

Joint Transportation Committee

Front Range Passenger Rail

January 17, 2023



Overview

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Front Range Passenger Rail District (SB 21 -238)

Purpose

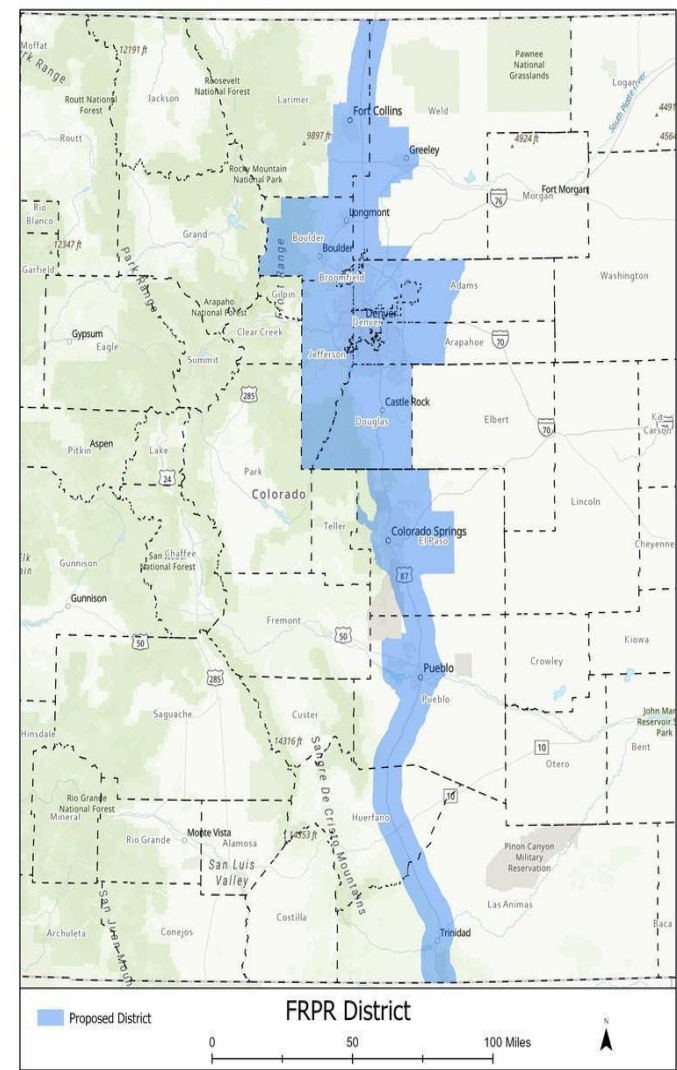
Finance, Design, Construct, Operate, Maintain Passenger Rail

Board of Directors

- MPO/COG Representatives (10):
 - DRCOG (4), PPACG (2), NFRMPO (2), PACOG (1), South Central COG (1)
- Governor's Appointees (6); CDOT (1)
- Non-Voting Members: BNSF Railway, Union Pacific, Amtrak, RTD, I-70 Mountain Corridor Coalition, Wyoming, New Mexico

Prerequisite for potential Ballot Measure

- Service Development Plan (SDP)
- Operating & Finance Plan





Service Development Plan

Process

- The Southwest Chief Front Range Rail Commission studied **five alternatives** and moved **three forward for final review** by their successor organization, the FRPR District.
- SDP evaluates the alternatives based on common criteria used by proposed corridors throughout the country.

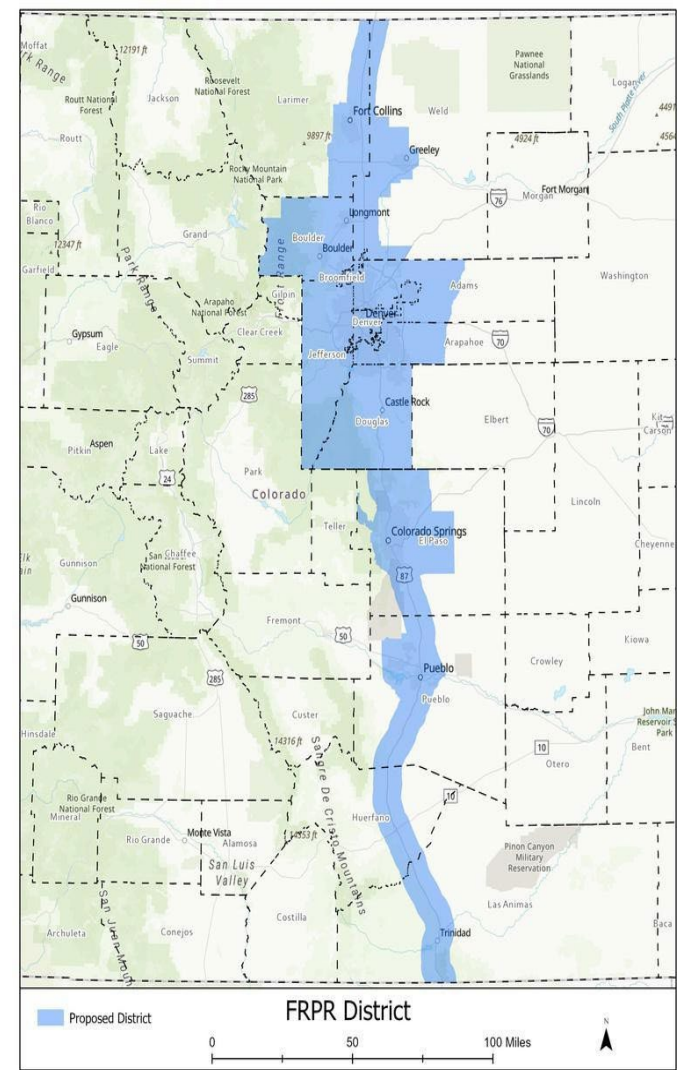
The three alternatives include:

