



RAIL

MOVING AMERICA FORWARD

FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Grant NOFO Webinar

Presented by:

Peter Schwartz • Wynne Davis • Jenny Zeng • Deborah Kobrin



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

February 16, 2023

Presenters



Wynne Davis

Senior Advisor for Regional
Outreach



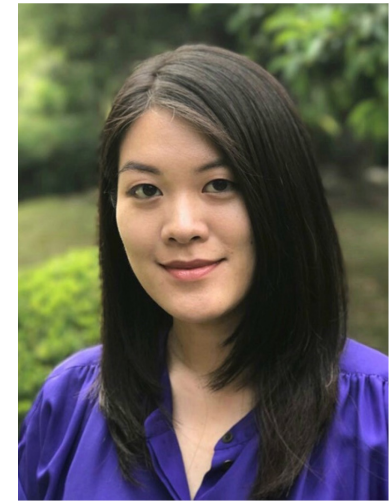
Peter Schwartz

Acting Director,
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Deborah Kobrin

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Policy and Performance
Division*



Jenny Zeng

Transportation Industry
Analyst, *Rail Program
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Agenda

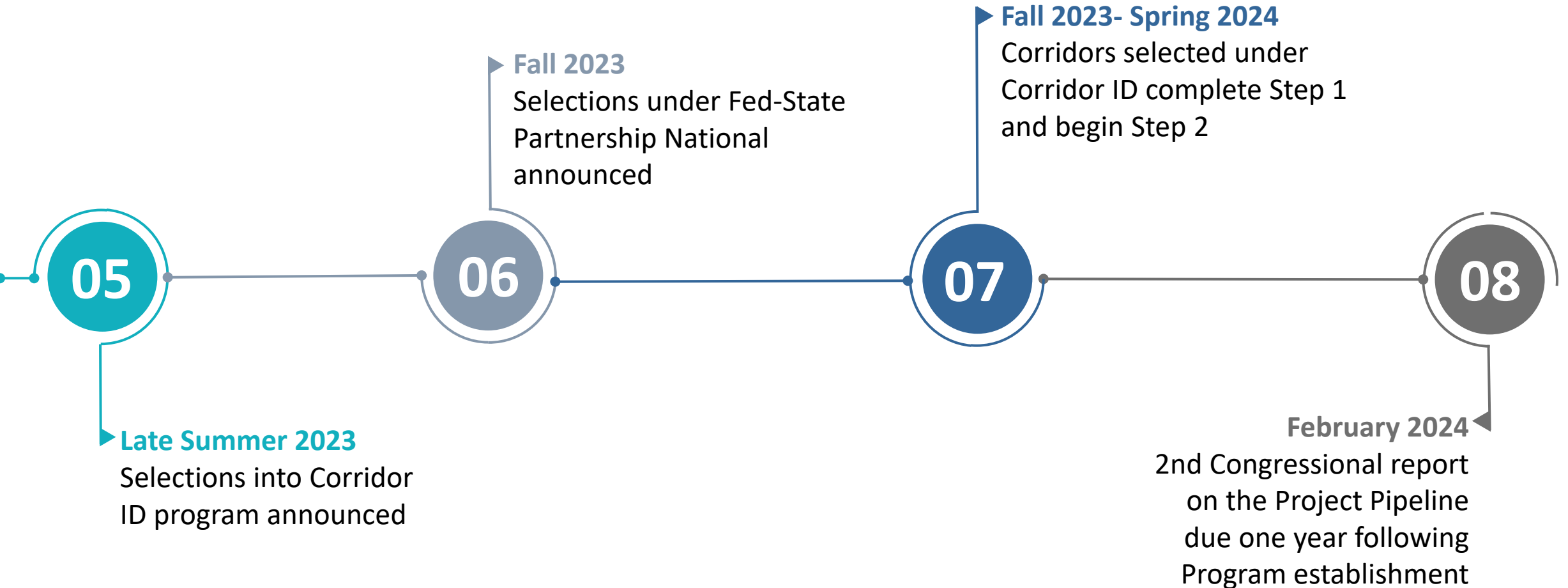
- 1 **Corridor Identification and Development (CID) Program Overview**
- 2 **How to Apply**
- 3 **Best Practices**
- 4 **Question & Answers**

FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Program Overview

Corridor ID Timeline

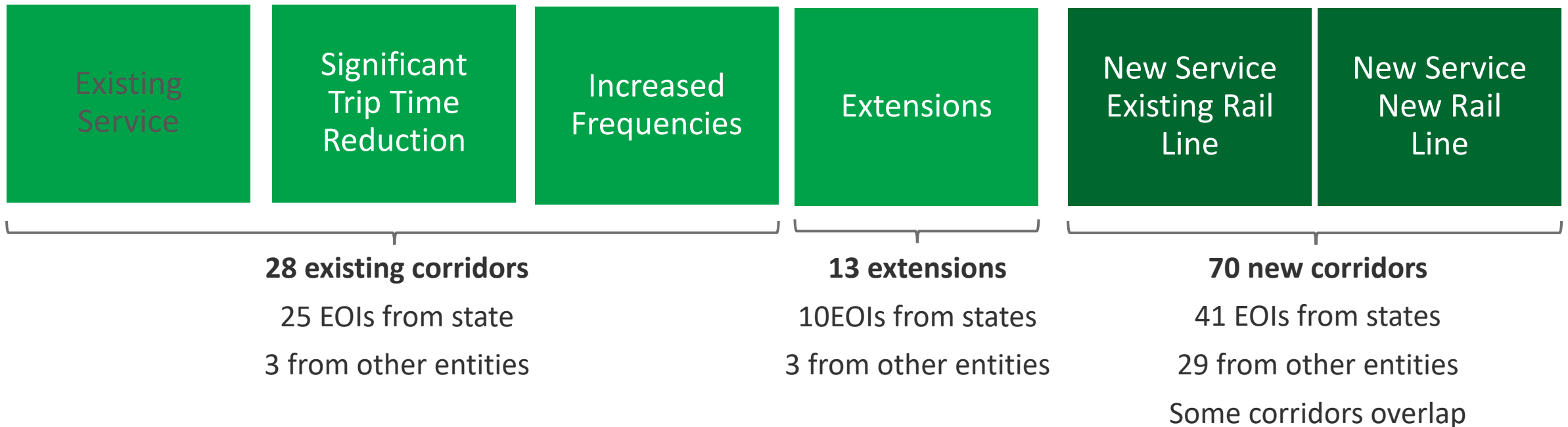


Corridor ID Timeline



Expressions of Interest by Types of Corridors

On May 13 FRA published a notice for expressions of interest in the Federal Register, 100 corridors different represented



