



COLORADO
Department of Transportation

CCI Update

June 2021



SB 21-238: Rail District Creation

- Powers: Finance, Design, Construct, Operate, Maintain Passenger Rail
- District Boundaries & Representation
- Check and Balances

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Segment Coalitions

Four rounds of meetings (North, Central and South) Nov. 2019 – November 2020

Approximately 90 attendees total each round

Input from staff and experts at a local level, gathering “on the ground” technical input

Corridor Coalition

December 2019; March 2021

Combined input from all segments; discuss Corridor level issues

Public Involvement

Over 115 presentations and discussion with various stakeholders throughout the Front Range

Including City Councils, County Commissions, Advocacy groups, MPOs, COGs, airports and many others

Agency Involvement

Monthly meetings with FRA, RTD, BNSF, and Amtrak

Numerous quarterly joint meetings with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Numerous other agency Briefings (Corps of Engineers, Division of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, etc.)

Local and State agencies (DOLA, MPOs/COGs, BOCCs, Airports, City Councils, etc.)

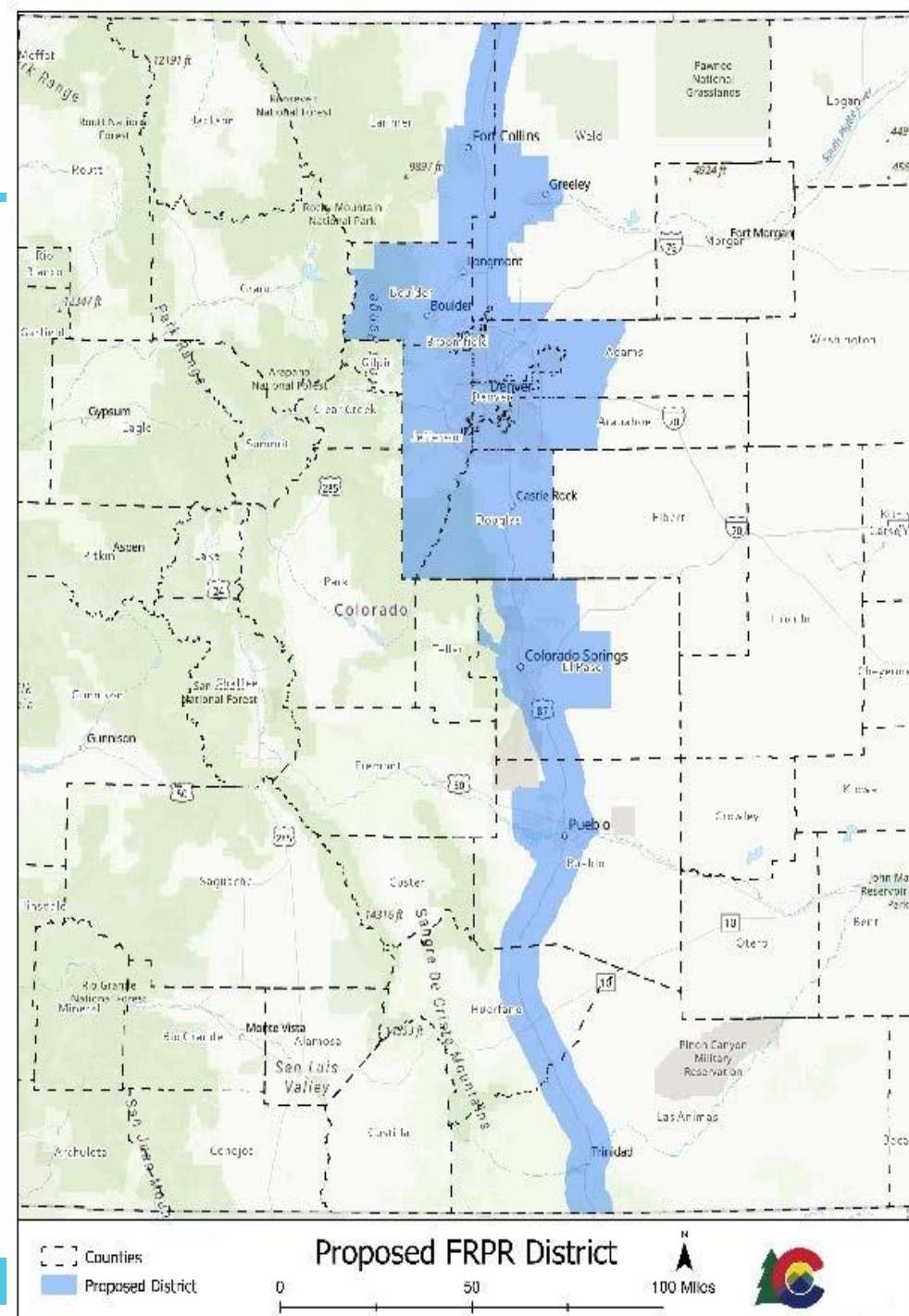
USAFA and Fort Carson

SB 21-238: Powers

- Subject to the approval of the voters of the district and other specified limitations, **to levy a sales and use tax** and to exercise specified taxing authority common to special districts within the district and to issue bonds;
- Subject to the approval of the owners of property within a 2-mile radius of any existing or proposed passenger rail station, to **create a station area improvement district** with the authority to levy additional sales and use tax, special assessments on real property, or both, to cover the costs of construction, operation, and maintenance of the station;
- To **enter into public-private partnerships**; and
- To employ its own personnel or contract with public or private entities, or both, for the operation and maintenance of the system.

SB 21-238: Boundaries

- All of the city and county of Broomfield and the city and county of Denver;
- All areas within Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Douglas, El Paso, Huerfano, Jefferson, Larimer, Las Animas, Pueblo, and Weld counties that are located within the territory of a metropolitan planning organization (MPO);
- All areas within Huerfano, Las Animas, and Pueblo counties that are not located within the territory of a MPO and are located within a county precinct that is located wholly or partly within 5 miles of the public right-of-way of interstate highway 25; and
- All areas within Larimer and Weld counties that are not located within the territory of a MPO and are located within a county precinct that is north of the city of Fort Collins and is located wholly or partly within 5 miles of the public right-of-way of interstate highway 25



