

FRONT RANGE RAIL PRE-NEPA PLANNING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Front Range Passenger Rail project is following an integrated planning process that will directly link with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for a federal approval by the US Department of Transportation (USDOT). Federal Railroad Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Highway Administration will oversee the activities in the flowchart below: defining the project, stakeholder coordination, and identification of environmental issues. This upfront involvement will ensure a more efficient NEPA process.

The USDOT agencies will also work with other federal, state, and local agencies to streamline permitting and project approvals once NEPA is initiated. This is consistent with Executive Order 13807, issued in 2017 to reduce the average time to complete required environmental reviews and authorization decisions for major infrastructure projects.