- BSNF Freight corridor
- BNSF + North I-25 EIS Commuter Rail corridor
- I-25 + E-470 Highway corridor

Timeline

- November 2022 -Late Spring 2023

Statutorily required to complete prior to a ballot measure.



Funding, Planning, Engagement, Politics

Federal



State



Local



Federal Passenger Rail Funding

Corridor Identification and Development Program (CIDP)

- Identifies new rail corridors across the country and criteria for grant selection
- Creates nationwide pipeline of priority projects
- FRPR well positioned

Grant Opportunities over the next five years:

- \$36B: Federal -State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail
- \$5B: Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)
- \$3B: Railroad Crossing Elimination





Four Year Plan

FRPR collaboration, organization, and SDP

- \$500K from FRA (CIDP funds, 1st tranche) late summer
- SDP focus = outreach, modeling
- RTD's NW Rail study: ID projects/policies to address before ballot measure

Outreach and Engagement

- Groundwork for ballot measure
- Third tranche of CIDP (?)

2022

Stand -up Front Range Passenger Rail

- Directors appointed
- District created
- CIDP expression of interest

2023

FRPR and RTD work to implement final NW Rail plan

- Fits with 2nd tranche of CIDP
- Leverage matching funds for corridor improvements

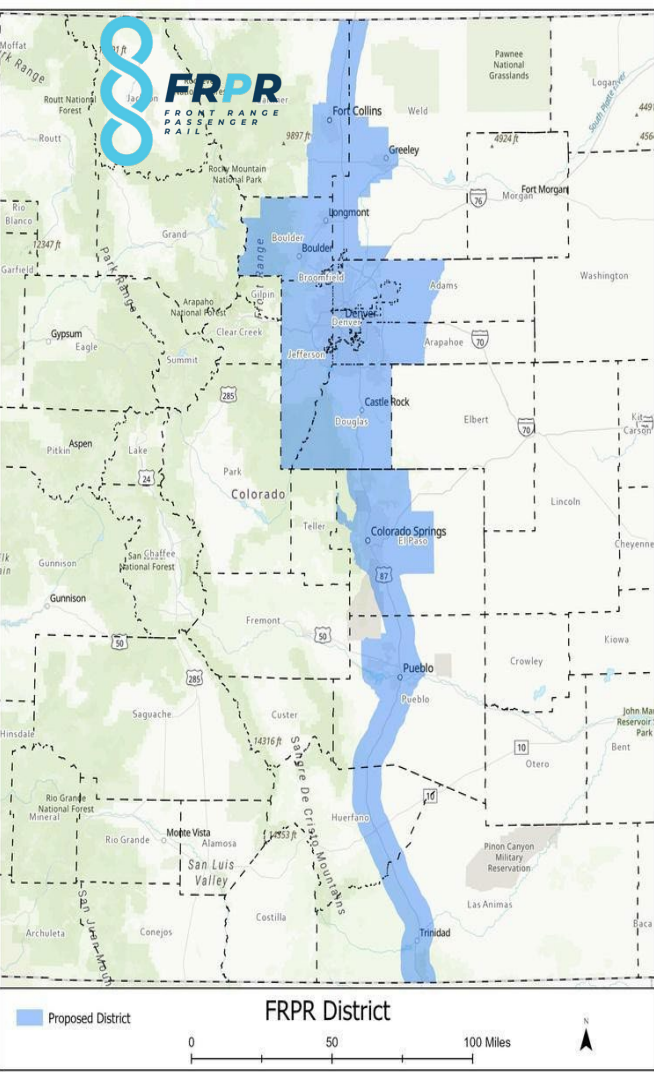
2024

2025

District Ballot Measure

- Third tranche of CIDP(?)

2026



Jim Souby
Chair
FRPR Board of Directors

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