

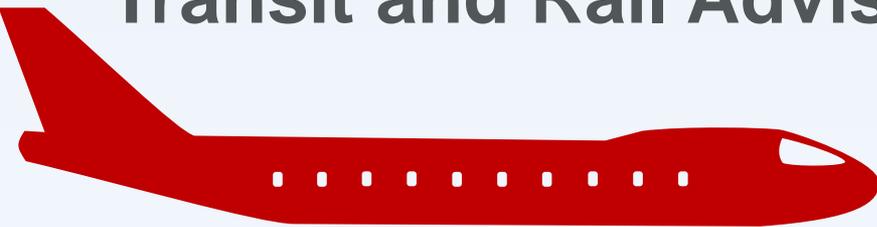


State Freight and Passenger Rail Plan

Update



Transit and Rail Advisory Committee



October 13, 2017



Agenda

- ▶ **Key Findings by Goal Area**
- ▶ **Plan Development Timeline**
- ▶ **Next Steps - Implementation**



2017 Rail Plan Goals

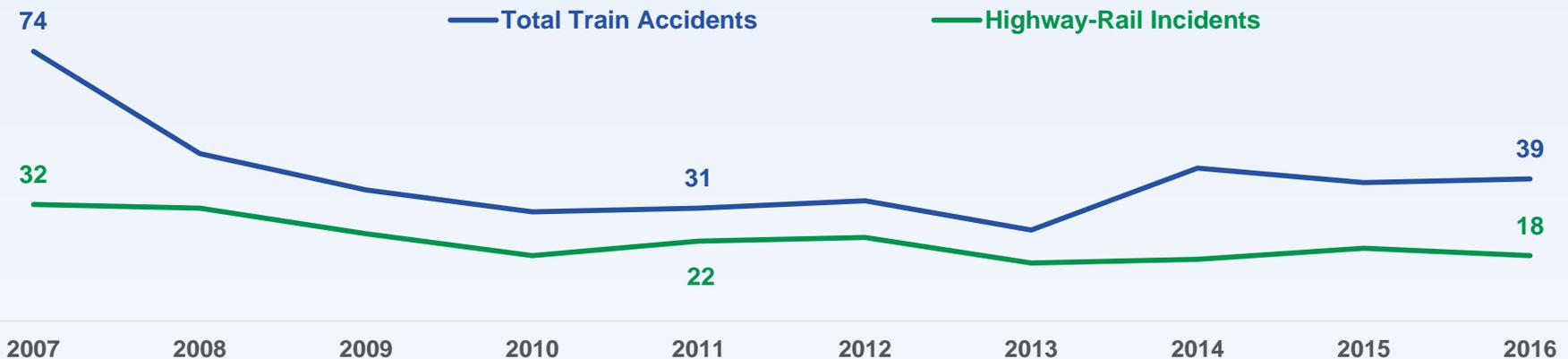
- ▶ Ensure that Colorado's rail systems are **SAFE** and **SECURE**
- ▶ **EXPAND** and **IMPROVE** Colorado's rail systems for passengers and freight
- ▶ Provide users and travelers with greater **MOBILITY** and **CONNECTIVITY** options
- ▶ **PRESERVE** and **MAINTAIN** critical corridors and infrastructure to support Colorado's rail systems
- ▶ Advance **ECONOMIC VITALITY** and **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY** of Colorado's communities and regions



