

COLORADO INTERREGIONAL CONNECTIVITY STUDY

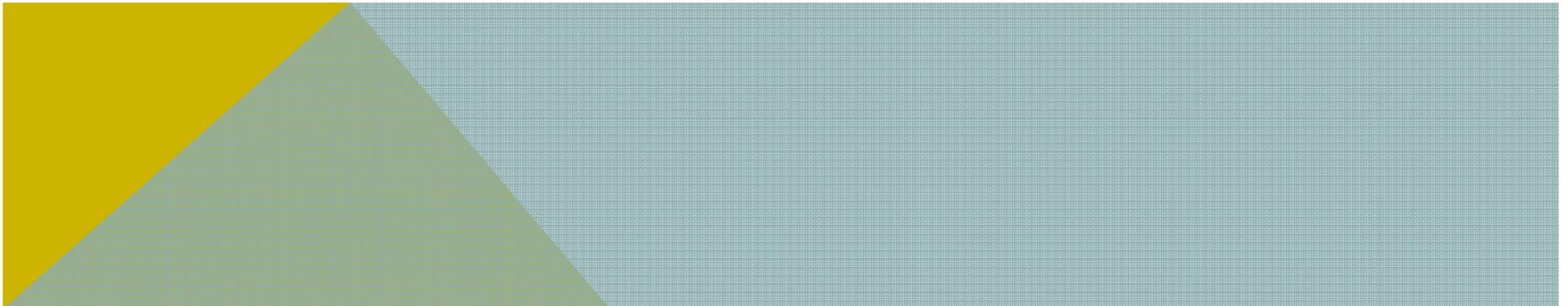
DIVISION OF TRANSIT AND RAIL

APRIL 9, 2011

WENDY WALLACH, RAIL PROGRAM MANAGER

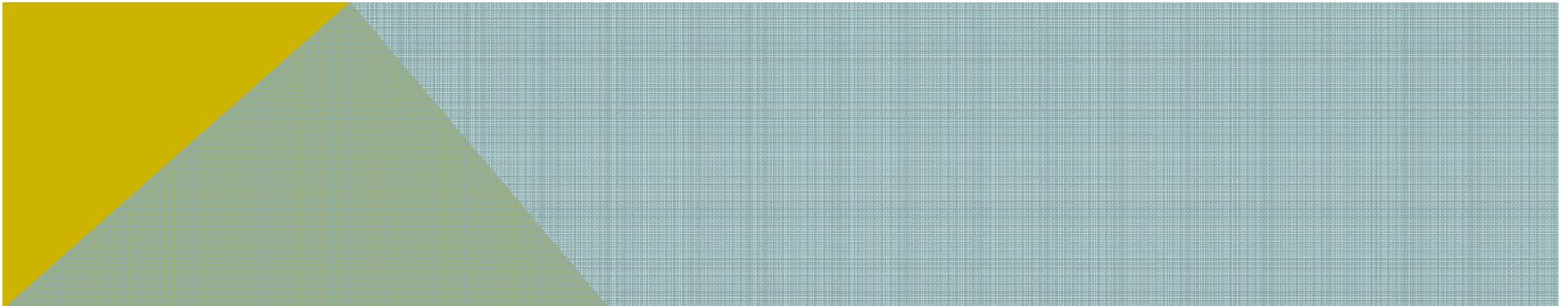
BACKGROUND

- **Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), supported by the Regional Transportation District (RTD) submitted an application to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)**
- **Application made for High Speed InterCity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) Planning funds in August 2009**
- **Grant received for \$1 million dollars from FRA, with local match of \$1 million dollars**



