

Project Director's Report

by Randy Grauberger

For May 23 – June 25, 2020

Key SW Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Staff Activities

- Finalize and distribute May 22 Rail Commission meeting draft minutes and June 26th agenda packet.
- Coordinated with Governor's staff in getting appointments / re-appointments for Jim Souby, Rick Klein and BNSF's DJ Mitchell.
- Finalized Rail Commission's 2020 CRISI Grant Application for Preliminary Service Development Plan and Rail Simulation Modeling. Submitted application on June 19th with \$137,000 in match commitments from Pueblo County (\$100K) Rail Commission (\$25K), City of Trinidad \$10K) and ColoRail (\$2K). Total project (local match and CRISI Grant) would be \$685,000. Expect announcement of awards prior to 2020 November elections.
- Worked with HDR Project team, and CDOT project team in developing Draft MOU between CDOT and Rail Commission for CDOT commitment of staff resources and future funding cooperation.
- Submitted letter of Support for CDOT CRISI Grant Application for Burnham Yard ROW acquisition.
- Participated in a meeting with Pueblo Station Area Plan Project team to coordinate that effort with Front Range Passenger Rail Project
- Meetings with Longmont, Loveland, Berthoud, Ft. Collins and Boulder regarding community specific issues related to future Front Range Passenger Rail.
- Made PowerPoint presentation to National Rail Passenger Assoc. Webinar (June 24) and South Denver TMA (June 10th).
- Provided update briefing to ColoRail Board (June 18th) regarding Rail Commission activities.
- Held 2nd meeting with BNSF and UP to discuss rights of way, operating speeds, share/joint use corridors.
- Continued communications with FRA on 2019 CRISI grant. Received word from FRA that they will provide comments to the Draft Statement of Work for the Thru-car Feasibility study to rail Commission staff by June 30.
- Attended project team meetings with Consultant and CDOT project team members for Communications Committee, Policy Committee, and Project Development Committee.

Upcoming meetings /presentations:

- July Rail Commission meeting – July 24
- August Rail Commission meeting – August 28

SW Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission Financial Report

As of June 24, 2020

Income

Senate Bill 1, July 2018 **\$2,500,000**

Expenses (commitments)

HDR Contract for Alternatives Development / Pre-NEPA Planning \$1,500,000

2 years of Salaries/Benefits for Project Dir. and Comm. Liaison (est.) \$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

January 2020 2020 Membership to "States for Pass. Rail Coalition" \$5,416

Pledged Match for 2019 CRISI Grant App. (Thru Car Study) \$159,000

Pledged Match for potential 2020 CRISI grant (SDP and RTC Modeling) \$25,000

Total Obligated \$2,338,381

Remaining Available \$161,619

Update on HDR Contract (\$1,500,000)

Invoiced through April 25, 2020 \$861,825 or 57.4 %

At the projected "burn" rate, it is estimated that the HDR contract funds will be fully spent at or around the end of September. Conversations continue in regard to getting additional funding for Commission activities and Front Range Rail project funding and also slowing down the Consultant Team's burn rate to more essential activities and having CDOT staff backfill where possible and appropriate.