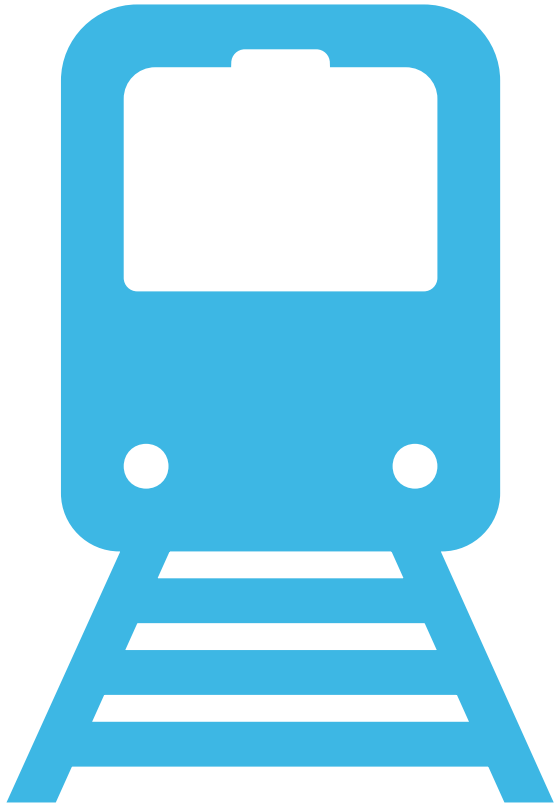
Today's Discussion

Focused on:

- Service Development Plan
- Fostering community awareness and understanding
- How to communicate and engage with the public

Not focused on:

- Specific alignments
- Station selection
- Total cost
- Implementation timeline



Stakeholder Engagement

Prior Study Feedback Informed...

- ➔ A vision for FRPR service.
- ➔ Key destinations and travel patterns.
- ➔ Amenities and service requirements.
- ➔ Benefits and tradeoffs among alignments.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the return on investment of rail?

Why is a new tax necessary?

When will FRPR be built?

What kind of trains will be used?

Who is going to ride the train and why?

When will the train alignment and stops be discussed?

Front Range Passenger Rail

A new transportation option for
Colorado's Front Range.

See What's New



Launched
RideTheFrontRange.com



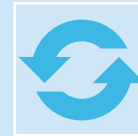
Began outreach to
stakeholders,
community members,
and the public



