



Colorado Transportation Investment Office Memorandum

To: CTIO Board of Directors

From: Piper Darlington, CTIO Director and Maux Sullivan, Assistant Director, Passenger Rail, Division of Transit and Rail

Date: April 15, 2026

Subject: Winter Park Express Partnership

Purpose:

To provide an update to the CTIO Board on the outcome of the Winter Park Express Partnership for the 2025/26 season.

Requested Action:

No action is requested.

Background:

Amtrak provides Winter Park Express service (the Ski Train) to Winter Park under an agreement with Winter Park Resorts. For 2025-2026 ski season, CTIO continued into its second year of an agreement with the Winter Park Resort to expand the service to:

- Add more capacity for each train
- Add more days per week
- Increase ridership by decreasing fares
- Implement an earlier start to service in December

With the passage of SB24-184, the expansion of the Winter Park Express was identified as a key short-term opportunity for the investment of new Congestion Impact Fee revenue. In 2025, the CTIO Board approved a continued budget of up to \$2.3 million (the same as 2024) in cost sharing to continue the expanded service. The attached presentation will cover the outcome of the continued partnership.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Winter Park Express Presentation