



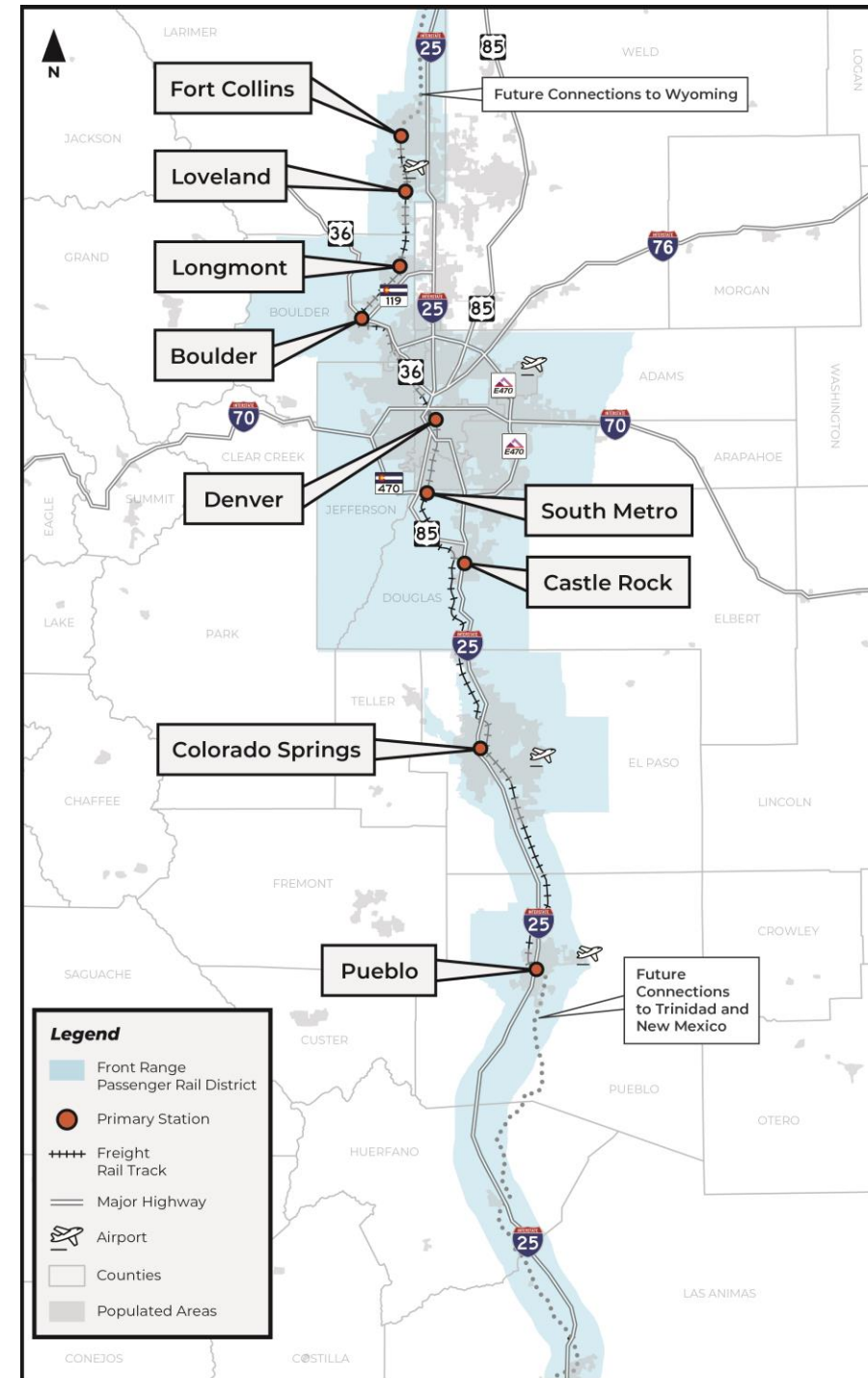
Front Range Passenger Rail Update

January 2025

FRPR FRONT RANGE
PASSENGER RAIL

Front Range Passenger Rail District

- Created by Colorado Legislature
- Largest special district in state
- Statutory direction: plan, design, finance, construct, operate, and maintain a passenger rail system along the Front Range
- 24-member board of directors, (17 voting) 3 staff members
- Partnerships with CDOT, RTD and FRA
- Empowered to refer tax measure to voters for sustainable investment needed to realize project



