



PASSENGER RAIL STATION LOCATION STUDY

City of Colorado Springs – City Council Briefing

May 9, 2022





PRESENTATION PURPOSE

- Provide the first update regarding the status of the Passenger Rail Station Location Study



01

Project History and Context

PROJECT HISTORY AND CONTEXT

- Passenger rail service has been an ongoing conversation...
 - 2010: Rocky Mountain Rail Authority High Speed Rail Feasibility Study
 - 2011: North I-25 EIS Commuter Rail Update
 - 2014: Advanced Guideway System Feasibility Study
 - 2014: ICS (Interregional Connectivity Study)
 - 2018: Colorado Freight and Passenger Rail Plan
 - 2020: Front Range Passenger Rail (FRPR) Alternatives Analysis



ONGOING EFFORTS

2021-Present: Southwest Chief Thru-car Extension Analysis

- Led by CDOT and the FRPR
- Options to extend Amtrak's Southwest Chief
- La Junta to Pueblo to Colorado Springs
- Focuses on the technical feasibility, service, and infrastructure

2022-Present: FRPR Service Development Plan (SDP)

- Led by CDOT and the Passenger Rail Commission
- Currently in procurement (anticipated start summer 2022)
- Focuses on passenger service integration with the freight railroads and infrastructure needs

Future Passenger Rail Efforts and Projects

- Led by CDOT and the Passenger Rail Commission/District
- Potential future activities:
 - Identifying funding
 - Advancing service planning
 - Railroad coordination and agreements
 - Design and construction
 - Operations



02

Project Overview, Process, and Engagement

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Identify a passenger rail station location...

- Position the City to respond to future passenger rail
 - Potential Southwest Chief extension
 - Potential Front Range Passenger Rail
- Consider connectivity, City/regional plans, and local stakeholders
- Provide direction to CDOT/Passenger Rail Commission
 - City's preferred site
 - Understanding the City is not the funder/implementer

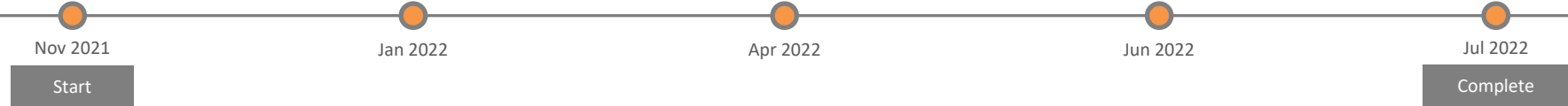


PROJECT PROCESS



Amtrak and Class I Railroads Coordination

Engagement – Guidance Committee Meetings (3), Events (2), Promotions



FOCUSED ENGAGEMENT

- Our outreach approach: FOCUSED and RESPONSIVE

ENGAGEMENT

- Information sharing
- Engaging with community and interest groups



GUIDANCE COMMITTEE

- Primary guidance and feedback
- Range of members – City staff to advocacy and neighborhood groups



HYBRID PUBLIC EVENTS

- Virtual or in-person as appropriate
- Two events aimed at key milestone (input points)





03

Station Considerations and Evaluation

PASSENGER RAIL STATION PROGRAM

MULTIMODAL INTEGRATION

Passenger Rail



Transit (Local and Regional)