Safe and Secure

Greater Investments Needed to Improve Crossing Safety

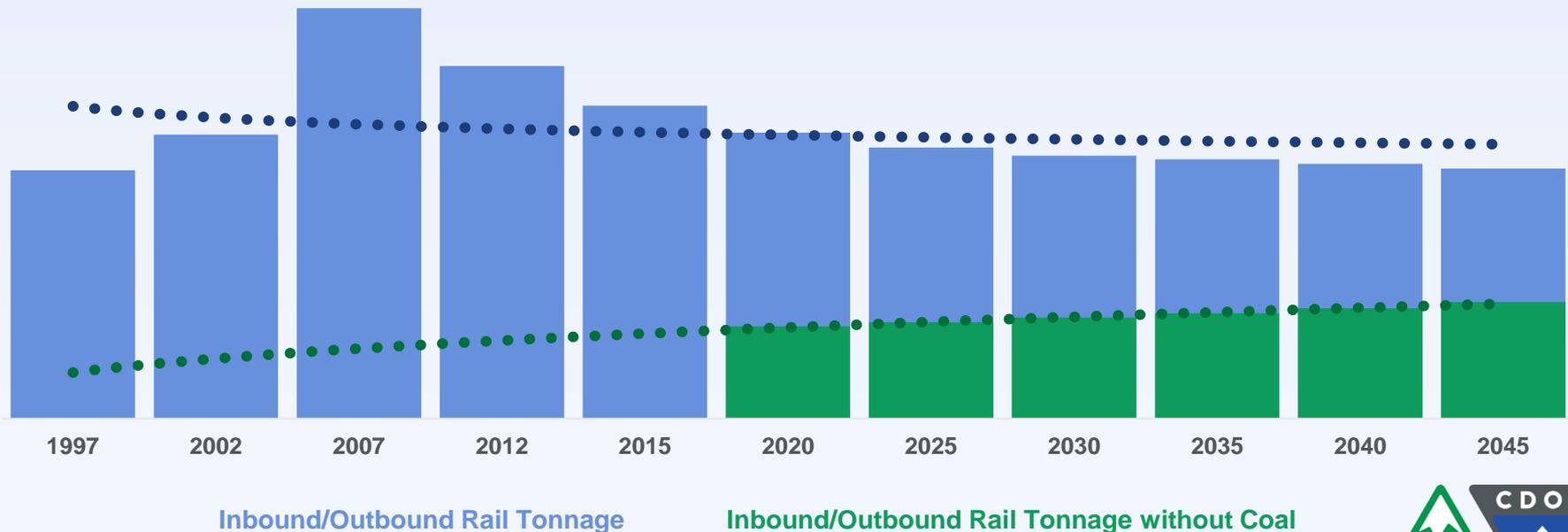
- ▶ **2,129** - total public rail crossings in the state
- ▶ **18** - incidents in 2016 resulting in 6 fatalities and 11 injuries
- ▶ **\$3 million** - federal Section 130 crossing safety funding annually
- ▶ **6** - average crossing improvement projects CDOT can complete each year



Expand and Improve

Future Demand for Freight Rail Uncertain

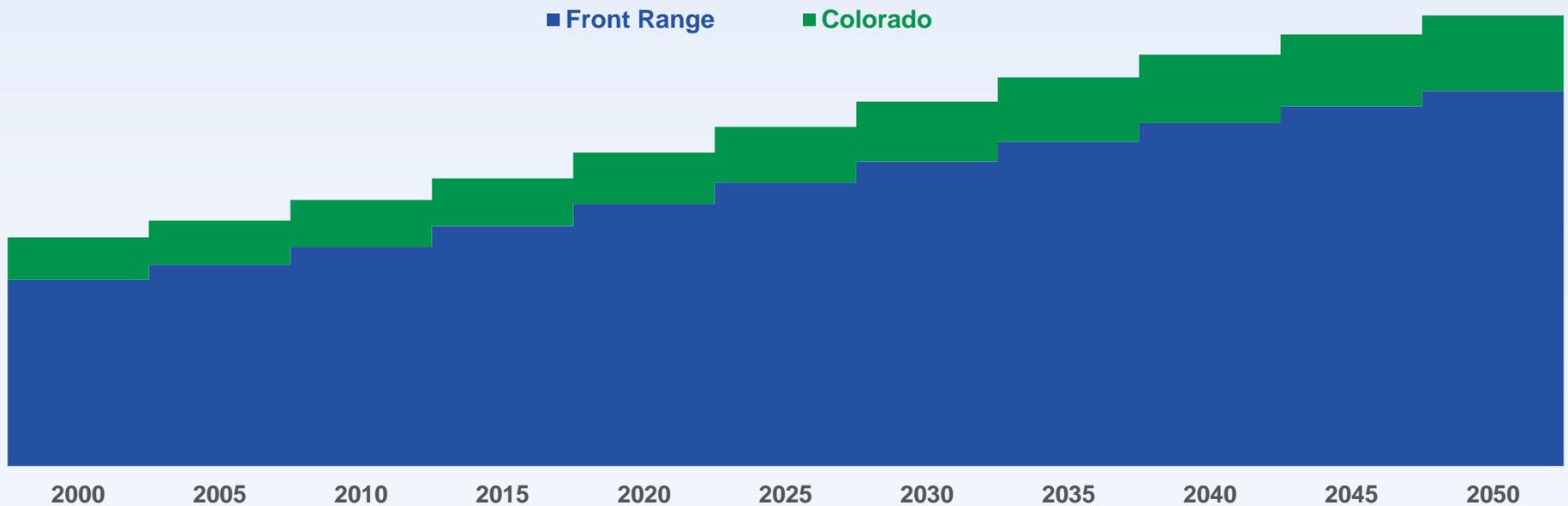
- ▶ **20%** projected decrease in total freight rail tonnage
- ▶ **27%** increase in non-coal traffic
- ▶ Intermodal and natural resource commodity shipments will drive future growth