Expressions of Interest

28 existing corridors

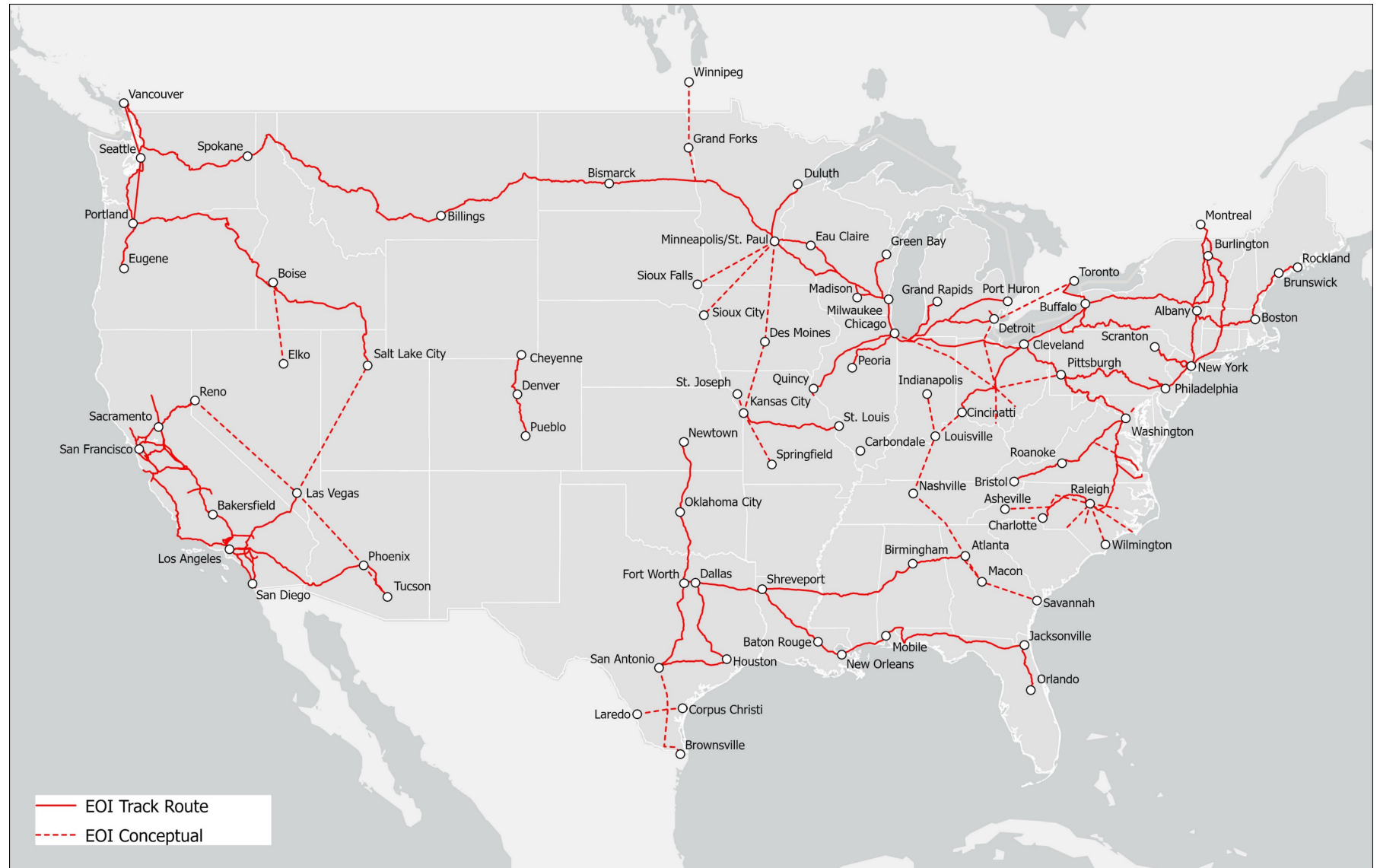
25 EOIs from state
3 from other entities

13 extensions

10 EOIs from states
3 from other entities

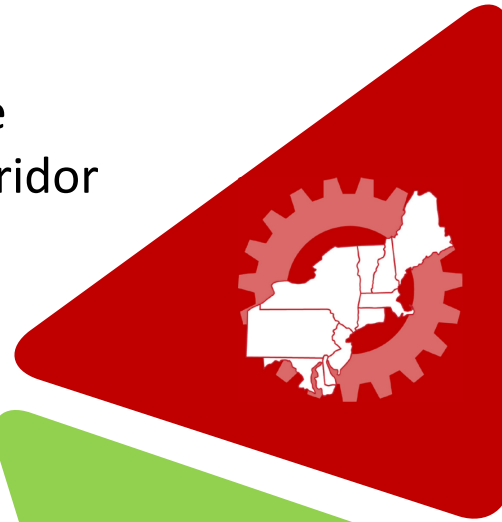
70 new corridors

41 EOIs from states
29 from other entities



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Rail Development Goals

Modernize the Northeast Corridor



Bring world-class passenger rail service to regions across the country



Grow a safer, cleaner, more equitable rail system



Renew Amtrak's fleet & facilities and deliver high-quality intercity passenger rail service



Build the foundation for a long-term rail program



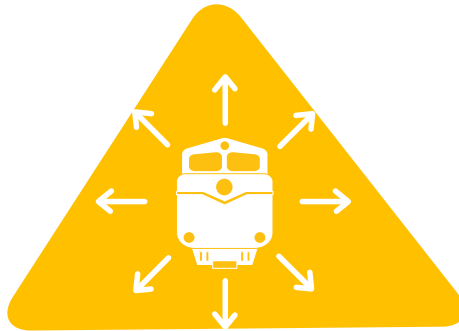
Corridor ID Program Overview

Build the foundation for a long-term rail program



Corridor ID creates a foundational framework for identifying and developing new or improved intercity passenger rail (IPR) services. Under the program, FRA will:

Bring world-class passenger rail service to regions across the country



Grow a safer, cleaner, more equitable rail system



Solicit proposal for implementing new or improving existing IPR services

Select corridors for development

Partner with corridor sponsor to prepare (or update) a Service Development Plan (SDP)

SDP includes a "corridor project inventory"

Corridor project inventories populate a prioritized "pipeline" of projects

Projects in the Corridor ID Pipeline are eligible for funding under FRA's financial assistance programs

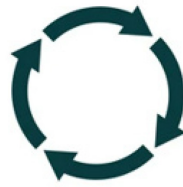
Establishing the Program – Significant Policy Positions



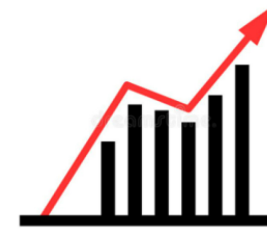
Corridor ID will be **the primary mechanism for developing off-Northeast Corridor intercity passenger rail corridors and projects** for subsequent implementation



Corridor ID is a home **for all types of Intercity Passenger Rail corridors**—new, significant improvements, and modest improvements to existing service are all welcome



Corridor ID will **regularly solicit proposals for additional corridors** to enter the program—this is not a one-time opportunity

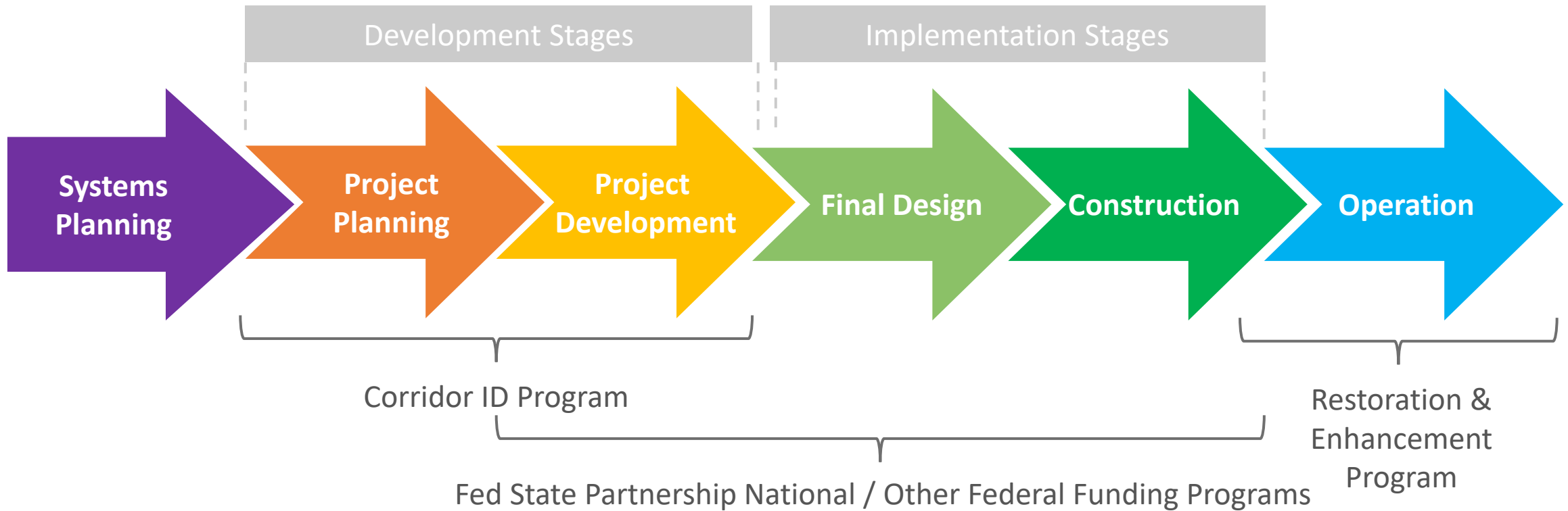


Level of non-Federal commitment may be modest at the beginning but must grow as a corridor advances through the Program

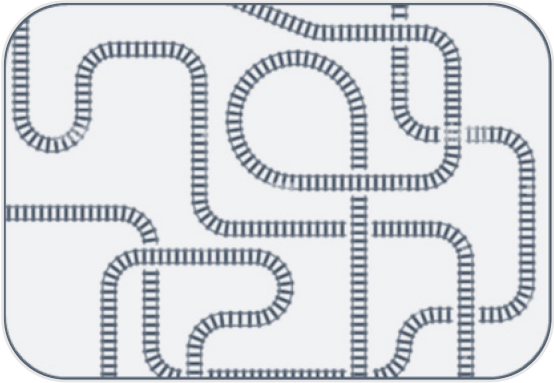


Corridors/Projects that advance to the Project Pipeline should be **ready for immediate implementation** (Final Design/Construction)

FRA Project Lifecycle Stages – Corresponding FRA Funding Programs



2022 Selections—A Baseline Year for Corridor ID



Selections made later this year will set the “baseline” for Corridor ID



Corridor ID map of selected corridors will illustrate FRA’s plan for passenger rail development across the country for new AND existing corridors



FRA’s goal is to align the two programs—Corridor ID produces the Project Pipeline for FSP-N



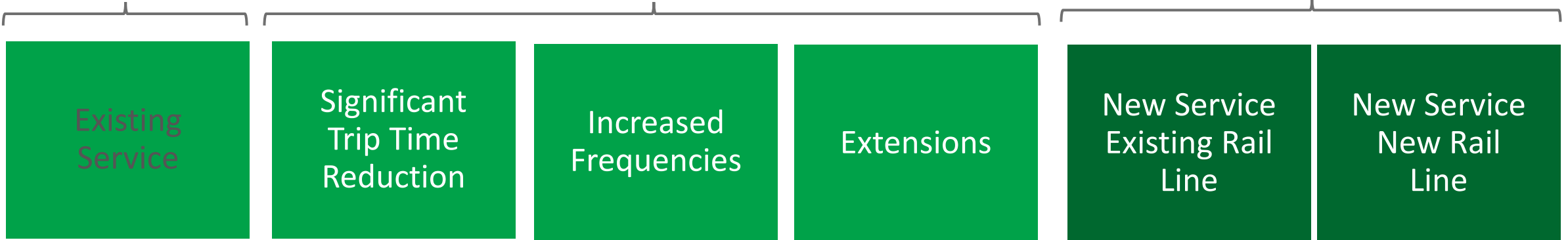
In future funding cycles, projects included in the Project Pipeline will receive priority funding under FSP-N

What does this mean for the different types of corridors?