Conducted
stakeholder interviews



Hosted stakeholder
segment meetings

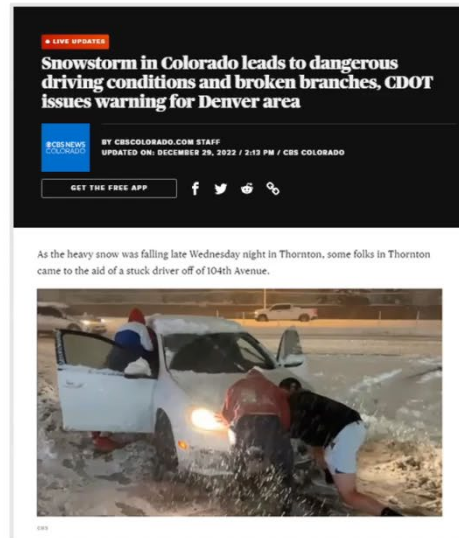


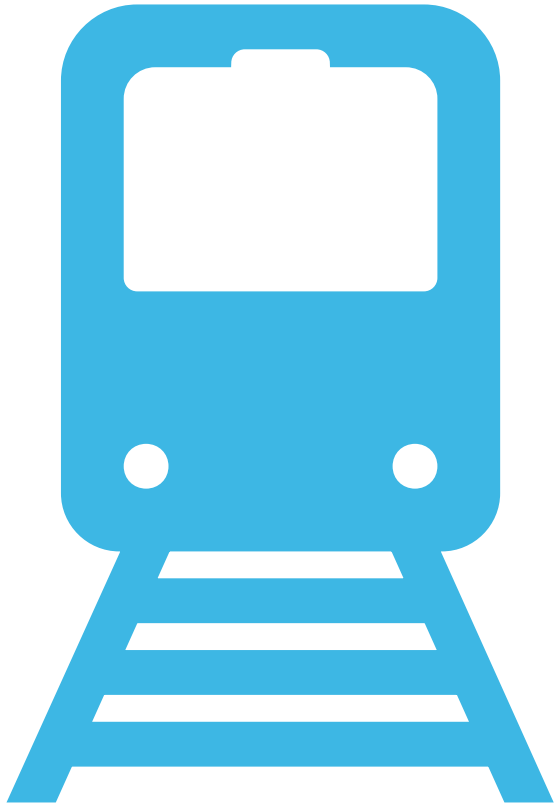
Developed FAQs and
recorded presentation

Recorded Presentation Preview



A Growing Need for a Transportation Solution





Front Range Passenger Rail Background

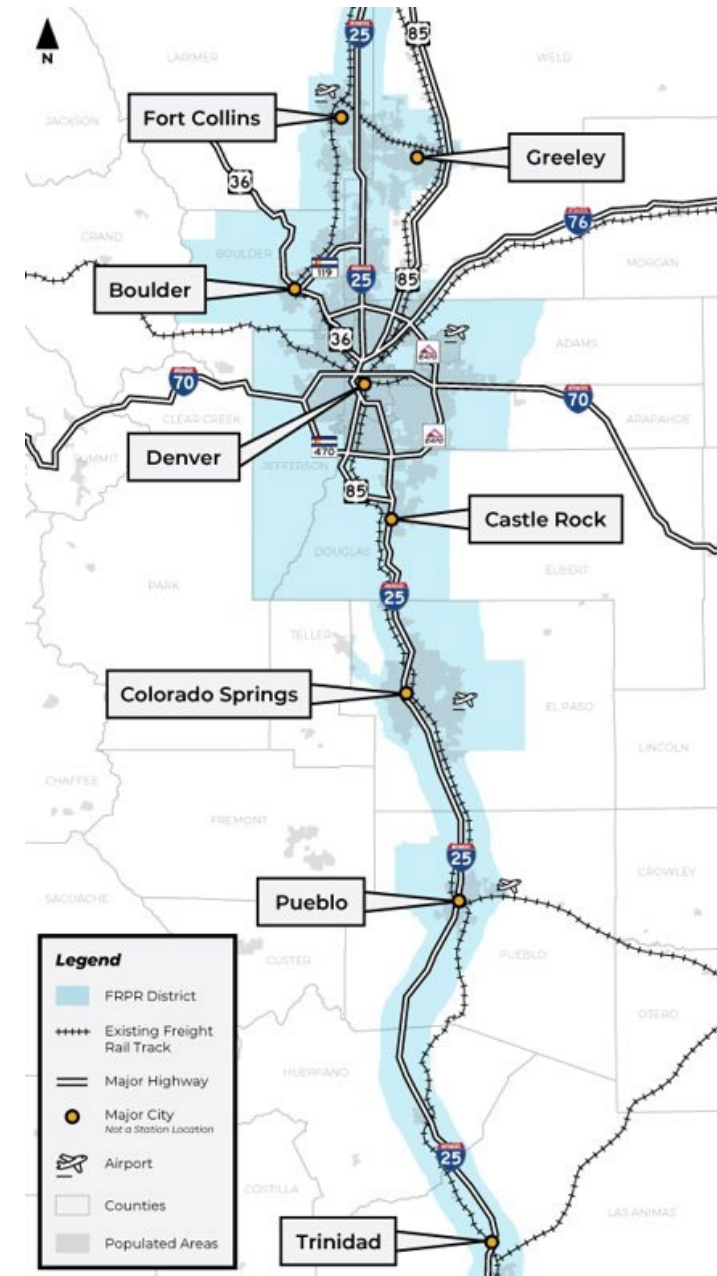
What is Front Range Passenger Rail?