Expand and Improve

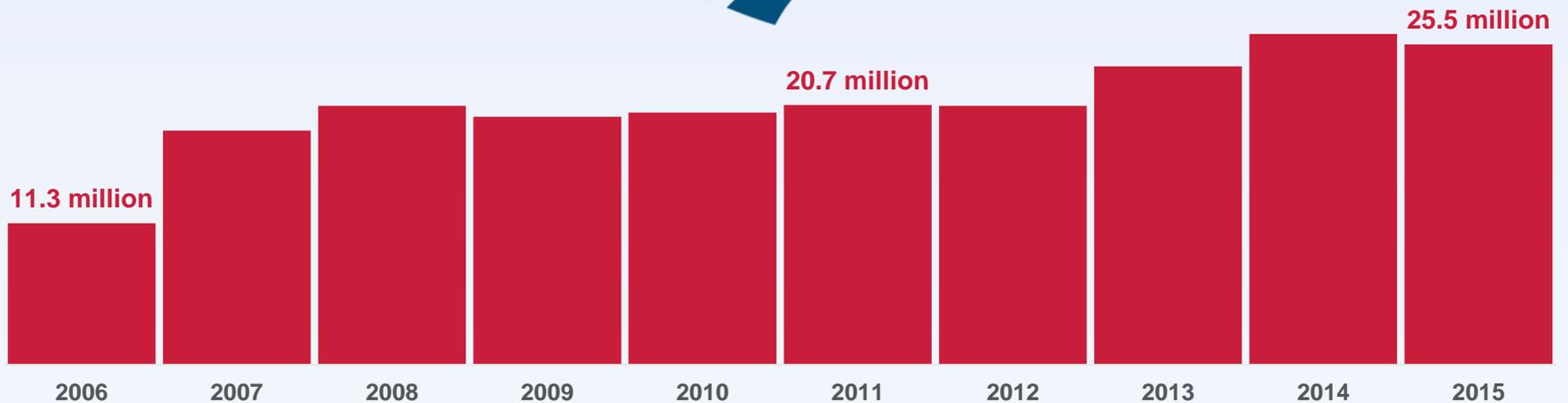
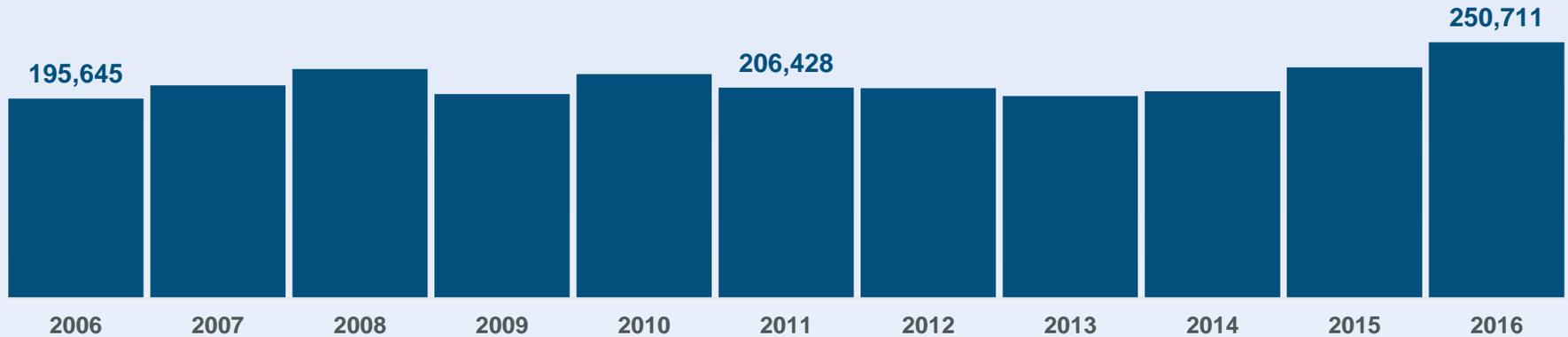
Population Growth Will Drive Demand for Passenger Rail

- ▶ **2.7 million** new residents by 2045
- ▶ **83%** of population will reside along the Front Range
- ▶ **1.6-1.9%** increase in vmt on state roadways



Mobility and Connectivity

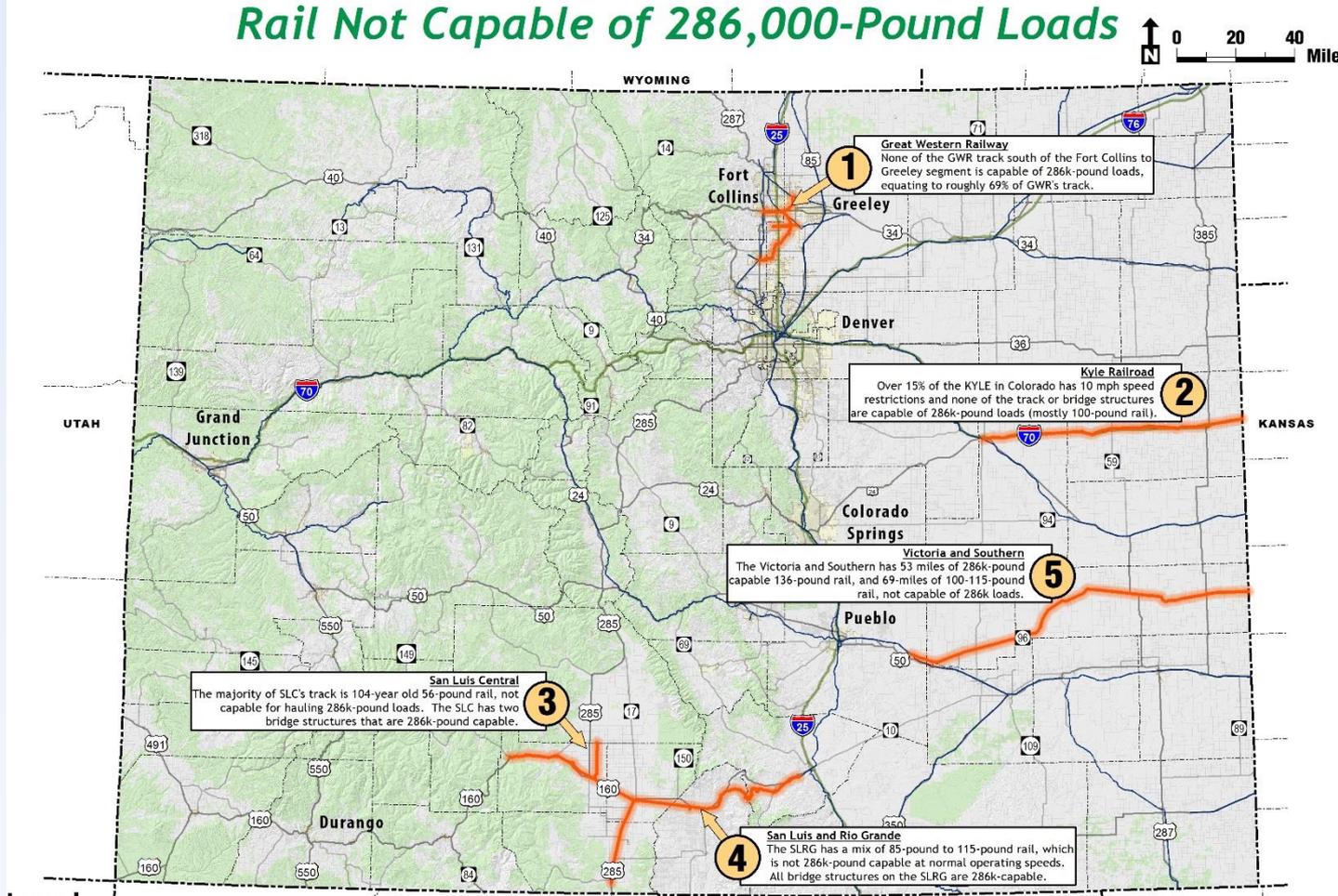
Intercity and Light/Commuter Rail Ridership Growing



Preserve and Maintain

Short Line Needs Significant

Rail Not Capable of 286,000-Pound Loads



Legend

- 1** Great Western Railway of Colorado (GWR)
- 2** Kyle Railroad (KYLE)
- 3** San Luis Central Railroad (SLC)
- 4** San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad (SLRG)
- 5** Victoria & Southern Railroad (V&S)



