



Intercity and Regional Bus Network Study

I-70 Transit Advisory Group (TAG)

Meeting #1

February 6, 2013





Colorado Statewide Intercity and Regional Bus Network Study

What is the CDOT Intercity and Regional Network Study

Building upon the 2008 Colorado Statewide Intercity and Regional Bus Study, this study will further CDOT's commitment to a statewide multimodal transportation system by evaluating the opportunities for developing, funding and operating transit service in congested, high-volume corridors.





Key Elements of the CDOT Intercity and Regional Bus Study

- Link population and employment centers
 - Front Range (I-25)
 - Mountain Corridor (I-70)
- Serve intercity/regional transit service during peak periods
- Explore opportunities for CDOT owned vehicles contracted to a private operator



CDOT's Authority and Approach

- CDOT has vested authority under SB 09-094, in cooperation with other providers, to plan, develop, operate and integrate transit and rail service in the State of Colorado
- As part of CDOT'S mission to provide a multimodal transportation system, the Division of Transit & Rail (DTR) is promoting the concept of developing and funding transit service
- Focused on the high-volume corridors of I-25 and I-70 in Colorado
- Use of FASTER Statewide Transit Funds for O&M
- Other potential funding vehicles include: SB-1 Transit Funds and potential CMAQ funds for capital expenses and the purchasing of buses





Finance Options

- \$2.5 million/year Operations*
- Vehicle fleet (14): \$7.5 million
 - \$2.1 M – SB 1 Transit
 - \$0.5 M – FREX escrow account
 - Possible Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement funds
 - Explore MAP-21 possibilities
 - Remainder – FASTER Statewide Transit Funds
 - * Commission has agreed on the direction of the study but has yet to quantify spending limits.





Recent and Ongoing CDOT DTR Studies

- Statewide Transportation Plan
- Statewide Rail Plan
- Statewide Transit Plan
- Interconnectivity Study
- Advanced Guideway System (AGS) Feasibility Study





Statewide Planning Picture – 2013/2014

**Colorado Intercity and Regional Bus
Network Study**



**Colorado State Transit Plan –
Statewide and Regional documents**



**CO Statewide Transportation Plan –
Statewide and Regional documents**





Project Team

- CDOT DTR Project Manager
 - John Valerio
- TransitPlus – Project Manager
 - Suzanne O’Neill
- KFH – Intercity Bus
 - Fred Fravel
- FHU – Public Outreach, Performance Measures
 - Holly Buck
- Jacobs Engineering – I-70 Corridor Analysis
 - Tom Underwood





Study Advisory Committees

- Transit and Rail Advisory Committee
- Regional Transit Subcommittee
- Statewide Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)
- I-70 Transit Advisory Group (TAG)