- **New inter-city train service.**
- **Initial service:** Pueblo through Denver and north to Fort Collins, with stops along the way.
- **Long-term vision:** Connecting to New Mexico and Wyoming.
- **Using existing tracks** shared with freight railroads to minimize costs and accelerate the service start date.

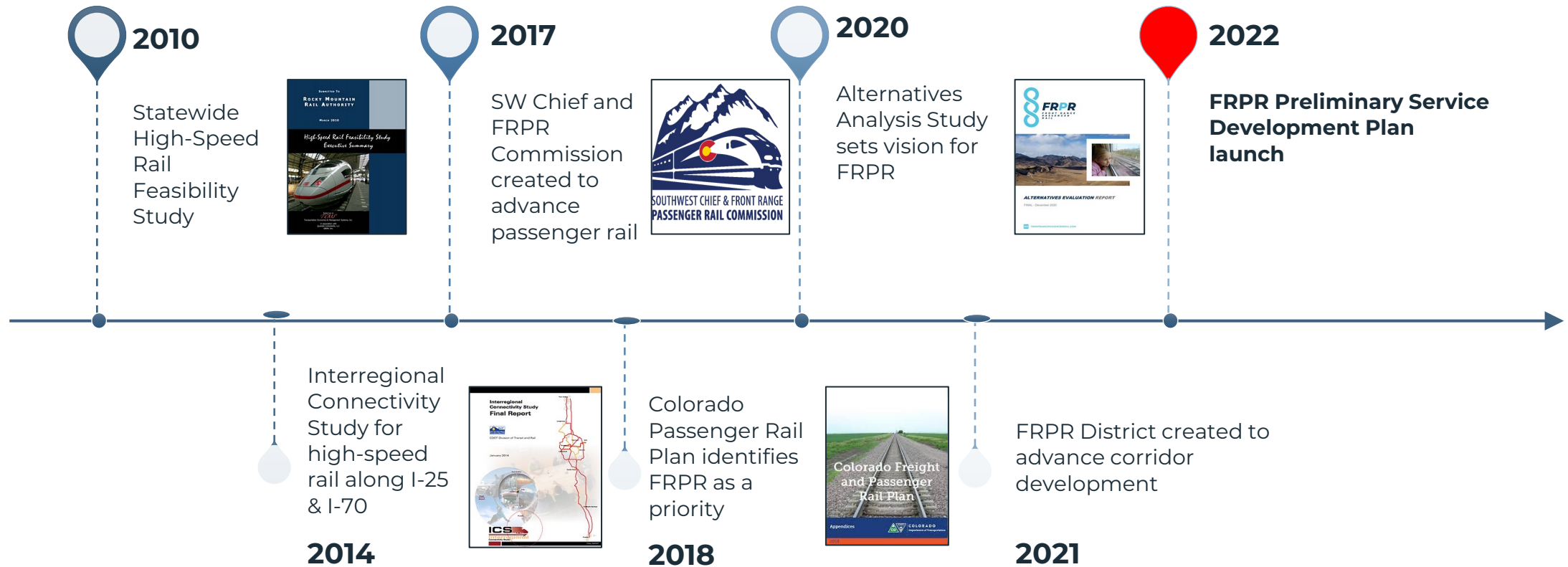


What is the FRPR District?

