

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 13, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Administrator Amit Bose
U.S. Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Administrator Bose,

As you begin implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58), we ask you give full and fair consideration to the Front Range Passenger Rail project in Colorado to be included in the Corridor Identification and Development Plan (22308 of the IJA).


The Front Range Passenger Rail would stretch more than 160 miles and connect 13 of the most populous counties across the state, acting as a transportation "spine" along the Front Range of Colorado. The population among the Front Range is expected to grow by 35%, increasing the pressure on Colorado's transportation system. This project will help ease the burden on our roads, improve safety of commuters, and create jobs across the state.

Colorado recently passed SB21-238, which established the Front Range Rail District, an independent entity tasked with planning and developing a passenger rail system through the region. Additionally, Colorado has already invested \$8 million in studies to determine the viability of possible routes for this rail line.

Amtrak recently included the project on its Connects US Future Service map – a list of possible rail network expansion projects – signaling a clear need for this effort. The Front Range Passenger Rail project will also help the Biden Administration get closer to its climate goals by using energy efficient rail networks to cut fuel use and lower carbon emissions in the transportation sector.

The Front Range Passenger Rail effort has been in the works since 2017, and Colorado stands ready to implement this important project. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the Front Range Passenger Rail project as part of the Corridor Identification Development Plan. Please contact our offices if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress