

Southwest Chief &
Front Range Passenger Rail
Commission
Overview for
CDOT Transit & Rail Advisory
Committee (TRAC)

Presented by:

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Commission Introduction

(SB 17-153, signed into law May 22, 2017)



Commission Purpose (SB 17-153)



- *Continue Amtrak Southwest Chief Line track rehabilitation, expansion to Pueblo, and consider Walsenburg service*
- *Facilitate the development of Front Range Passenger Rail, including draft legislation due by December 1, 2017*
- *Authority to receive & expend funds*

Commission Members

Member Name	Member Role	Organization
Sara Cassidy	Class 1 Railroad Representative	Union Pacific
Jill Gaebler	Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments	City of Colo Springs
Terry Hart	Pueblo Area Council of Governments	Pueblo County
Becky Karasko	North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization	NFRMPO
Rick Klein	Resident of Huerfano, Las Animas, Otero, or Pueblo Counties	City of La Junta
Sal Pace	Passenger Rail Advocate	Resident of Pueblo
Pete Rickershauser	Class 1 Railroad Representative	BNSF Railway
Phil Rico	South Central Council of Governments	Trinidad Mayor
Jacob Riger	Denver Regional Council of Governments	DRCOG
Jim Souby	Passenger Rail Advocate	Colorail
Bill Van Meter	Regional Transportation District	RTD
Mark Imhoff*	Colorado Department of Transportation	CDOT
Ray Lang*	Amtrak	Amtrak

Initial & Ongoing Activities

Amtrak Southwest Chief Subcommittee

- Continue to seek funding for track repair and upgrades
- Explore service options to Pueblo, Walsenburg, Trinidad

Front Range Passenger Rail Subcommittee

- Determine next steps to “facilitate the future” of front range passenger rail
- Specifically develop draft legislation to “facilitate the development” of a service that is “a well-integrated component of a modern, efficient, and cost-effective multimodal transportation system”

Front Range Passenger Subcommittee

Issues We're Exploring...

- What additional public input and technical analysis is needed to move forward?
- Operating, governance and funding structures?
- Commission staffing and ongoing activities

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THANK YOU!