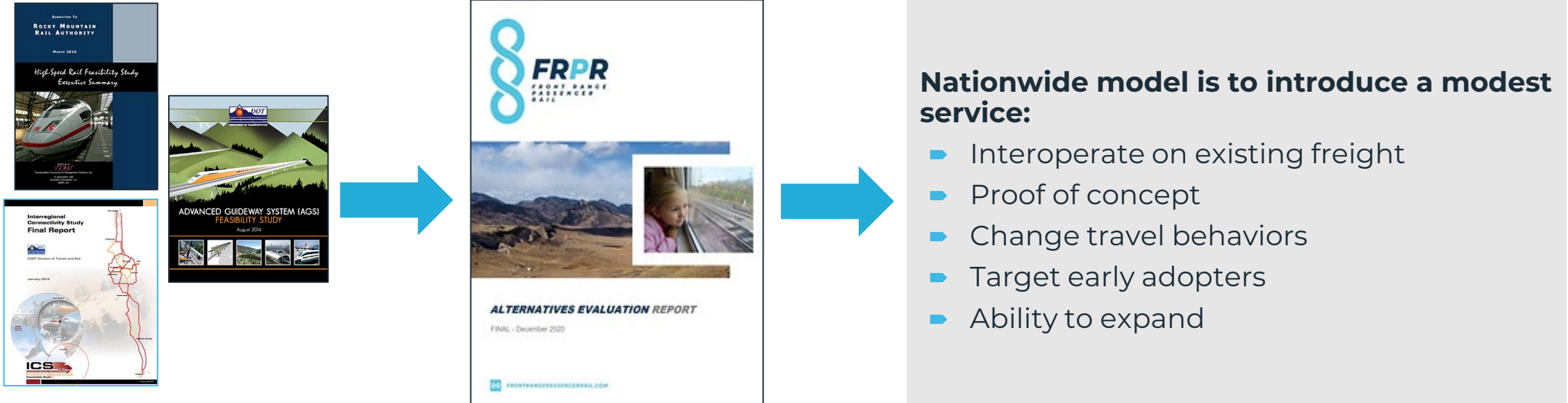
- Created by Colorado Legislature in 2021.
- New local government with the mission to finance, design, construct, and operate a passenger rail service along the Front Range.
- Following voter approval, can levy taxes to finance the rail system.
- Working with local communities to develop train stations.



History



Pragmatic Model for Implementation



Commuter vs. Intercity Rail



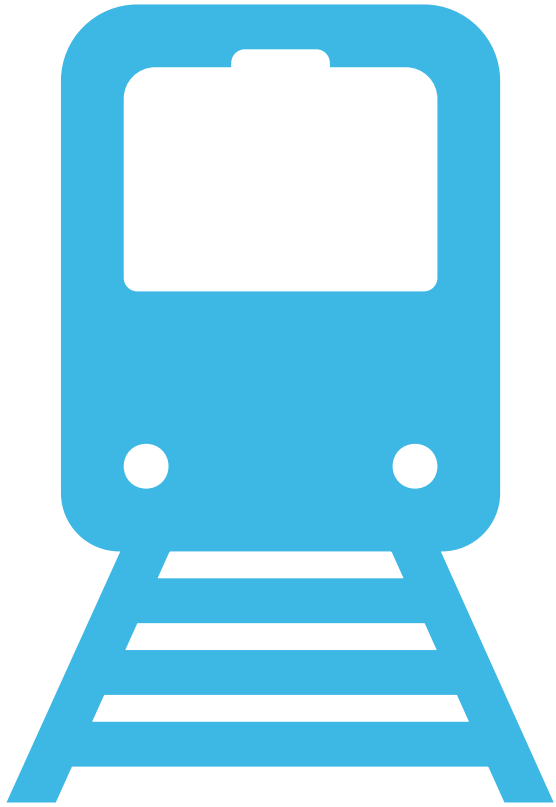
Serves one metropolitan area connecting suburbs to an urban core.



Connects cities across the state.

2 - 4 miles	STATION DISTANCE	20 - 30+ miles
35 - 45 MPH	AVERAGE SPEED	45 - 55+ MPH
20 - 75 miles	SERVICE LENGTH	50 - 300+ miles; less than 750 miles

*Average running speed
between stops is 65-90 mph



Service Development Plan

Service Development Plan Scope



Began late 2022 and concludes mid to late 2024



Funded through a 2020 Federal Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program grant