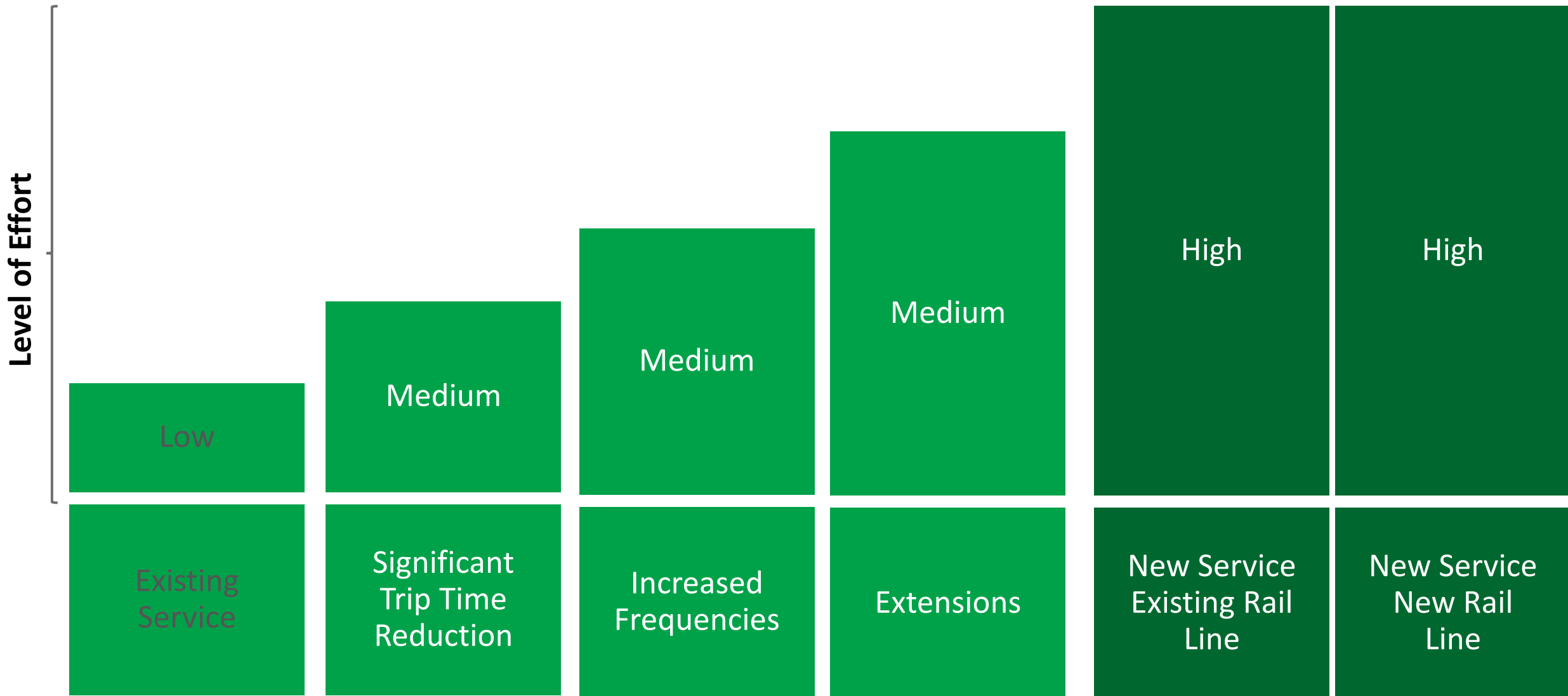
Incremental Improvement Existing Service

Significant Improvement Existing Service

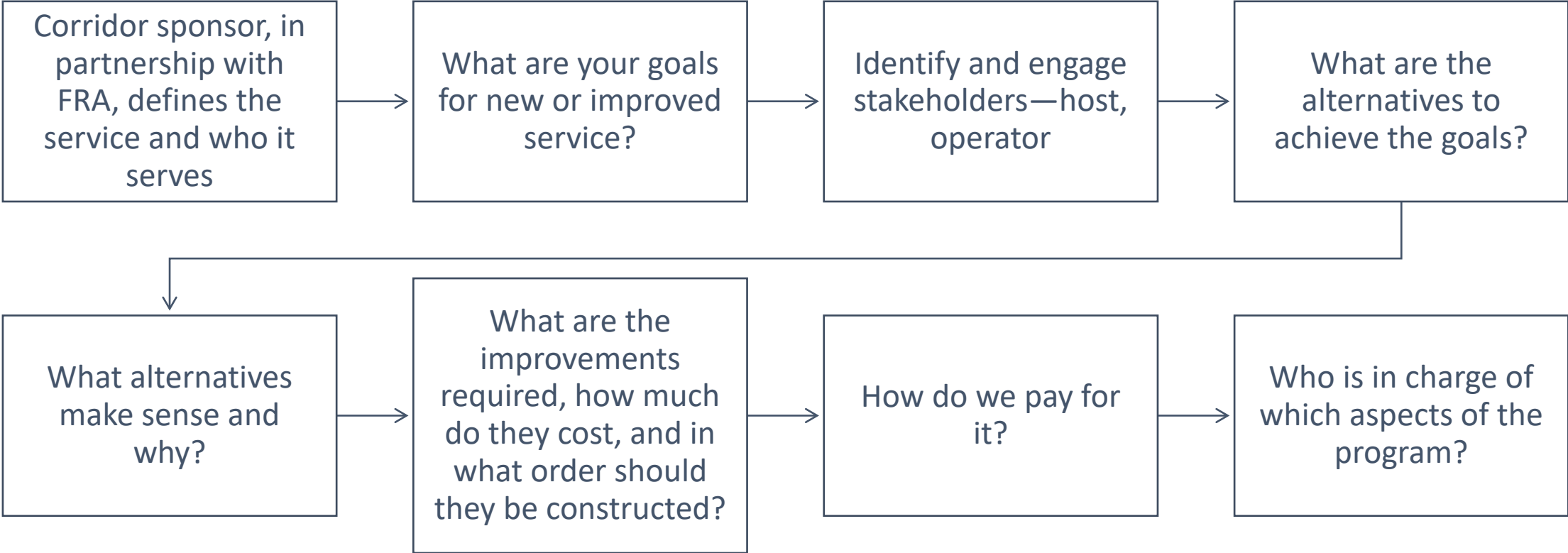
Entirely New Service



What does this mean for the different types of corridors?



