

# Policy Considerations for Interregional Commuter Bus Service

TRAC Meeting  
May 11, 2012



# General Concepts

- Increase mobility and connectivity between regions
- Increase interregional access to employment
- Provide energy-conserving options to long-distance SOV commuting
- Fill in the gaps between transit systems



# Service/Mobility Concepts

- Service between transit systems
  - Provides connectivity to local services
  - Not intended to replace service within existing RTA/Agency service areas (e.g., Boulder-Denver, Glenwood-Aspen, Fruita-Grand Junction)
- Start small with options for expansion
  - Initially provide am/pm peak-period service
  - Expand based on demand and finances
- Manage by performance
  - Develop criteria to determine eligibility for operating assistance
  - Use performance measures to adjust service over time



# FASTER Funding Concepts

- CDOT owns buses (FASTER capital funds)
- CDOT contracts for service
  - IGAs with public providers
  - Direct contracts with private providers
- FASTER state transit funds used for O&M



# Funding Scenarios

- Allocate \$2M (approximately 22%) of FASTER funds for interregional bus operations
  - At what level does CDOT fund service routes?
    - 20% to 50%? More? Less?
  - Requires revision to TC Resolution and FASTER Guidance
- Match
  - Local/Regional – 20% to 40%
    - In-kind, fare box, other
  - Federal – 20% to 40%
  - Possible match requirements are adjusted
    - Start-up vs. on-going



# Potential Routes

- Colorado Springs – Denver – Fort Collins
  - Possible extensions to Pueblo and/or Greeley
- Grand Junction – Glenwood Springs
  - Possible extension to Dotsero
- Conceptual criteria for other routes:
  - High congestion corridors
  - High ridership corridors
  - Future rail corridors
  - Network connectivity (connections to activity centers, metro areas, other routes, gaps in service, etc)



# Develop Partnerships

- Potential Partners:
  - MPOs and TPRs
  - Local Jurisdictions
  - Local Transit Providers
  - RTAs
  - Others
- Develop IGAs
  - Operations
  - Maintenance
  - Others



# Other Service Issues

- Number of Buses
- Hours of Operation
- Frequency of Service
- Number of Trips
- Number and Location of Stops
- Fare structure
- Bus Maintenance and Storage
- Marketing