Developed with the Federal Railroad Administration

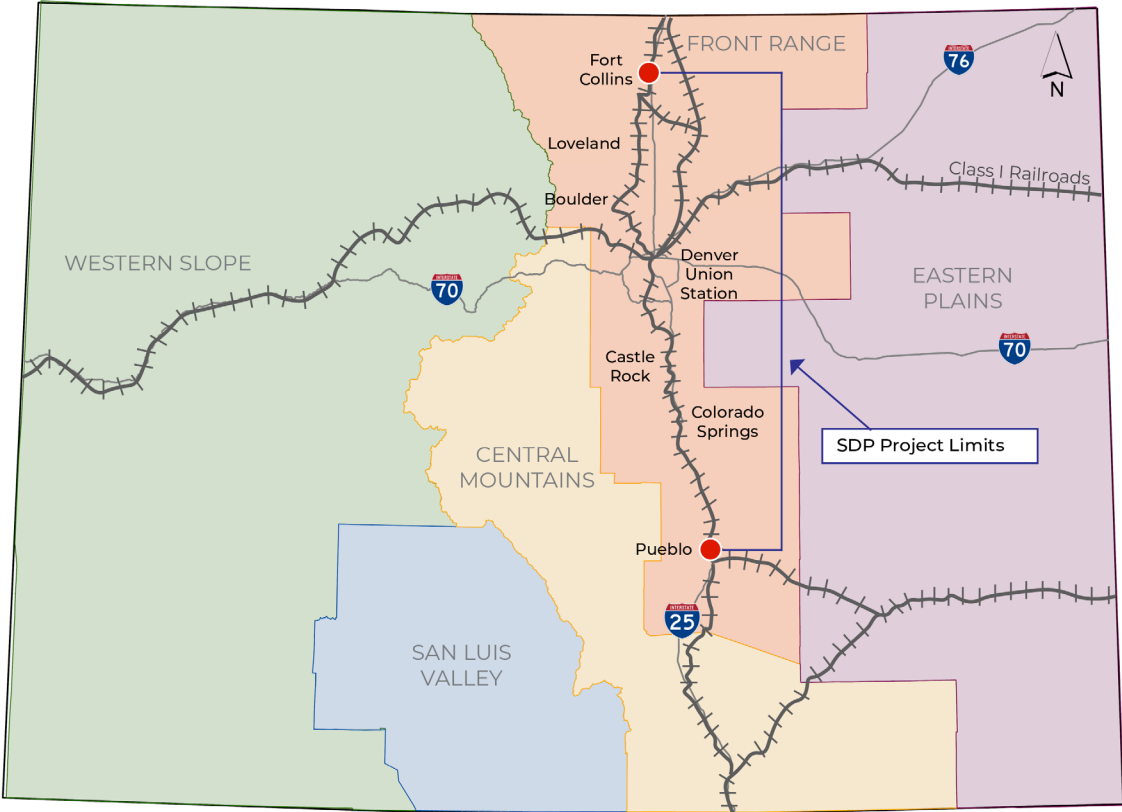


Implementation Plan for Initial FRPR Service

The SDP process defines:

- Station locations
- Service frequency
- Onboard amenities
- Ticket price
- Infrastructure improvements
- Costs and financing plan
- Railroad partnerships