Service Development Plans—What Are They?



Elements of Preparing a Service Development Plan

PROJECT PLANNING

Travel Demand
Forecasting

Operations
Analysis

Station and
Access Planning

Fleet Planning

Conceptual
Engineering

Labor Planning

Operating &
Maintenance
Costing

IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING

Financial
Planning

Governance

Benefits-Cost
Analysis

Implementation
Phasing

PURPOSE AND
NEED

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

ROUTE

SERVICE

INVESTMENTS

SERVICE
DEVELOPMENT
PLAN

DESIGN

ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental
Analysis

Public
Involvement

Agency
Coordination

Simple Service Development Plan – Corridor Station Improvement Program

PROJECT PLANNING

Travel Demand
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Moderate Service Development Plan – Existing Service Frequency Increase

PROJECT PLANNING

Travel Demand
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Major Service Development Plan – New Corridor on New Rail Line

PROJECT PLANNING

Travel Demand
Forecasting

Operations
Analysis

Station and
Access Planning

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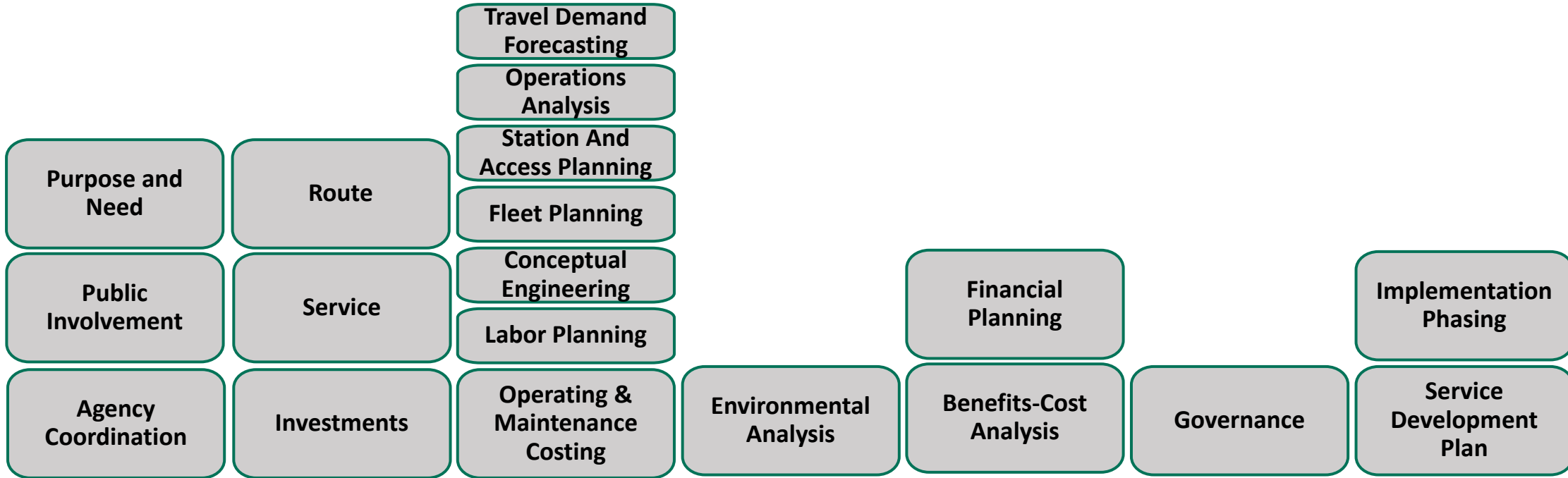
ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental
Analysis

Public
Involvement

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Coordination

Corridor ID “Step 2” Statement of Work – SDP Preparation/Updating



Task 1: Project Administration

Task 2: Preliminary Purpose & Need Stakeholder Engagement

Task 3: Alternatives Analysis

Tasks 4 : Technical Analysis

Tasks 5: Preliminary Environmental Analysis

Task 6: Financial Planning Benefit Cost Analysis

Task 7: Governance

Task 8: Service Development Plan

Solicitation/NOFO Overview & How to Apply

What is a NOFO?

KEY PARTS OF A NOFO

A **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**:

- Announces the grant opportunity
- Contains details about the application requirements and procedures to request Federal funding for eligible projects

What information is in a NOFO?

KEY PARTS OF A NOFO

- Program Summary
- Key Dates
- Required Documents
- Addresses
- FRA Contact Information
- Table of Contents
 - Executive Summary
 - **Eligibility Information**
 - **Eligible Applicants**
 - **Eligible Corridors**
 - **Application and Submission Information**
 - **Application Review Information**
 - Federal Award Administration
 - Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

Where do I start?

Check the FRA webpage

- <https://railroads.dot.gov/about-fra/communications/newsroom/press-releases/fra-begins-soliciting-proposals-through-first-its>

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Federal Railroad Administration website. The header includes the U.S. Department of Transportation logo and the text 'U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for 'About FRA', 'Railroad Safety', 'Rail Network Development', 'Research & Development', 'Legislation & Regulations', 'Grants & Loans', and 'FRA eLibrary'. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / About FRA / Communications / Press Releases'. A sidebar on the left has a 'Newsroom' section with a dropdown menu showing 'Communications' and 'Governmental Affairs'. The main article title is 'FRA Begins Soliciting Proposals Through First-of-its-kind Program to Advance New and Enhanced Intercity Passenger Rail Corridors', dated 'Tuesday, December 20, 2022'. The article text begins with 'The Corridor Identification and Development Program will support long-term passenger rail development in communities across the country' and 'WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) today issued a Notice of Solicitation and Funding Opportunity to solicit proposals for intercity passenger rail corridors for the Corridor Identification and Development (ID) Program. The Corridor ID Program was created by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it will guide the development of new and enhanced intercity passenger rail services that will help bolster economic growth throughout the country.'

Click the link on the bottom of the page to access the NOFO

Where is the FY22 Corridor Identification Program NOFO?