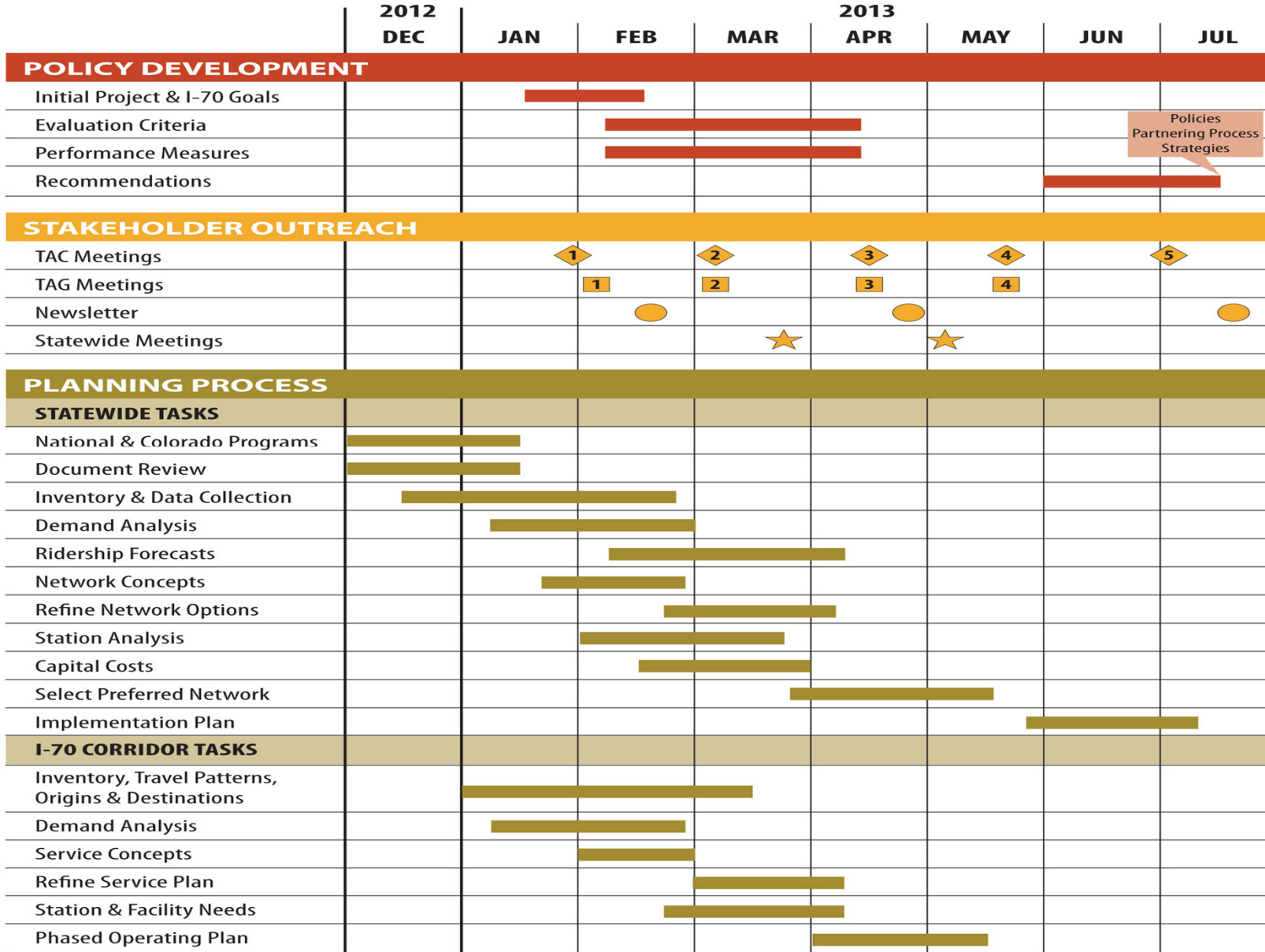




Roles and Responsibilities of the TAG

- Gain a general understanding of existing bus services in the I-70 corridor
- Assist in identifying gaps in service
- Assist in the development of viable alternatives in response to the identified gaps
- Participate in the evaluation of alternatives
- Recommend a reasonable set of actions associated with the preferred alternative







TAG Meetings

There will be a total of **four** TAG meetings.

- **Meeting 1 (today):** Kick-off. Discuss service considerations, goals and existing conditions
- **Meeting 2:** Demand, response to issues and service alternatives
- **Meeting 3:** Evaluate alternatives
- **Meeting 4:** Prioritization next steps and discuss implementation.



Figure 2: CDOT Conceptual Regional-Commuter Bus Service on I-70 Corridor



The information contained in this map is based on the most currently available data and has been checked for accuracy. CDOT does not guarantee the accuracy of any information presented, is not liable in any respect for any errors or omissions, and is not responsible for determining "fitness for use".



- CDOT Station
- Existing Regional Bus Service
- New Service
- CDOT Regional-Commuter Bus

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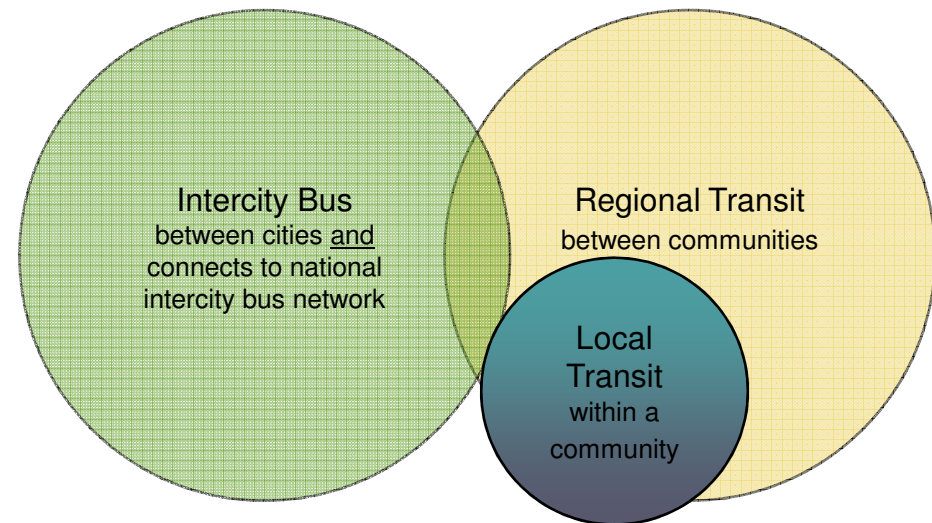




Definitions

Intercity Bus Service

- Regularly scheduled bus service
 - *Generally operates with only a few trips each day, but operates every day*
- Connects two or more urban areas
- Makes meaningful connections with national intercity bus network
- Transport passengers' baggage



Amtrak Thruway Bus Service is unique, connecting train service to another Amtrak route or urban area. It is express and scheduled around the train arrival.





Definitions

Regional Bus Service

- Crosses jurisdictions
- May connect to an urban area or operate in a rural area
- Often scheduled to serve a specific market
- 20-60 miles long
- May operate 1-2 trips a day or have a robust schedule

Colorado Regional Services

- Publicly funded
 - RTD regional routes
 - Steamboat Springs Transit
 - RFTA / ECO Transit
 - Gunnison Valley RTA, etc.
 - Road Runner - SUCAP
- Private For-profit
 - Colorado Mountain Express
 - Fresh Tracks
 - Super Shuttle
 - Alpine Taxi / Home James
 - Ramblin Express, etc.
- Other
 - Disabled American Veterans
 - NECALG, etc.





Intercity and Regional Service Considerations

Managerial
Operational
Logistical
Financial

Legal
Policy
Technical





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Managerial Considerations

- How will facilities be coordinated?
- Should we identify opportunities for implementing services in phases?
- Oversight of the service must be clearly agreed upon and understood.





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Operational Considerations

- How will the service handle transfers and fares?
- Should we focus on a “Denver to Vail” service first?
- Is the service focused on commuter, human services, and/or recreational?





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Logistical Considerations

- What type of markets are to be served?
- What type of rider is envisioned?





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Financial Considerations

- Where will the funding come from and will that reduce funding for existing services?
- How much time and funding must be spent before success is determined.





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Legal Considerations

- What will governance of the system look like?
- What is the role of local agencies/providers?



Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Policy Considerations

- What are the roles and responsibilities of CDOT and the existing providers?
- Is the service meant to reduce congestion?





Issues Discussed in TAC Meeting #1

Technical Considerations

- Will CDOT consider CNG fueled buses?
- What would be some of the characteristics of the CDOT buses?





Project Team Contacts

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