Service Development Plan Study Limits

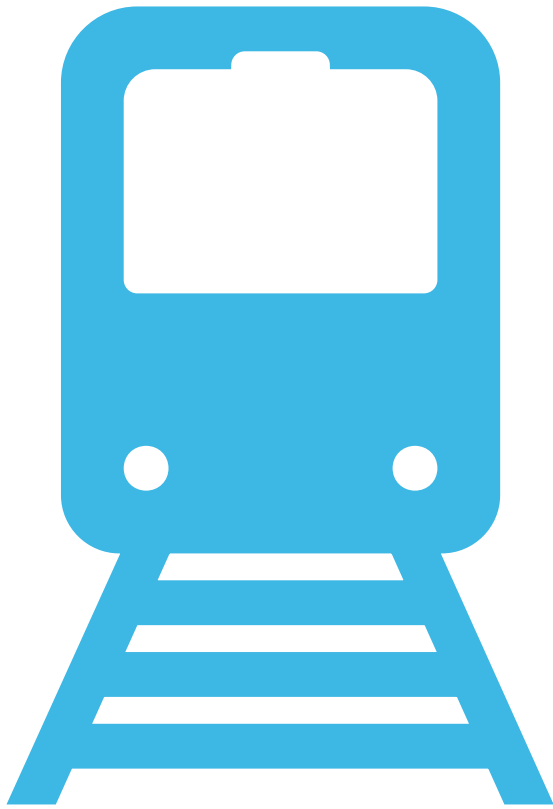


*Colorado Regions are shown as defined by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and created through combination of county boundaries

0 50
Miles

Overview of FRPR SDP Process





SDP Preliminary Purpose & Need

What is a Purpose & Need?

A call to action: Why do something, compared to nothing?

A foundation for evaluating alternatives

Required part of SDP and future federal environmental review

Subject to further agency and public review and comment as the project develops

Federal Regulatory and Funding Criteria

 Business	 Policy	 Customer (or proxy)	 Benefits
➤ Projected ridership, revenues, capital investment, and operating funding requirements. ➤ Anticipated non-Federal funding. ➤ Passenger rail operator support for the corridor.	➤ Is the route identified by regional or interregional planning studies? ➤ Is the corridor in the State rail plan? ➤ Does the corridor serve historically unserved or underserved and low-income communities or areas of persistent poverty?	➤ Are projected trip times competitive with other transportation modes? ➤ Is there improved connectivity with existing or planned multimodal transportation services? ➤ Does the corridor connect at least two of the 100 largest metropolitan areas?	➤ Environmental, congestion mitigation, and other public benefits. ➤ Economic and employment impacts. ➤ Rural communities. ➤ Enhance the regional equity of passenger rail service. ➤ Integration into the national passenger rail system.

Preliminary SDP Purpose & Need

Purpose

Introduce intercity passenger rail service along Colorado's Front Range urban corridor between Pueblo and Fort Collins, operating within freight railroad corridors and predominately utilizing shared track with the BNSF and UP railroads.

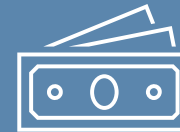
Needs



Improve mobility and multimodal travel options



Connect communities



Foster economic vitality and improve transportation equity



Support environmental sustainability goals

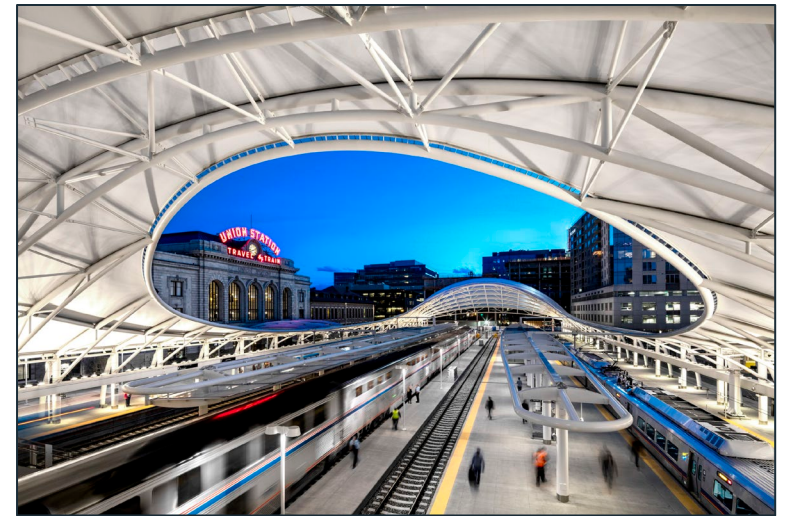
Improve Mobility and Multimodal Travel Options

- Lack of reliable and time-competitive travel options.
- No easy options to expand highway capacity.
- Significant population and employment growth will intensify travel challenges.