SB 21-238: Board Composition

- 6 Governor's Appointees (Senate Confirmed)
 - Collectively must have professional experience or expertise in transportation or public finance, supporting a statewide employee organization, passenger rail system development or operations, and environmental conservation
 - At least one Governor Appointee must be a resident of a county, city and county, or municipality through which light or commuter rail service was planned as part of the FasTracks Expansion Program of RTD that has yet to be constructed
- 10 MPO/COG Representatives (Senate Confirmed)
 - 4 - MPOs representing more than 1.5m residents (DRCOG)
 - If a single City and County or municipality has 55% or more of the total population of the MPO's territory, that City and County or municipality shall appoint one of the four directors that would otherwise be appointed by the MPO
 - 4 - MPOs representing more than 500,000 residents (PPACG, NFRMPO)
 - If a single City and County or municipality has 55% or more of the total population of the MPO's territory, that City and County or municipality shall appoint one of the four directors that would otherwise be appointed by the MPO
 - 1 – PACOG
 - 1 - South Central COG
- 1 Director Appointed by CDOT Executive Director

SB 21-238: Additional Non-Voting Board Members

- Non-Voting Members
- BNSF Railway
- Union Pacific
- Amtrak
- RTD
- I-70 Mountain Corridor Coalition
- Wyoming
- New Mexico

SB 21-238: Check and Balances

- Before submitting a question to establish any district tax to the registered electors of the district, the district shall:
 - Publish a proposed Service Development Plan, an Operating Plan, and a detailed Financing Plan.
 - This Service Development Plan must identify the route and phasing of the passenger rail system to be funded by the tax.
 - The Financing Plan must identify committed and potential financial partners, including but not limited to RTD, the federal government, Amtrak, and private partners
 - Approve the submission of the question by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all voting directors on the board

SB 21-238: Check and Balances

- The District shall publish and present a comprehensive annual report of its activities for the prior district fiscal year to a joint meeting of the Transportation and Local Government Committee of the House of Representatives and the Transportation and Energy Committee of the Senate
- The District shall also present the report to each MPO and RTPO who appoint Board members
- If a tax is approved by voters, the State Auditor shall conduct a comprehensive financial audit of the District once every two years

Ways to Learn More



-Project Website

<https://www.frontrangepassengerrail.com/>

-FAQs

-Follow up meeting with your organization

Please contact:

Spencer Dodge, Rail Commission Liaison
spencer.dodge@state.co.us

David Singer, Passenger Rail Program Manager
david.singer@state.co.us