



COLORADO
Transportation
Investment Office

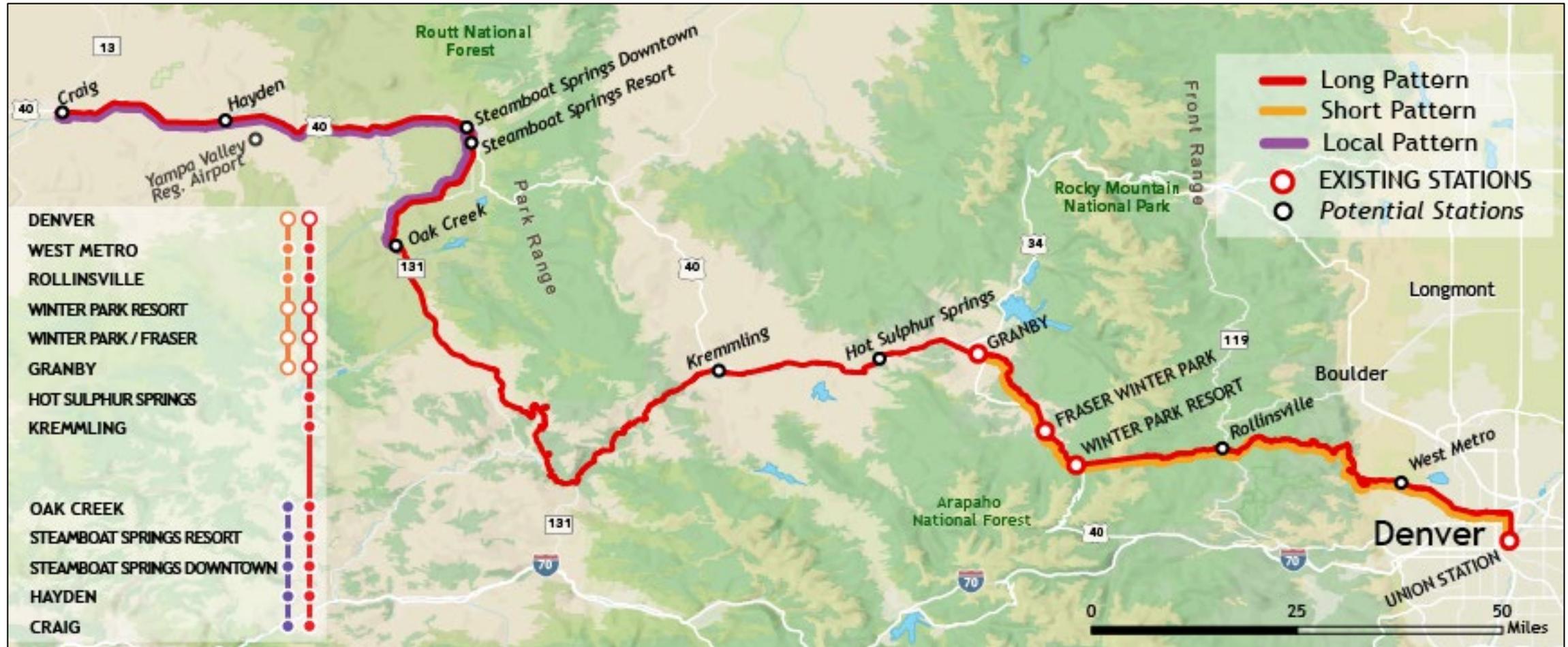
Mountain Rail Update

March 18, 2026

Meeting Agenda

- Project Overview
- Update on Critical Path Items for Phase 1
 - Operator Service Contract
 - Granby Layover Facility
 - Initiation of West Metro Station Study
- Future Topics for Board Engagement

Mountain Rail Route and Phasing



Phase 1: Short Pattern

Phase 1A-First Trip

- One daily round trip between Denver and Granby (originating in Denver)
- Service Target of November 2026
- Service is approximately 76 rail miles
- Utilizes existing stations: Denver Union Station, Winter Park Resort, Fraser-Winter Park, and Granby.

Phase 1B-Second Trip

- Adds second daily round trip between Denver and Granby (originating in Granby)
- May add two new stops: West Metro and Rollinsville along the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Moffat Tunnel Subdivision
- Provides access to Denver Union Station via a new connection to the RTD G Line, located just west of RTD Clear Creek/Federal Station

Mountain Rail service is in addition to the existing Winter Park Express and California Zephyr services.