FEDERAL REGISTER
The Daily Journal of the United States Government



0 Sign in Sign up

Notice

Notice of Solicitation of Corridor Proposals and Funding Opportunity for the Corridor Identification and Development Program

A Notice by the Federal Railroad Administration on 12/20/2022

PUBLISHED DOCUMENT

AGENCY:
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION:
Notice of solicitation and funding opportunity (notice).

SUMMARY:
This notice details the application requirements and procedures for the selection of eligible corridors to participate in the Corridor Identification and Development Program and obtain grant funding appropriated in fiscal year 2022. This notice solicits applications for the Corridor Identification and Development Program funds made available by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and subsequent appropriations. The opportunity described in this notice is made available under Assistance Listing Number 20-226 "Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail."

DOCUMENT DETAILS

Printed version:
PDF

Publication Date:
12/20/2022

Agencies:
[Federal Railroad Administration](#)

Dates:
Applications for selection and funding under the Corridor Identification and Development program (Corridor ID Program or Program) under this notice are due no later than 5 p.m. ET, March 20, 2023. Applications that are incomplete or received after 5 p.m. ET on March 20, 2023 will not be considered. See section (D) of this notice for additional information on the application process.



FEDERAL REGISTER
The Daily Journal of the United States Government



Notice

Corridor Identification and Development Program

A Notice by the Federal Railroad Administration on 02/07/2023

PUBLISHED DOCUMENT

AGENCY:
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION:
Notice of solicitation and funding opportunity (NOFO or notice); extension of application submittal period.

SUMMARY:
FRA is extending the application submittal period for its Notice for the Corridor Identification and Development program published on December 20, 2022, from March 20, 2023, to March 27, 2023.

DATES:
FRA extends the NOFO application period and applications are now due by 5 p.m. ET on March 27, 2023.

DOCUMENT DETAILS

Printed version:
PDF

Publication Date:
02/07/2023

Agencies:
[Federal Railroad Administration](#)

Dates:
FRA extends the NOFO application period and applications are now due by 5 p.m. ET on March 27, 2023.

Document Type:
Notice

Document Citation:
88 FR 8033

Page:
8033 (1 page)

Document Number:

Where do I find “How to Apply” information?

Search grants on **Grants.gov**:

GRANTS.GOV™
FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.™

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ Enter Keyword... **GO**

HOME LEARN GRANTS ▾ **SEARCH GRANTS** APPLICANTS ▾ GRANTORS ▾ SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM ▾ FORMS ▾ CONNECT ▾ SUPPORT ▾

GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

SEARCH GRANTS

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s):

Opportunity Number:

CFDA:

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

Forecasted (0)

Posted (3)

Closed (0)

Archived (7)

▼ FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

SEARCH TIPS | EXPORT DETAILED DATA |

SORT BY: Relevance (Descending) ▾

DATE RANGE: All Available ▾

1 - 3 OF 3 MATCHING RESULTS:

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date	Close Date
FR-FSP-23-003	FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Grant Program	DOT-FRA	Posted	01/23/2023	03/27/2023
FR-FSP-23-002	FY22-23 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program for projects located on the Northeast Corridor	DOT-FRA	Posted	01/03/2023	03/27/2023
FR-FSP-23-001	FY22 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program for projects located on the	DOT-FRA	Posted	12/07/2022	04/21/2023

Click the **Opportunity Number** to see the Synopsis

What is the Synopsis?

Summary information about the grant opportunity in Grants.gov:

The screenshot displays the Grants.gov interface for viewing a grant opportunity. The page title is "VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY" and the grant number is "FR-FSP-23-003". The grant title is "FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Grant Program" from the "Department of Transportation" and "DOT - Federal Railroad Administration". The "SYNOPSIS" tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below the tabs, the "General Information" section is expanded, showing a table of key details:

Document Type:	Grants Notice	Version:	Synopsis 3
Funding Opportunity Number:	FR-FSP-23-003	Posted Date:	Jan 23, 2023
Funding Opportunity Title:	FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Grant Program	Last Updated Date:	Feb 07, 2023
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 20, 2023 No Explanation
Opportunity Category Explanation:		Current Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 27, 2023 FRA extends the NOFO application period and applications are now due by 5 p.m. ET on March 27, 2023.
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant	Archive Date:	Apr 26, 2023
Category of Funding Activity:	Transportation	Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$365,000,000
Category Explanation:		Award Ceiling:	\$365,000,000
Expected Number of Awards:	50	Award Floor:	\$0
CFDA Number(s):	20.326 -- Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail		
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes		

How do I apply?

KEY STEPS

- Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- **Register early** in the Federal government's System for Award Management (SAM)
 - **NOTE: SAM registration can take up to 4 weeks (longer if you do not have an Employer Identification Number)**
- For Grants.gov, complete an **Authorized Organization Representative** profile and create a username and password
- Submit an application addressing all requirements outlined in the NOFO

What do I include in my application?

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Corridor Narrative



A. CORRIDOR NARRATIVE

This section describes the minimum content required in the Corridor Narrative for applications under the Corridor ID Program. The Corridor Narrative must follow the basic outline below to address the Program requirements and to assist evaluators in locating relevant information.

I. Cover Page	See D.2.a.i.
II. Corridor Summary	See D.2.a.ii.
III. Corridor Funding	See D.2.a.iii.
IV. Applicant Eligibility	See D.2.a.iv.
V. Detailed Corridor Description	See D.2.a.v.
VI. Corridor Location	See D.2.a.vi.
VII. Evaluation and Selection Criteria	See D.2.a.vii.
VIII. DOT Strategic Goals	See D.2.a.viii.

What forms are required?

REQUIRED FORMS

- SF424 (Application for Federal Assistance)
 - SF 424A – Budget info for Non-Construction
 - SF 424B– Assurances for Non-Construction
- FRA F 30- Additional Assurances and Certifications
- FRA F 251- FRA's Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (FRA F 251)
- SF LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (only required if reportable Lobbying activities exist)

Where do I find additional information and help?

Find **Additional Information** about the grant opportunity in Grants.gov at the bottom of the Synopsis page:

Additional Information

Agency Name: DOT - Federal Railroad Administration

Description:

This program facilitates the development of intercity passenger rail corridors.

