

Colorado Front Range Passenger Rail RPA Rail Nation, Kansas City, October 22, 2022 James Souby, Chair, Front Range Passenger Rail District



Mission and Status of the Colorado Front Ranger Passenger Rail District

Planning, designing, building, and operating a passenger rail line along the Colorado Front Range I-25 corridor.

SB21-238 created a new Colorado special district with the powers deemed necessary to carry out its mission. The District includes the power to refer a ballot measure to the district voters creating a sales and use tax. At present the new Board of Directors are:

- Organizing its 17 voting and 6 non-voting members
- Implementing new district administrative functions
- Overseeing development of an initial Service Development Plan with CO DOT



National **FRPR District** Proposed District

How We Got Here

Planning a comprehensive passenger rail system serving the Front Range has been underway for more than a decade.

2014: Southwest Chief Commission established to save and improve the SW Chief passenger train route and service.

2017: SW Chief Commission recommendations adopted establishing the Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission to plan for the development of Front Range passenger rail service (SB17-153).

2022: Front Range Passenger Rail District created (SB21-238).



Next Steps

Planning

Complete Initial Service Development Plan

- Required by SB21-238
- Required by feds
- Builds the facts around a case for Front Range Rail
- · Two year timeframe

Executive Committee

- Recruiting a General Manager
- Working through the necessary IGAs and MOUs needed to acquire and issue federal fund
- Adopting CO Special District Association recommendations as a tax district

Finance

- Finalize fund transfers from CDOT
- Disperse federal CRISI and RAISE grant funding to locals per prior arrangements.
- Apply for state appropriations and future federal grants

Communication/Govt Relations

Build relationships with the media and numerous stakeholders in the 10-county district:

- FRA
- STAC
- TRAC
- TC
- Amtrak

- BNSF
- UP
- Colorado Rail
- DRCOG
- PPACG
- PACOG
- SCCOG
- NFRMPO



Questions?