PURPOSE OF STUDY

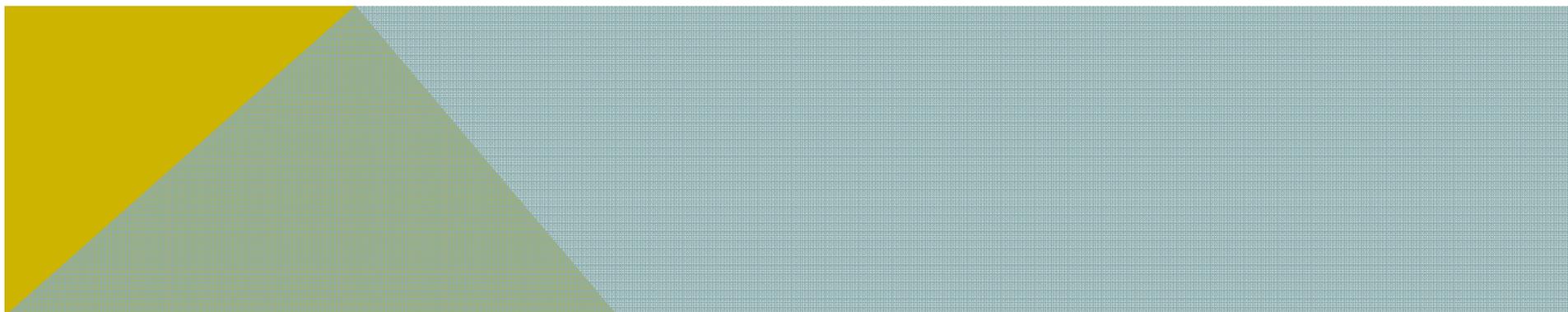
- **Grant stated provision of “background” work , route and location decisions to help high speed rail progress**
- **Identify locations where stations and alignments would be feasible and interface with FasTracks**
- **Complement FasTracks and not compete**
- **Identify Opportunities and Constraints associated with potential connections**



SCOPE OF STUDY

General Objective:

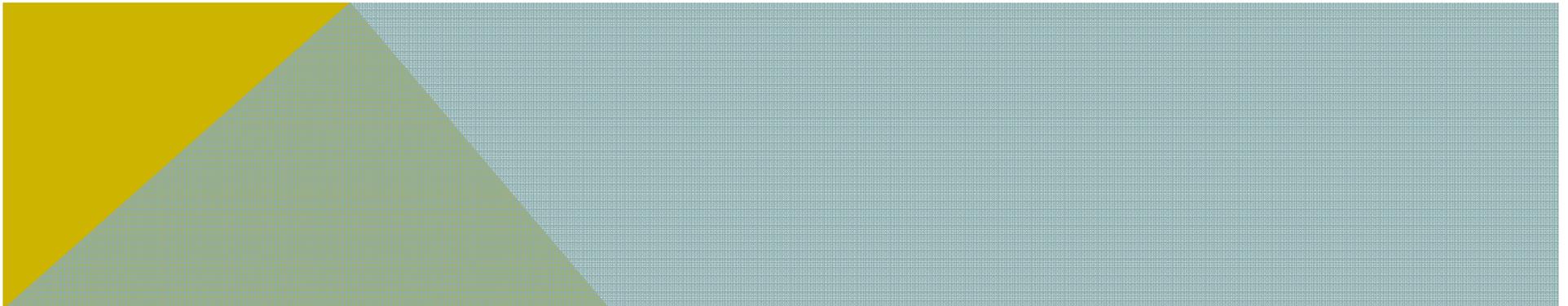
The primary purpose of the Interregional Connectivity Study is to serve as a planning document and provide preliminary recommendations for High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) alignments, technologies and station locations in the Denver Metropolitan Region that will maximize ridership for the proposed RTD FasTracks system and future High Speed Rail service.



