



DATE: February 26th, 2021
TO: Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission
FROM: Spencer Dodge, Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Liaison
SUBJECT: January 22nd - February 25th Staff Report

Key Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Staff Activities

- Finalize and distribute January 22nd draft minutes and February 26th Rail Commission meeting agenda packet
- Public Involvement presentations to: Greeley Transportation Advisory Board, Joint Transportation Committee SMART Act Hearing, American Society of Civil Engineers, State for Passenger Rail Coalition Winter meeting, ColoRail board meeting
- Meeting with state legislators regarding future Rail Commission funding needs
 - Subsequent memo sent to state legislators outlining funding needs
- Interview with Forrest Whitman on “On The Rails” radio show
- Accept ownership of frontrangepassengerrail.com
- Additional edits made to 8-page “leave behind” brochure document
- Finalize HDR contract and outstanding tasks
- Participated in meetings related to formation of a federally designated regional Rail Commission
- Transferred files from Randy Grauberger
- Updated PDQ for Commission Liaison position

Key CDOT/Rail Commission Staff Activities

- Risk Register -Refine comprehensive lists of program risks; prioritize and develop mitigation plans for most critical
- 2019 CRISI Grant Administration- Contracts office is leading the solicitation (Host Final Interviews, assemble contract materials, execute a Notice to Proceed (NTP) by end of March)
 - 3 shortlisted consultant teams interviewed for the Rail Commission’s 2019 CRISI Grant - SW Chief Thru-Car Alternatives Analysis
 - AECOM consultant team selected for the Rail Commission’s 2019 CRISI Grant - SW Chief Thru-Car Alternatives Analysis
- 2020 CRISI Grant - Draft Scope of Work, submitted to FRA for their review/approval
- Revise CDOT/Rail Commission MOU
- Onboard David Singer, CDOT Program Manager
- March Corridor Coalition planning (Invitees/Logistics/Content)
- Coordinate with Burnham Yard team on FRPR corridor technical needs (width and alignment)
- MPO Coordination: Coordinated with all four MPOS (PACOG, PPACG, DRCOG, NFRMPO). Goal is to understand opportunities and timing for including new assumptions in their unconstrained Long Range Plans.
- Finalize Frequently Asked Question (FAQ)s and posting to Rail Commission website and project website

Upcoming meetings/public involvement events

- March - date TBD - FRPR Corridor Coalition Meeting
- March 3rd - Presentation to Aurora Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee
- March 8th - FRA coordination
- March 11th - Coordination meeting with BNSF Railway
- March 26th - Rail Commission Meeting

SW Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Financial Report

As of February 24th, 2021

Income

Senate Bill 1, July 2018	\$2,500,000
Additional FY 2021 Legislative appropriation eligible to be spent in FY 21.	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
	\$2,600,000

Expenses (commitments)

2 years of Salaries/Benefits for Project Dir. and Comm. Liaison (est.)	\$ 500,000
HDR Contract for Alternatives Analysis/ Stakeholder Engagement/ Pre-NEPA	\$1,500,000
Pledged Match for 2018 CRISI grant for PTC	\$ 100,000
WSP contract to write 2019 CRISI App. for Thru-car Study	\$ 24,465
October 2019 "Survey for Front Range Passenger Rail"	\$ 24,500
Pledged Match for Potential 2019 CRISI Grant App. (Thru Car Study)	\$ 159,000
Membership to "States for Passenger Rail Coalition" (2020)	\$ 5,416
Membership to "States for Passenger Rail Coalition" (2021)	\$ 5,000
Pledged Match for 2020 CRISI Grant application (RTC modeling & complete SDP)	\$ 25,000
Proposed funds for licenses for Project website and Project database mgmt. from HDR	\$ <u>651</u> (estimated)
	\$2,344,032
Available	\$255,968

Update on HDR Contract (\$1,500,000) HDR Team work effort has been completed.

Invoiced through October 24, 2020	\$1,408,426.69
Remaining \$91,5733.31 to be invoiced.	

Estimated CDOT staff dollar commitment through January, 2021	\$ 461,474.43
Amount remaining of \$750,000 committed by CDOT	\$ 288,525.57