



## Colorado Transportation Investment Office Memorandum

**To:** CTIO Board of Directors

**From:** Piper Darlington, CTIO Director and Paul DesRocher, Director, Division of Transit and Rail

**Date:** February 19, 2025

### **Subject:** Mountain Rail Update

#### **Purpose:**

The memo and associated material are provided to brief the CTIO Board on the progress made by CTIO and CDOT staff to advance the Mountain Rail Program.

#### **Requested Action:**

No action is requested.

#### **Background**

The Mountain Rail Program aims to restore passenger rail service in Northwest Colorado by utilizing existing freight corridors impacted by the decline in coal demand. Launched in 2023, the Mountain Rail Program aims to use existing rail infrastructure to meet the growing demand for passenger rail service, serving the existing corridor between Denver, Winter Park, Steamboat Springs, and Craig. By enhancing connectivity between Denver and mountain communities, it will address key objectives, including:

- Enhance regional connectivity;
- Economic development;
- Environmental sustainability;
- Multimodal choice; and
- Leverage existing infrastructure

CTIO is leading the procurement of Mountain Rail Program scope requirements and is leveraging work performed by CDOT to develop the Mountain Rail Program's overall scope.

The purpose of the presentation included in Appendix A is to provide the CTIO Board with an update on progress to advance the Mountain Rail Program.

#### **Attachments:**

- **Attachment A:** Mountain Rail Program Update Presentation