Link to Additional Information: [FY22 Corridor Identification and Development Grant Program](#)

Grantor Contact Information: If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:

Grants.gov Contact Center
Phone Number: 1-800-518-4726

Hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The contact center is closed on federal holidays.
support@grants.gov

[Grants.gov Customer Support](#)

Application Review and Selection Process

1. Intake and Eligibility

Each application is reviewed for completeness and eligibility to determine which applications move to the evaluation stage



3. Selection

Final decisions are made by taking into account the evaluation and selection criteria outlined in the NOFO



2. Evaluation

Each complete and eligible application is evaluated by a panel of DOT subject matter experts using criteria outlined in the NOFO (*FRA has reserved the right to engage corridor sponsors to jointly determine what to advance into the program*)

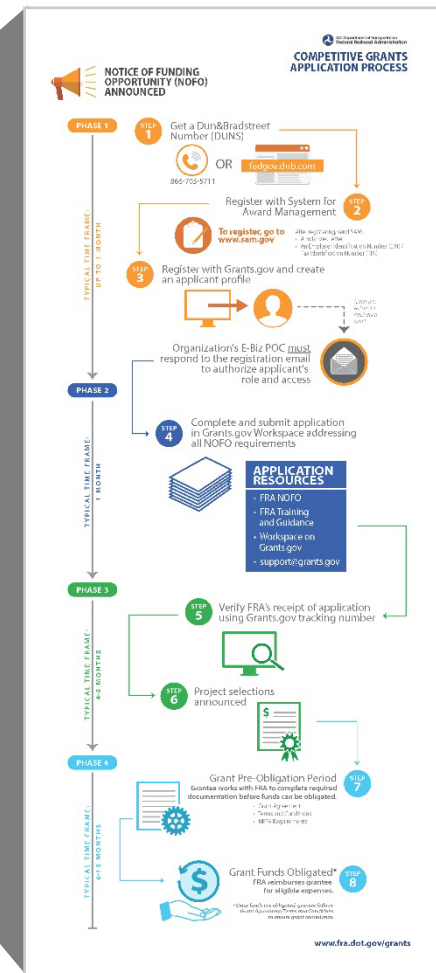
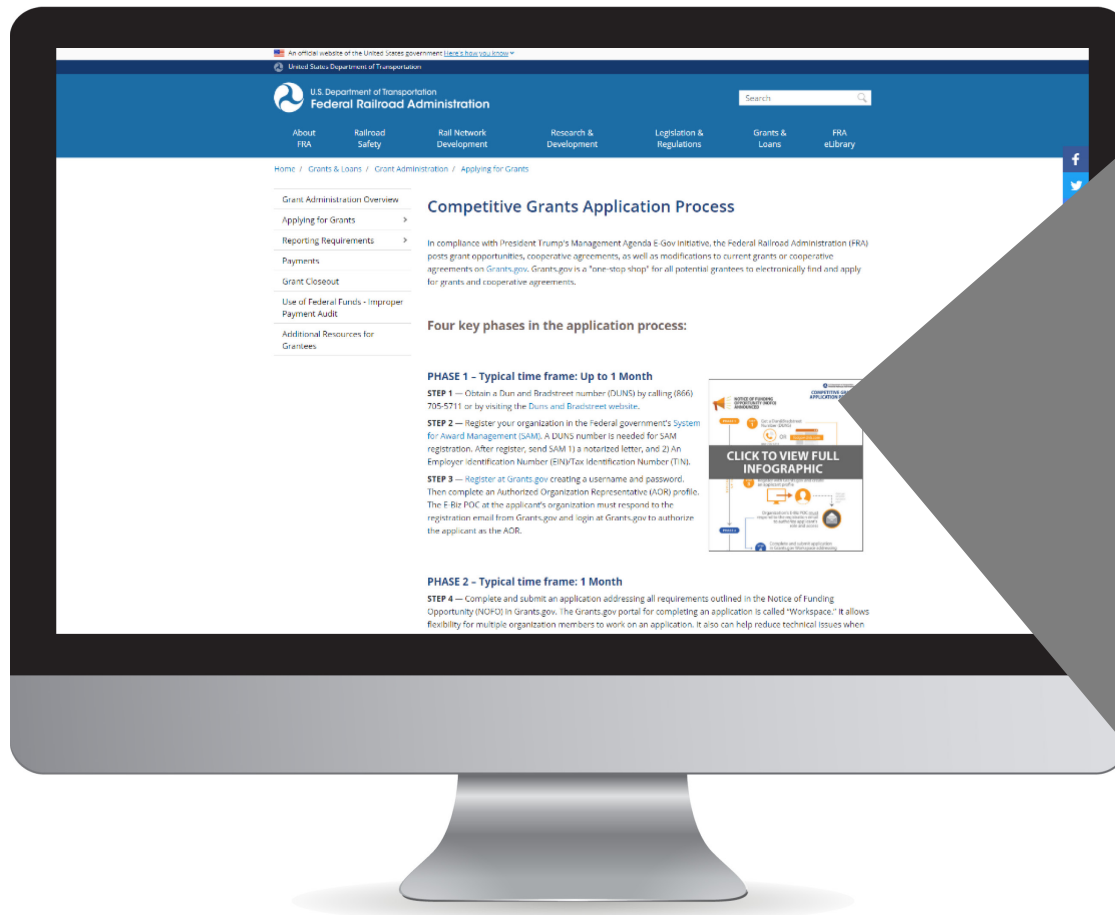


4. Announcement

FRA press release announces selections approximately 6 months following application due date

Grant Application Process

FRA's Competitive Grants Application Process webpage: <https://railroads.dot.gov/grant-administration/applying-grants/competitive-grants-application-process>



Best Practices – Helpful Hints

- Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) completely and carefully to understand the criteria for eligibility and selection, and what information each application must include
- Provide a clear project title that tells us who you are and what the project is about