Operator Service Contract

To secure an operator who can meet the the target service launch schedule, staff has focused on advancing and negotiating an operations service contract for Phase 1A service. Key steps taken include:

- Execution of a Mobilization Agreement in March, which provides operator with authorization and funding to begin the long-lead-time process of hiring and training crew members specifically for Mountain Rail. Estimated cost of \$3.0 M for the first year.
- Advancement of a term sheet for a draft contract with the operator.
- Drafting of an full services contract underway



Granby Layover Facility

- Phase 1A will provide one daily roundtrip from Denver to Granby: Denver-Granby in the morning, and Granby-Denver in the afternoon
- Trains and crew will layover in Granby during the day
- A layover facility is required at all terminus station locations (end of line)
- Layover facility will include:
 - Siding track to store the train
 - Facility for Amtrak crews



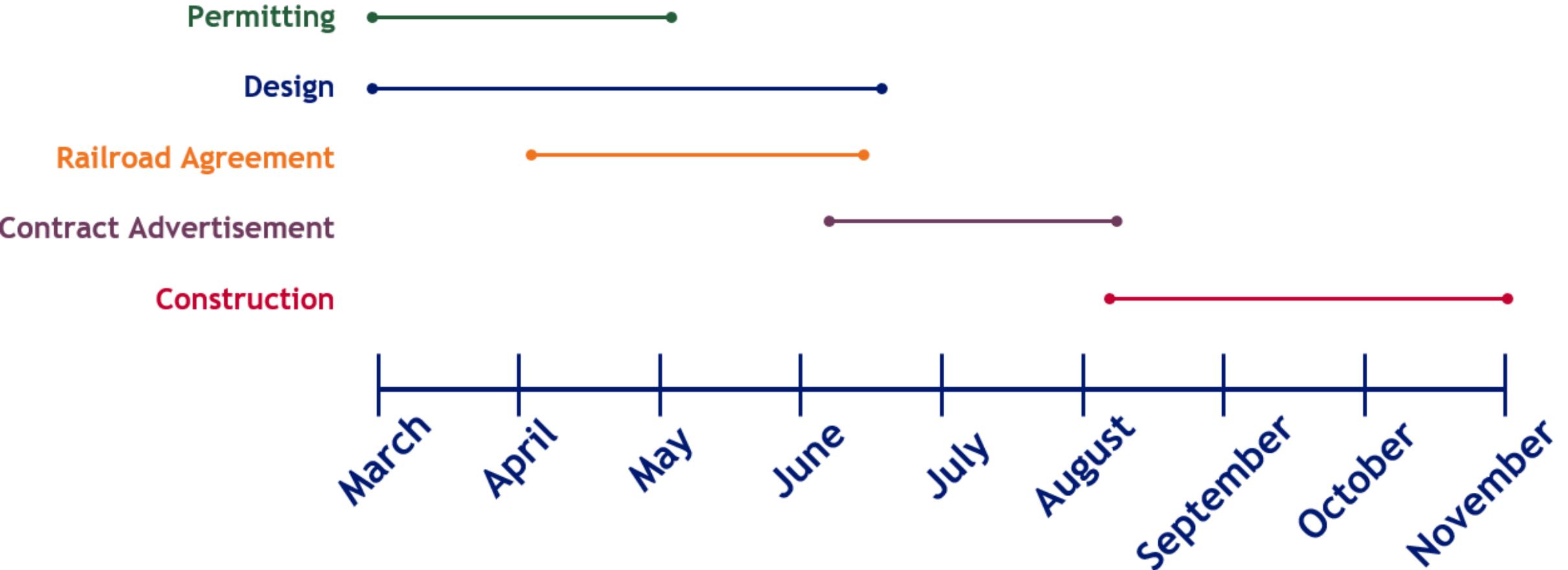
Granby Layover Facility



Site Visit with project team and UPRR



Granby Layover Facility- Project Timeline



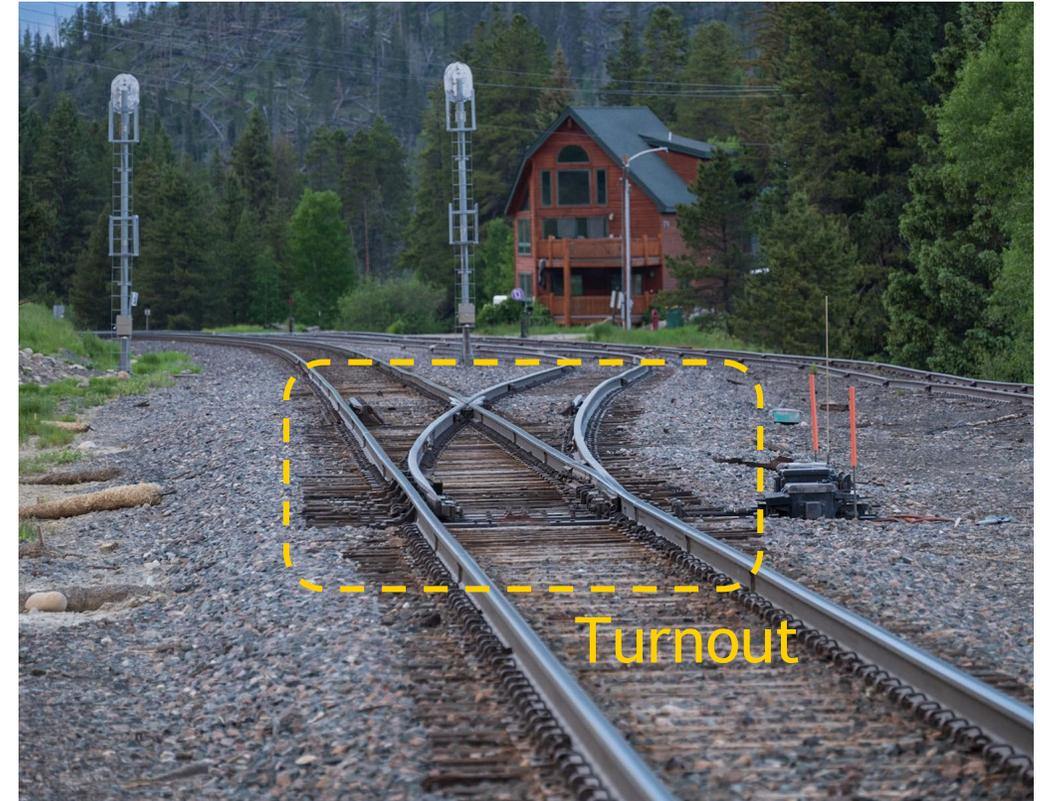
Granby Layover Facility-Cost Estimate

- Current estimates based on 25% Design
- Cost certainty will increase after 30% design review by UPRR, expected by April

Project Element	Cost
Early Procurement Items (Turnouts, derails)	\$ 500,000
Construction	\$ 7,000,000
Crew Building	\$ 500,000
Mobilization, Construction Management	\$ 2,200,000
Contingency & Escalation *	\$ 1,100,000
TOTAL	\$ 11,300,000

