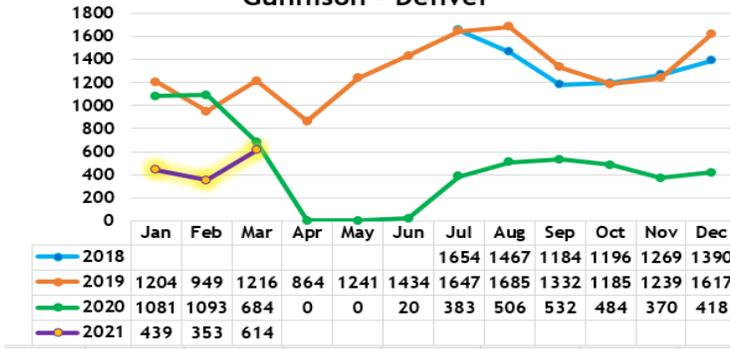
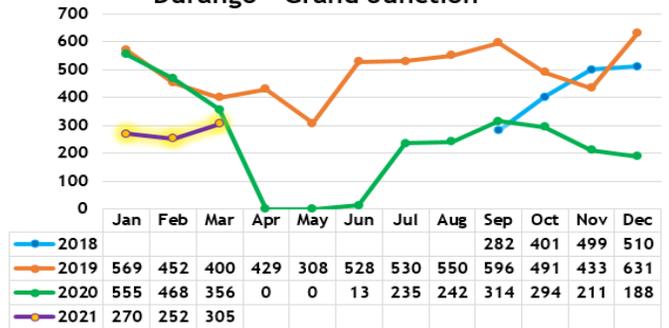




**Gunnison - Denver**



**Durango - Grand Junction**



**Craig - Denver**



**TICKET SALES PLATFORM** - The Masabi ticket platform is now available to the public and began operation in December. Feedback from the Outrider operators and the public has been positive, with no problems reported.

**PHASE III** - Due to COVID-19, The roll-out schedule for the four (4) phase III routes are being staggered to allow for savings on startup costs and a more orderly launch. The plan is as follows:

- Craig - Denver via U.S. 40 - January 1, 2021
- Sterling- Greeley/Denver - Summer 2021
- Trinidad - Pueblo - Summer 2021
- Telluride - Grand Junction - Summer 2021.

Operators are assigned for two of the proposed Phase III Bustang Outrider routes. The Sterling to Greeley/Denver route will run five days a week and operated by the Northeastern Colorado Association of Governments (NECALG). The Trinidad to Pueblo route will be performed five days a week by the South Central Council of Governments (SCCOG). An RFP for the operation of the Telluride to Denver route was issued, and the closing date for proposals was May 7. The Department of Transit and Rail, in association with CDOT's procurement department and our maintenance consultants, are in the process of evaluating the proposals that have been received.

The Craig to Denver route began service on January 1, 2021, and operates seven days a week. For 2021, Greyhound Lines will be performing this route as part of the Outrider system. Greyhound is leasing two State-Owned Van Hool CX35 coaches, and they have entered service on the route. Greyhound has contracted with Ace Express to perform maintenance on the CDOT owned vehicles due to Ace Express's experience and expertise with this coach model. An RFP for service on this route, starting on January 1, 2022 will be issued.

Anticipated starting dates for the other three Phase III routes will be July of 2021 for the Trinidad to Pueblo route, the Telluride to Grand Junction route, and the Sterling to Greeley route. The last two Van Hool CX35 buses are programmed for the Telluride to Grand Junction route. The fleet to be used on both the Trinidad to Pueblo and the Greeley to Sterling are smaller, 14 passenger cutaway-style buses. These buses were ordered via CDOT's price agreement from Davey Coach. Due to issues with a non-safety-related recall on the Ford chassis utilized on these buses, the delivery has been delayed from March until June of 2021.

*PHASE III OUTREACH*-Outreach meetings are currently ongoing. With our consultants, CIG, Outrider's team has met with interested parties and organizations, local governments and conducted telephone transit townhalls. The response has been very positive for all of the proposed routes.

Input from the Sterling to Greeley outreach meetings has indicated a strong desire for service between Sterling and Denver. To accommodate the demand for service to Denver, the Sterling route will serve Greeley on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Denver will be served on Tuesday and Thursday. The route will split at Wiggins with both routes using identical routing between there and Sterling. Service stops in Denver will include Denver Union Station and Peoria Station. Both locations provide connections with RTD's service and the A-line train to DIA. Denver Union Station has additional connections to statewide transit via Bustang and Bustang Outrider, and interstate travel via the legacy intercity bus carriers, like Greyhound Lines, Inc.

Part of the outreach is a series of surveys promoted with a paid advertisement on Facebook. The response has been very successful, with 134,086 people reached and 19,753 post engagements. Overall, the comments have been very supportive, with many helpful suggestions. The second round of surveys is now being produced, and the response has been positive once again. Outreach will continue throughout the summer of 2021 and include follow-up with many local stakeholders.

#### Next Steps

- Continue Phase III Stakeholder meetings
- Evaluate the RFP for the 2021 Telluride to Grand Junction service and select a provider.
- Issue an RFP for the 2022 Craig to Denver service.
- In partnership with SCCOG and NECALG, finalize schedules and service stops for the Trinidad to Pueblo and Sterling to Greeley/Denver routes.
- Secure access agreements with local transit agencies.
- Implement service startup procedures for all routes that will be operating the new Phase III routes in anticipation of full service beginning late summer of 2021.