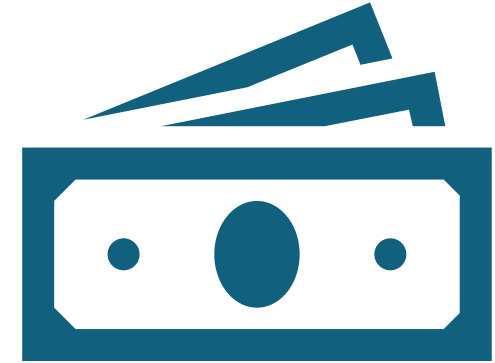
Connect Communities

- Need for integrated, multimodal transportation network.
- Connect Front Range population centers and key destinations.
- Support rural access to urban economics and amenities.



Foster Economic Vitality and Equity

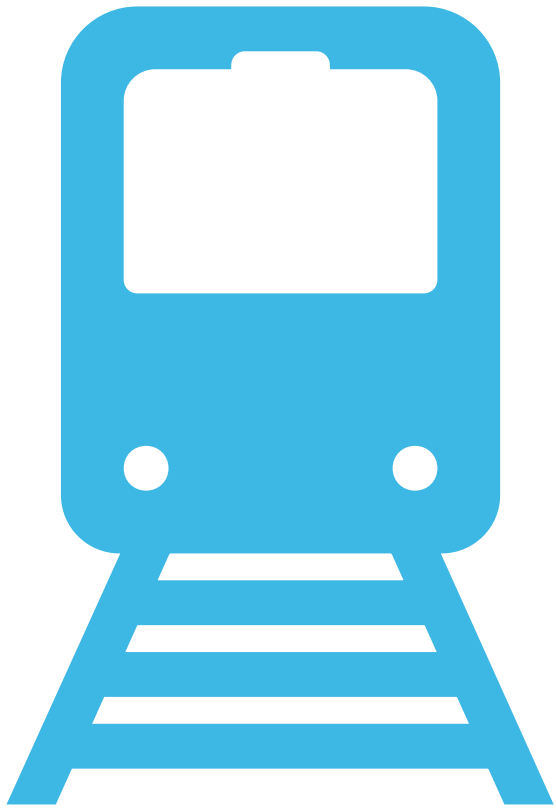
- Colorado is a top economy nationally, rank in the top six states on economic indicators.
- There is an unequal distribution of economic opportunities in the state.
- Many Colorado communities are hampered by disconnected and inefficient travel options.



Support Environmental Sustainability Goals

- Attractive alternative to SOV travel reduces vehicle miles traveled and emissions.
- Implementing FRPR is a near-term action to meet greenhouse gas and climate goals (included in the state's GHG Reduction Roadmap).





Look Ahead & Adjourn

Upcoming Engagement Milestones

Summer/Fall 2023

Preview technical components of the SDP, potential ridership, existing conditions