Economic Vitality and Environmental Quality

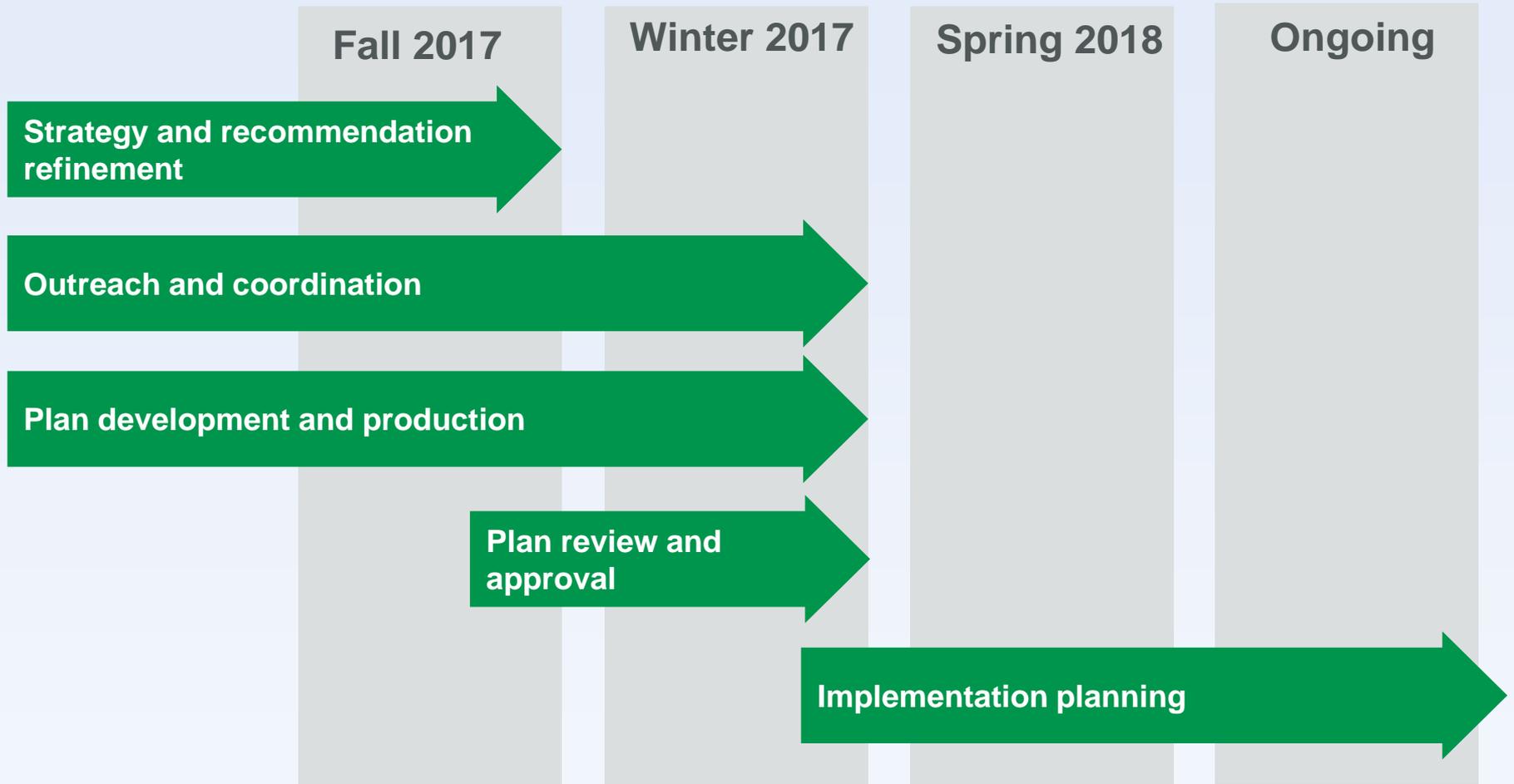
Rail Service Benefits Colorado

- ▶ **\$707 million** in direct payroll, spending, and investment by Union Pacific and BNSF
- ▶ **\$52 million** in Amtrak's statewide economic impact including capital investment, direct jobs, and tourism spending
- ▶ **\$15 million** estimated direct and indirect economic impact for scenic rail

- ▶ **4 times** more fuel efficient to move freight by rail than on the highway
- ▶ **470 tons** of freight can be moved by rail on a single gallon of fuel



Plan Development Timeline



Next Steps - Implementation

- ▶ Working group will continue to be engaged to guide plan development, review, and communications
- ▶ Implementation activities to focus on high priority strategies
- ▶ Regular coordination and communication with rail providers and CDOT
- ▶ Provide support to Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission
- ▶ Coordinate freight rail planning activities through the Freight Advisory Council



State Freight and Passenger Rail Plan

Project Manager

Sharon Terranova

sharon.terranova@state.co.us