Vision

- Offer safe, efficient and reliable travel option
- Enhance job growth and economic development
- Mitigate congestion and support of Colorado's air quality goals
- Expand access to housing and employment options



Overview

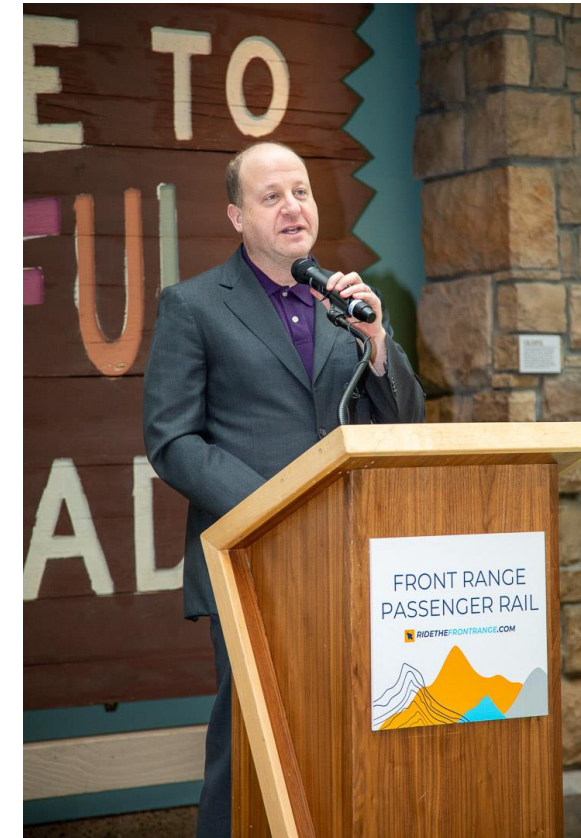
- Using **existing tracks** to **minimize costs** and **expedite service**
- Nine initial primary stations from **Fort Collins** to **Pueblo**
- **Long-term vision** of connecting to **Wyoming and New Mexico**
- Goal: Initial service start in 2029 and **ten round trips daily by 2035**
- **Intercity rail service is faster**; 79 MPH
- Travel time estimate from **Fort Collins to Pueblo is just over three hours**

Benefits to Colorado

- Additional travel option that
- Helps mitigate highway traffic
- Low emissions – point here
- IIJA federal funds available to support the project 10% match to 90% federal funding through grants
- Increases accessibility to housing and workforce
- As ridership increases, so does travel spending which increases revenue through sales tax to municipalities

Corridor Identification and Development Program (FRA)

- Comprehensive intercity passenger rail planning program established through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
 - Creates a pipeline of projects ready for implementation
- Accepted into Program in December 2023
 - District is eligible for millions of \$ in grant funding with 80/20 federal/local match for service planning and environmental clearance



Governor Polis speaking at CIDP Acceptance Event

Planning and Project Development

➔ Federal Service Development Plan

- Completed: Route, Station Area, Ridership, Revenue Analyses
- Underway: Operations and Service Modeling with Host Railroads
- Next Steps: Capital Projects and Costs, O&M Costs, Financial and Implementation Plans
- Completion: Late 2025; sales tax election 2026

➔ Upcoming Public Outreach: Alternatives Analysis Report (Q1 2025)

- Public and stakeholders can sign up for updates at ridethefrontrange.com

First Phase

Per state legislative directive in SB 24-184, the First Phase of FRPR will be the Northwest Route from Denver to Boulder, Longmont and up to Fort Collins

Coordination meetings are occurring with CDOT, CTIO, RTD and the Governor's team

Local Station Planning

- Station location criteria finalized
- Operations, environmental, connectivity
- District/local roles and opportunities
- Process for secondary stations
- Site visits with local jurisdictions
- Pin in the map for nine primary stations by Spring '26



