



May 6, 2019

Ray Lang and Rob Eaton
National Railroad Passenger Corporation
Union Station
500 West Jackson Blvd., 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60661

Gentlemen,

Amtrak in late February issued a News Release announcing it is providing \$3 million matching funds for the \$16 million grant successfully sought by the states of New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas.

In that announcement, it stated "Amtrak is also working on a long-term financial plan with our state and local partners to address the unique challenges of this route, particularly where Amtrak is the only user of these BNSF tracks in Colorado and New Mexico". The SW Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission (Commission) looks forward to being an active participant in the development of this plan with Amtrak and our neighboring states. And, if appropriate, the Commission would gladly host a meeting of the three states, Amtrak and BNSF Railway to begin work on this critical plan.

If this is consistent with the intentions noted by Amtrak in its news release, please contact Randy Grauberger, the Commission's Project Director, to initiate the planning for such a meeting.

Sincerely,

Jill Gaebler, Chair

Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission

cc: Bill Craven, NMDOT
John Maddox, KDOT