The screenshot displays the Federal Register website interface. At the top, it features the National Archives logo, the text 'FEDERAL REGISTER The Daily Journal of the United States Government', and the Department of Justice and Records Administration seal. A navigation bar includes a 'Notice' tab. The main heading is 'Notice of Solicitation of Corridor Proposals and Funding Opportunity for the Corridor Identification and Development Program'. Below this, it states 'A Notice by the Federal Railroad Administration on 12/20/2022'. The document content is organized into sections: 'AGENCY:' (Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT)), 'ACTION:' (Notice of solicitation and funding opportunity (notice)), 'SUMMARY:' (This notice details the application requirements and procedures for the selection of eligible corridors to participate in the Corridor Identification and Development Program and obtain grant funding appropriated in fiscal year 2022. This notice solicits applications for the Corridor Identification and Development Program funds made available by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and subsequent appropriations. The opportunity described in this notice is made available under Assistance Listings Number 20.326, "Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail."), and 'DATES:' (Applications for selection and funding under the Corridor Identification and Development program (Corridor ID Program or Program) under this notice are due no later than 5 p.m. ET, March 20, 2023. Applications that are incomplete or received after 5 p.m. ET on March 20, 2023 will not be considered. See section (D) of this notice for additional information on the application process.). A 'DOCUMENT DETAILS' sidebar on the right provides additional information: 'Printed version: PDF', 'Publication Date: 12/20/2022', 'Agencies: Federal Railroad Administration', 'Dates: Applications for selection and funding under the Corridor Identification and Development program (Corridor ID Program or Program) under this notice are due no later than 5 p.m. ET, March 20, 2023. Applications that are incomplete or received after 5 p.m. ET on March 20, 2023 will not be considered. See section (D) of this notice for additional information on the application process.', 'Document Type: Notice', 'Document Citation: 87 FR 77920', 'Page: 77920-77933 (14 pages)', and 'Document Number: 2022-27559'.

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

Corridor Narrative Outline

- I. Cover Page
- II. Corridor Summary
- III. Corridor Funding
- IV. Applicant Eligibility
- V. Detailed Corridor Description
- VI. Corridor Location
- VII. Evaluation and Selection Criteria
- VIII. DOT Strategic Goals

- ☑ Structure your corridor narrative in accordance with the outline specified in the NOFO
- ☑ Include all elements identified in the outline
- ☑ Follow the instructions for each element
- ☑ Adhere to 15-page limit

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

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VII. Evaluation and Selection Criteria

VIII. DOT Strategic Goals

Corridor Title	
Applicant	
Was a Federal Grant Application Previously Submitted for this Corridor?	Yes/No If yes, please specify the program, funding year and project title of the previous application.
Other sources of Funding for the Corridor?	Yes/No If yes, please specify the source of funding and the estimated amount.
City(-ies), State(s) Where the Corridor is Located	
Congressional District(s) Where the Corridor is Located	
Is the Corridor currently programmed or identified in: State rail plan, or regional or interregional intercity passenger rail systems planning study?	Yes/No If yes, please specify in which plans the Corridor is currently programmed/identified and how the plan may be accessed.
Is the applicant working with other entities in support of the Corridor?	Yes/No If yes, please specify the entities.

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- ☑ Briefly describe the project in **4 to 6 sentences**, challenges the Corridor aims to address, and summarize intended outcomes and anticipated benefits
- ☑ Think of this section of the application **as your elevator pitch for the project** to the DOT Secretary and FRA Administrator

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

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- ☑ If applicable, indicate amount of non-Program funding (Federal and non-Federal) available
- ☑ Identify source(s) of non-Program funds
- ☑ If non-Program Federal funding is available, demonstrate applicant's determination of eligibility for such use
- ☑ Note if any available non-Program funding must be obligated or spent by a certain date
- ☑ Whether Federal funding for the Corridor has previously been sought

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

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- ✓ Amtrak
- ✓ States
- ✓ Groups of States
- ✓ Entities implementing interstate compacts
- ✓ Regional passenger rail authorities
- ✓ Regional planning organizations
- ✓ Political subdivisions of a State
- ✓ Federally recognized Indian Tribes.

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

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- ☑ Please read the NOFO for the 10 elements requested:

v. Detailed Corridor Description: Include a detailed Corridor description that expands upon the brief Corridor summary. This detailed description should address, at a minimum: (1) information regarding the basic characteristics of the Corridor, including the key geographic travel markets that must be served for the Corridor to fulfill its intended objectives, high-level initial estimates, preferably expressed as ranges or options, of certain Corridor characteristics (such as the potential service frequencies and travel times between the Corridor-defining markets, the potential geographic routes for the Corridor (particularly if the subject Corridor is intended to operate over existing rail lines), and, for Corridors with improvements to existing intercity passenger rail services, a detailed description of the improvements proposed to be developed under the Program); (2) information necessary to assess the readiness of the Corridor to enter into planning and development under the Program, including demonstrating the existing level of commitment of the applicant; (3) a description of any eligible activities (see section (C)) that have been completed or are currently ongoing for the Corridor; (4) the intended operator of the Corridor, if known; ^[12] (5) the legal, technical, and financial capability and capacity of the applicant and

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

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- ☑ Geospatial data (latitude and longitude or railroad mileposts)
- ☑ Include a map of the project
- ☑ Congressional districts the Corridor may traverse

Best Practices – Corridor Narrative

Corridor Narrative Outline

- I. Cover Page
- II. Corridor Summary
- III. Corridor Funding
- IV. Applicant Eligibility
- V. Detailed Corridor Description
- VI. Corridor Location
- VII. Evaluation and Selection Criteria**
- VIII. DOT Strategic Goals

- ✓ Include a separate section in the corridor narrative focused on how the project meets each of the evaluation and selection criteria
- ✓ **DO NOT** rely solely on the contents of the “detailed corridor description” section to satisfy this requirement — it is OK to repeat key points in this section
- ✓ Quantify benefits whenever possible

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- ☑ As applicable, efforts to consider climate change, sustainability impacts, improve equity, and reduce barriers to opportunity
- ☑ How Corridor planning and development may advance good-paying, quality jobs and workforce programs and hiring policies that promote workforce inclusion.
- ☑ Additional information about strong labor standards

Recap & Reminders

Recap & Reminders

- Always read the NOFO carefully
- Address all the evaluation and selection criteria on which you will be rated
 - By clearly and directly responding to the criteria, your application will be easier to read and evaluate
 - Don't bury key points!



A dark blue background featuring silhouettes of approximately ten people sitting around a long table in a meeting room. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from windows in the background, creating a professional and collaborative atmosphere. The silhouettes are dark against the lighter blue background of the room.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us

Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590



Connect with us USDOTFRA



Notice of Funding Opportunity Process:

Fra-nofo-support@dot.gov

Corridor Identification and Development Program and Application Process:

PaxRailDev@dot.gov

To learn more about FRA Competitive Discretionary Grant Programs, visit: <https://www.fra.dot.gov/grants>