

# Front Range Passenger Rail: Visioning & Purpose and Need

## Purpose & Need

- Principles
- Passenger Rail Examples
- Workshop potential needs for FRR
- Next Steps



# Purpose and Need

- What is a Purpose and Need?
  - Provides the rationale & justification for undertaking. Generally, it provides a basis for developing and screening alternative transportation solutions.
- What is the difference between Purpose and Need?
  - The **Purpose** is a broad statement of the project's transportation objectives.
  - The **Need** identifies the problem that the project would address. The need provides evidence of an existing or future transportation condition, deficiency.



# Purpose and Need

- Looks at planning level goals for future planning horizons (at least 20 years).
- Data will establish logical termini/study area
- Does not identify (predetermine) the solution
- Should be well defined and help refine the reasonable range of alternatives that will be analyzed to address the *transportation* problem.
- Alternatives that don't fully address P&N will be eliminated
- Goals/Objectives



# Arizona: Tucson- Phoenix Purpose and Need

## PURPOSE

- Providing transportation **alternatives to the automobile** and reduce the growth in traffic congestion
- Increasing access to existing and **planned employment and activity centers**
- Supporting **reliable travel times and safe travel** within an increasingly congested region
- Facilitating continued development of a **comprehensive transportation network** for existing and future needs

## NEEDS

- Need for Improved **Connectivity within the Region and Beyond**
- Intercity Travel Need
- Commuter Travel Need

# Richmond/ Raleigh (Charlotte/DC): Purpose and Need

## PURPOSE

- **Divert trips** from airports and highways
- Provide a more balanced use of transportation infrastructure
- Increase the **safety** and effectiveness of the transportation system
- Serve long-distance business and leisure travelers between Virginia and North Carolina, as well as those accessing Raleigh, NC Washington, DC, to New York, NY, and Boston, MA, and allow patrons to reach destinations to the south.

## NEEDS

- Population growth in Virginia and North Carolina
- **Congestion** of both roadways and airports
- **Lack of a passenger rail option** with travel times that are competitive with air and highway travel
- Connectivity needs
- **Air quality** concerns
- Perceived gap in safety between passenger rail and other modes of travel
- Need for increased energy efficiency for passenger travel options.

# Fastracks Program Purpose and Need

## PURPOSE

- Provide high quality, high capacity fixed guideway transit in Denver Metropolitan region
- Provide corridor improvements that are consistent with and identified in previous planning efforts and the associated referendum vote.
- Provide a safe and reliable alternative to the use of private automobile.

## NEEDS

- Region Connectivity
- Meet transportation demands of **growing population and employment**
- **Reliable alternative modes** of travel in the context of roadway congestion
- Reduce travel times
- Improve options for underserved populations
- Complete the FASTRACKS **fixed guideway** system



## (Potential) Benefits/ Needs

- **Provide reliable travel times** - Provide a travel option, which has a predictable and consistent travel time
- **Economic Development** - Increase connectivity between economic hubs to support job growth.
- **Expand travel choices**- Create new, competitive travel choices between the Front Range communities
- **Connect existing transportation services** - Provide a direct connection to transit services, airports, bus, and light rail/commuter and other rail.
- **Increase Safety** for entire transportation system
- **Improve Air Quality**



# Survey Results

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# Workshop

- Partner in groups of two
- Spend a couple minutes on each stated Need. Please expand on:
  - Opportunities
  - Definitions
  - Threats
  - Performance Measures and criteria.
- How should the project consider and integrate these themes throughout the study?
- Report out



# Purpose and Need

- Validate with data
- Engage public on potential needs
- Involve federal agencies (ensure their regulations are met)
- May evolve if new information or assumptions arise



## (Potential) Project Goals & Desired Outcomes

- Implementation (phasing) plan
- Funding strategies
- Governance (district/authority)
- Timing
- Decision-making process

All these desired outcomes support public engagement & alternatives development