SCOPE OF STUDY

WORKED WITH RTD TO IDENTIFY TEN TASKS

- **Detailed Work Plan**
- **Existing and Future Rail Plan**
- **Establish Criteria for Scenario Development**
- **Demand and Revenue Estimation**
- **Capital Cost Estimation**
- **Operating and Maintenance Cost Estimation**
- **Financial Analysis**
- **Societal Impacts Estimation**
- **System Planning Recommendations**
- **Interconnectivity Study**



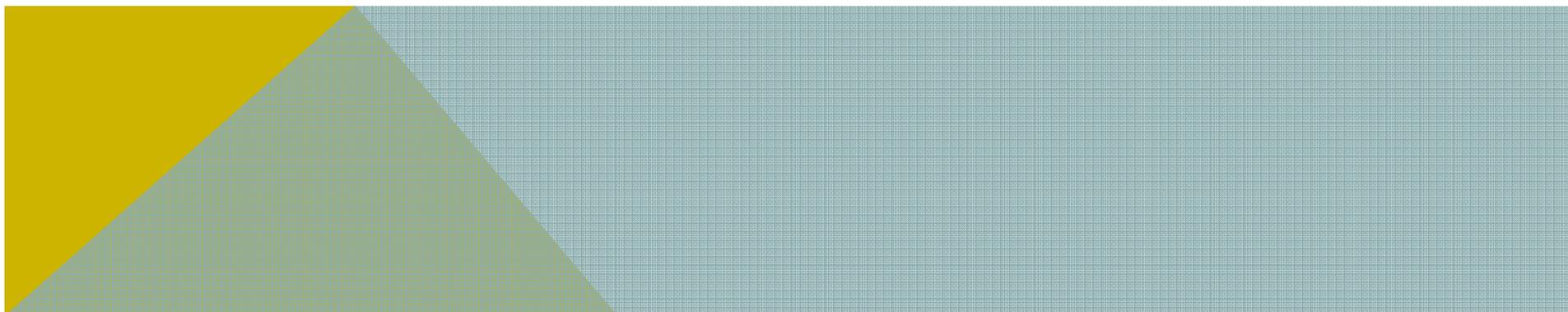
SCHEDULE OF STUDY

Anticipated the study will start beginning June 2011 and end November 2012 (18 months).

Portions of Study will run concurrently with the Advanced Guideway System Feasibility Study, which should begin late summer 2011

The study teams will coordinate closely together on a number of tasks.

- **Technologies**
- **Ridership**

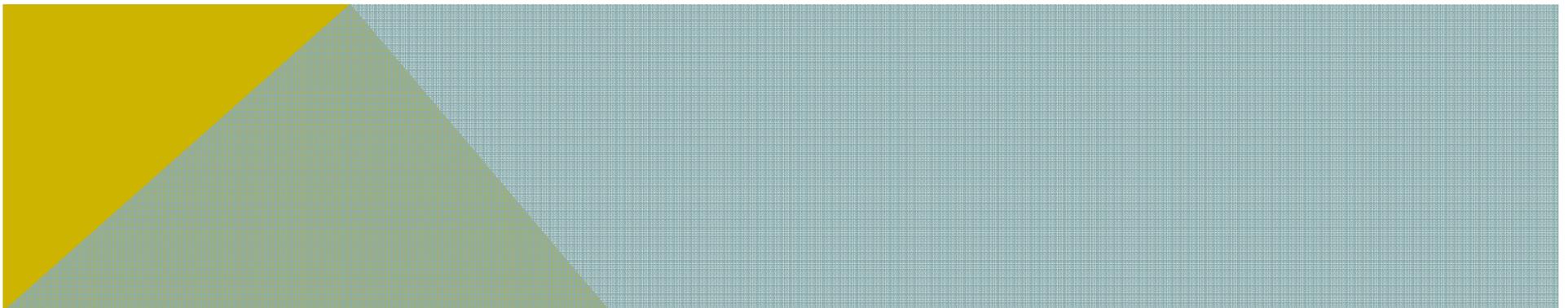


NEXT STEPS

- **Result of Study :**

Scenario development and screening is expected to result in analysis that supports a short-list of alternatives that are technically feasible, cost-effective, and provide favorable system connectivity.

- **The “Recommendations” task includes a “Next Steps” task**
- **If warranted, next steps would include completing the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation and developing a detailed high-speed rail corridor Service Development Plan.**



CHALLENGES

- **Obtaining accurate ridership, not competing with FasTracks.**
- **Finding suitable technology for east-west Corridor.**
- **Obligation of funds, and funding for implementation.**