2024 Legislative Session

HB 1012

Front Range Passenger Rail District Efficiency

- Clarified timing for Board election
- Quorum clarification
- More efficient elections
- Board delegation of authority

SB 184

Support Surface Transportation Infrastructure Development

- New project-based funding for transit and rail
- Financing opportunities support federal funding requests for early capital construction
- Advancing passenger rail service from Denver to Fort Collins

SB 230

Oil and Gas Production Fees

- Funding for expanded transit service, passenger rail and wildlife projects
- Supports operations and capital
- Connecting existing and new transit and rail services statewide

Colorado SB 24-184

- CTIO collects rental car fees for intercity bus and passenger rail services:
 - Bustang
 - Front Range Passenger Rail
 - Mountain Rail
- Revenue collection begins late '25; \$58M/year
- Implements first phase

- Collaboration between District, RTD, CDOT and CTIO to prioritize near-term rail service from Denver to Fort Collins
 - Partner working groups: governance, finance, operations
 - Linkage between FasTracks and FRPR

Accomplishments

- ✓ Accepted into **Corridor ID Program**; one of two projects nationwide on Step 2
- ✓ **Route and station markets** adopted by Board
- ✓ **Station location criteria finalized**; local coordination started
- ✓ Extensive **outreach throughout entire corridor**
- ✓ **Demonstration train** from Boulder to Longmont; first passenger rail service since 1960s
- ✓ **Public opinion polling** shows strong support for project and charts course for communications plan
- ✓ **Preliminary financial modeling** to evaluate costs and refine sales tax ask of voters



Path Forward - Ballot Measure 2026

- District Board evaluated information from workshops, surveys, financial modeling and community input
- Focus on creating a viable transportation project before going to the voters for a sales tax approval
- Fiscal stewards of new state funding mechanisms, leverage resources by continuing to work with partners and considering opportunities to buy down the ask to the voters
- Continuing education and outreach to communities, business leaders and local governments
- Completing Service Development Plan

Two Year Lookahead

- Service Development Plan and NEPA
- SB24-184 implementation
- Initial host railroad agreements
- Financial plan
- Economic Impact Study
- Community education and outreach
- Coalition building
- 2026 ballot initiative

Colorado's Opportunity

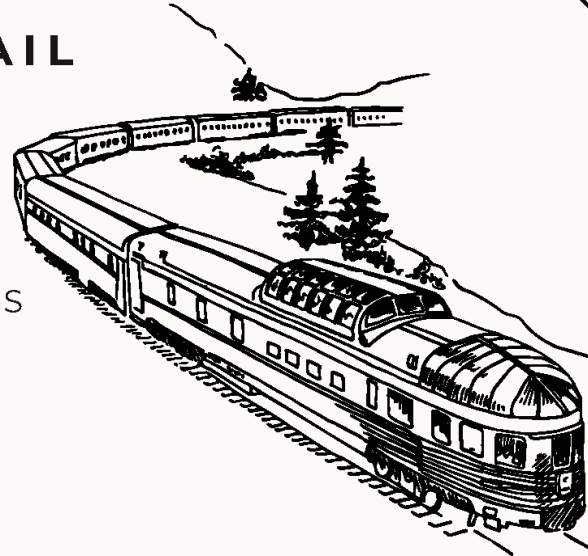
- Intercity passenger rail is fast, safe and reliable
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law offers federal funding opportunities
- Creation of District to build upon partnerships with CDOT and RTD
- Headquarters of rail innovation outside Pueblo at the Transportation Technology Center
- Effectively serve Coloradans' transportation needs now and for the future



How Will You Use the Train?

FRONT RANGE PASSENGER RAIL TRAIN RIDE

FORT COLLINS BOULDER CASTLE ROCK
LOVELAND DENVER COLORADO SPRINGS
LONGMONT SOUTH METRO PUEBLO



ADMIT ONE

[RideTheFrontRange.com](https://www.RideTheFrontRange.com)



**HOW WILL YOU
USE THE TRAIN?**

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