Long Lead Time - Early Procurement Items

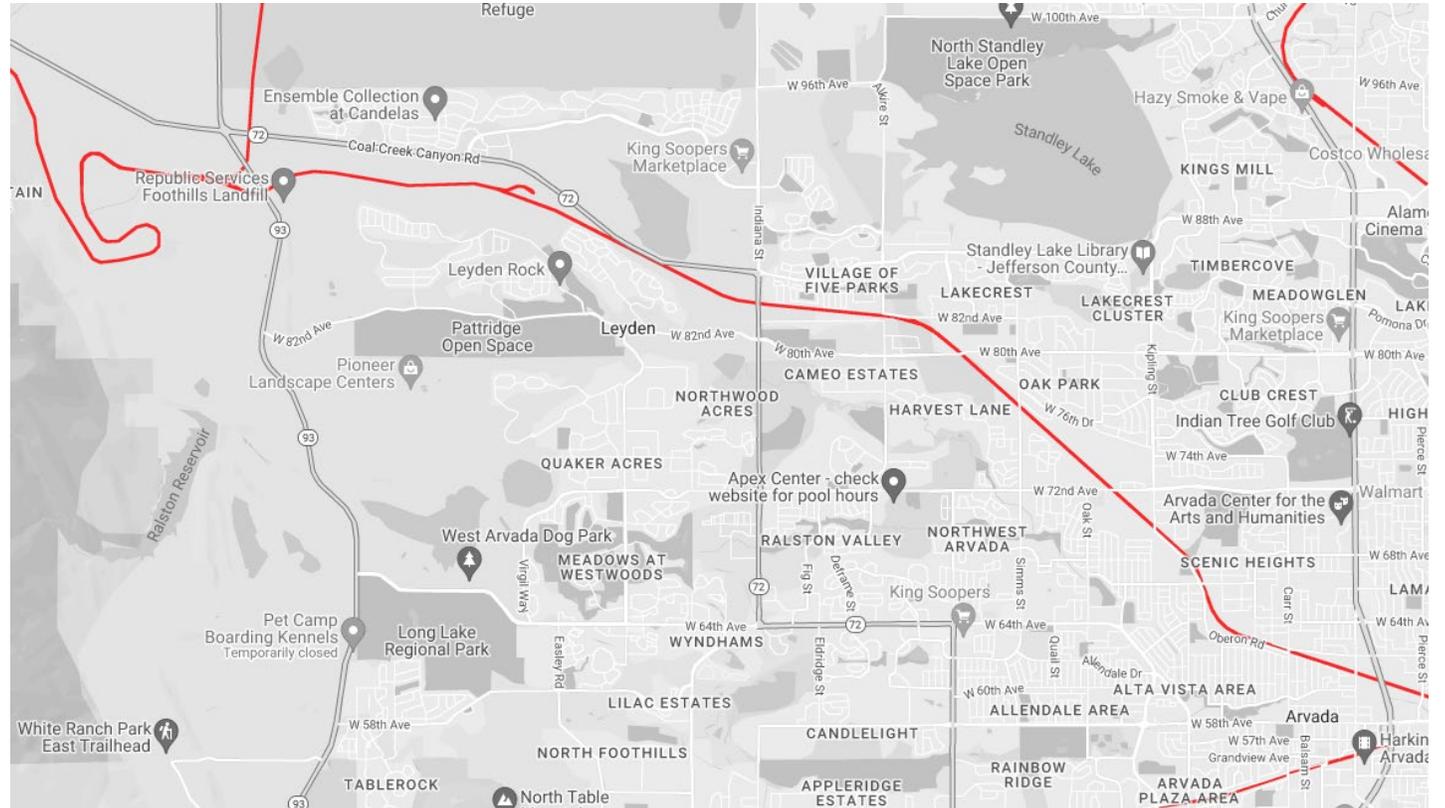
- Turnouts and derails
 - Vital track components that access the new track and are safety features
- Complex items not kept in stock by contractors and providers
 - Approximate lead time of 200-250 days
- Quotes received from UPRR approved suppliers
- Need for these specific items is certain.
 - Designs under milestone review with UPRR to develop cost estimate for full project.



ASK: Proceed with early procurement of turnouts and derails with approximate price of \$500,000

West Metro Station Study

- West Metro, near Arvada, is a crucial location for a passenger rail station
- CDOT, in partnership with adjacent local govts, will evaluate up to five (5) potential station areas and sites in the area
- Anticipated to take eight (8) months to complete, with the goal of selecting of a single site.



West Metro Station Study

- Stakeholder meetings across the West Metro area:
 - Elected officials
 - Business / economic development groups
 - Neighborhood groups / residents
- Public meetings open houses (timeline tentative):
 - Community meeting #1 - April 30, 2026 at Arvada High School
 - Community Meeting #2 - June
 - Community Meeting #3 - August
- Online survey / feedback tools
 - Surveys distributed to residents, businesses, other stakeholders to gain feedback and input on station considerations, including connections, compatibility, impacts, etc.



Local Stakeholder
Engagement
Process

Future Topics for Board Engagement

- Funding Approval for Early Action Items
 - Granby Layover Facility. Approval to initiate the full construction project will be necessary to ensure the facility is commissioned and operational for service launch.
 - Initial Operator Mobilization.
- Mountain Rail Naming and Branding
- Service Development Plan Update
- Winter Park Express 2025-2026 season recap
- Updates on Union Pacific and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Workstreams
- Overview of Operations Contract
- Outcome of the West Metro Station Study