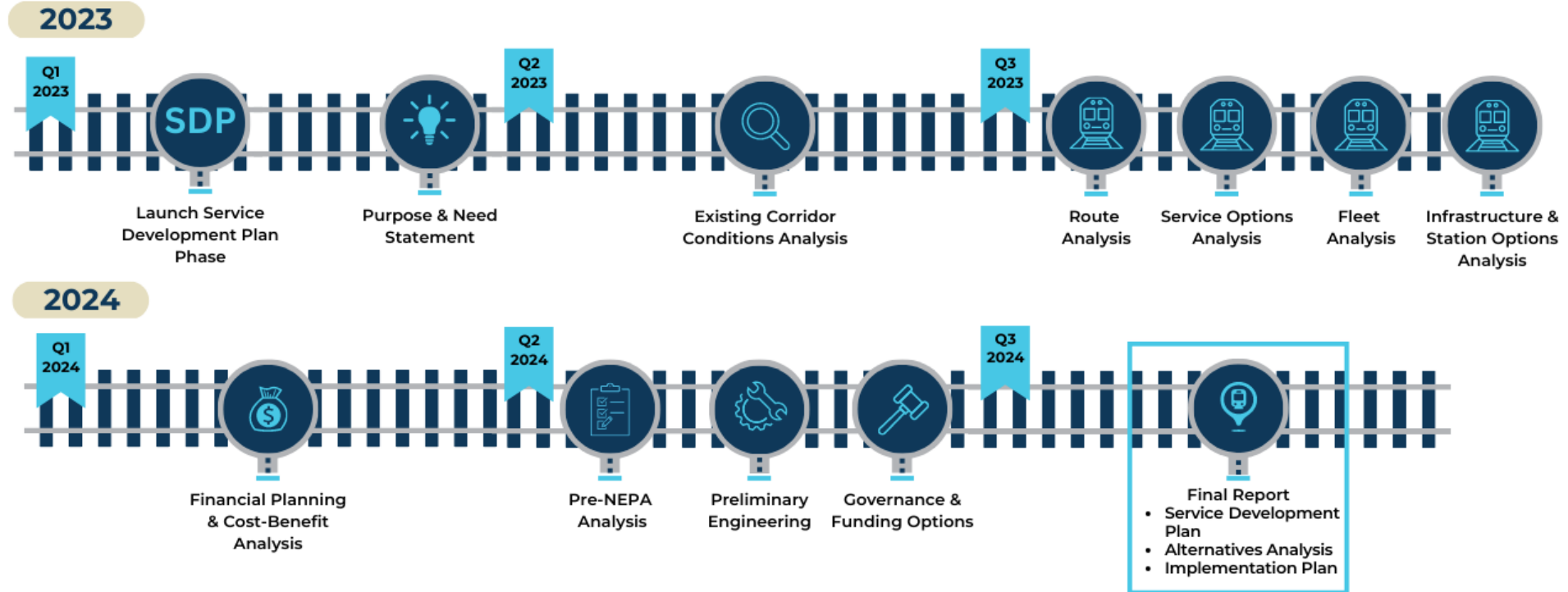
- Segment-specific stakeholder meetings
- Corridor-wide stakeholder meeting
- Community events
- Agency coordination workshops

Winter/Spring 2023 – 2024

Preview scenarios, results of ongoing analyses, draft SDP

- Segment-specific stakeholder meetings
- Corridor-wide stakeholder meeting
- Public meeting webinar
- Agency coordination workshops cont.
- Community events

FRONT RANGE PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROCESS



ONGOING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TACTICS



Community Events



Interactive Digital Engagement



Stakeholder Coalition Meetings



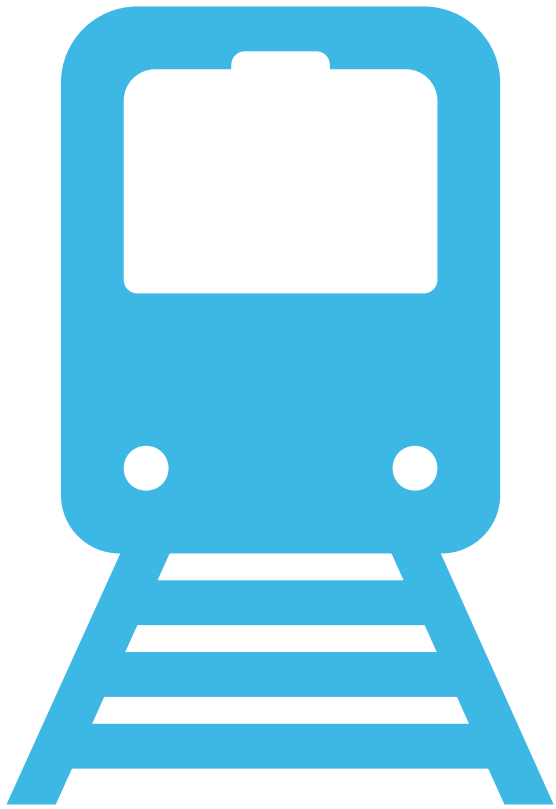
Coordination with FRPR Board of Directors



Public Meetings



Webinars



Thank you!

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