Rolling and Biking



Walking

CHARGING AND NEW MOBILITY

Long/Short Term Bike Parking



Parking and Electric Charging

Carshare and Rideshare



Dedicated Space Bikeshare, Scooters

VALUE ADDED AMENITIES

Mobility Information



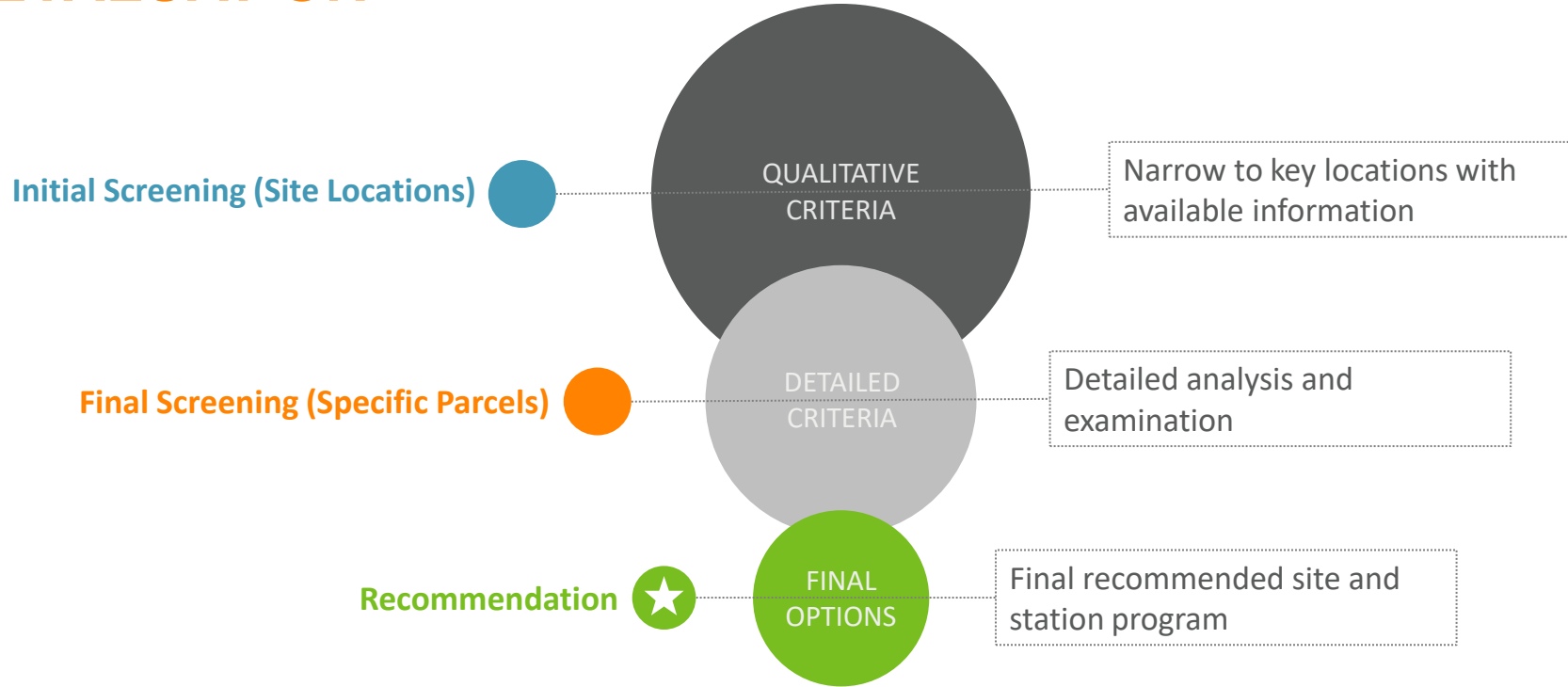
Services, Freight, and Maintenance

Ticketing and Administrative



Public Space and Art

EVALUATION



DRAFT CRITERIA

Initial Screening (Site Locations)



Narrow to key locations with available information



Zoning considerations



Adjacency to freight corridor



Parcel considerations



Topographic complexity



Transit access



Multimodal access



Rail operations



Traffic, access & parking



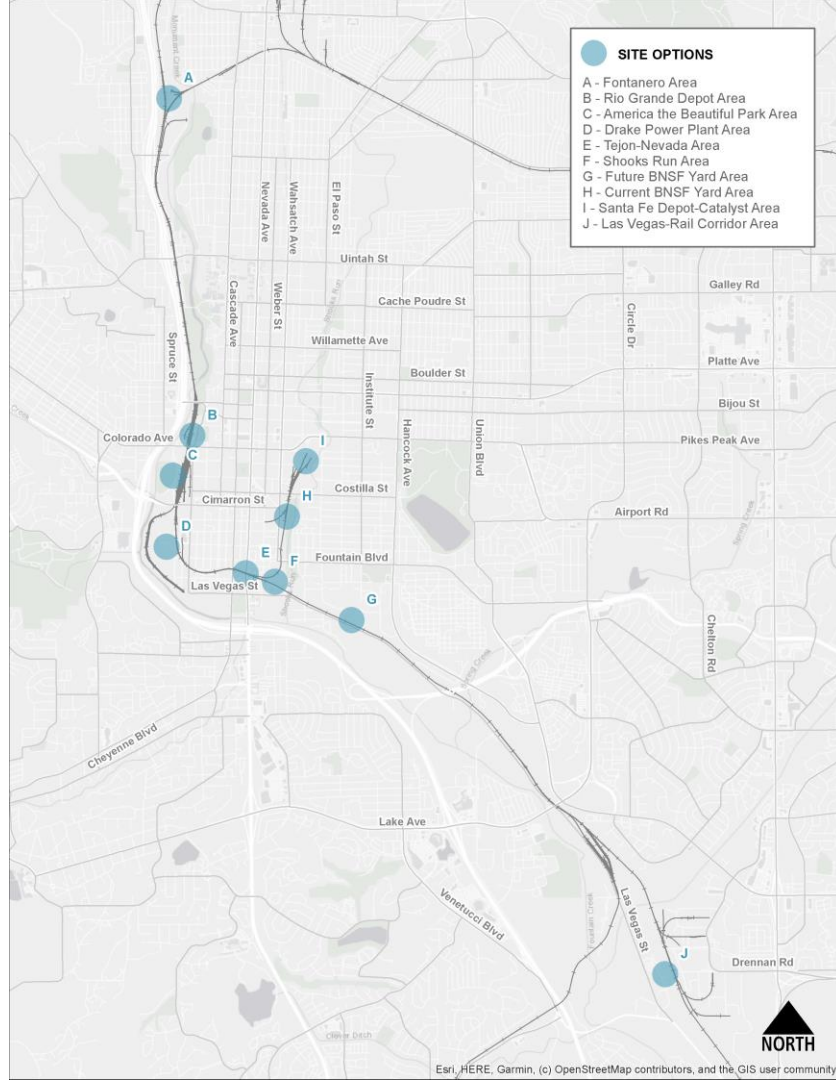
Constructability



Natural & social environment

POTENTIAL SITES

- Scoped a range of sites with stakeholders
 - Adjacent to the current rail corridor
 - Historic rail use (some sites)
 - General space for station needs (potential available land)
 - Proximity to origins and destinations



ADVANCING SITES

Opportunity, ownership, and proximity

DEPOT

Opportunity, ownership, and proximity

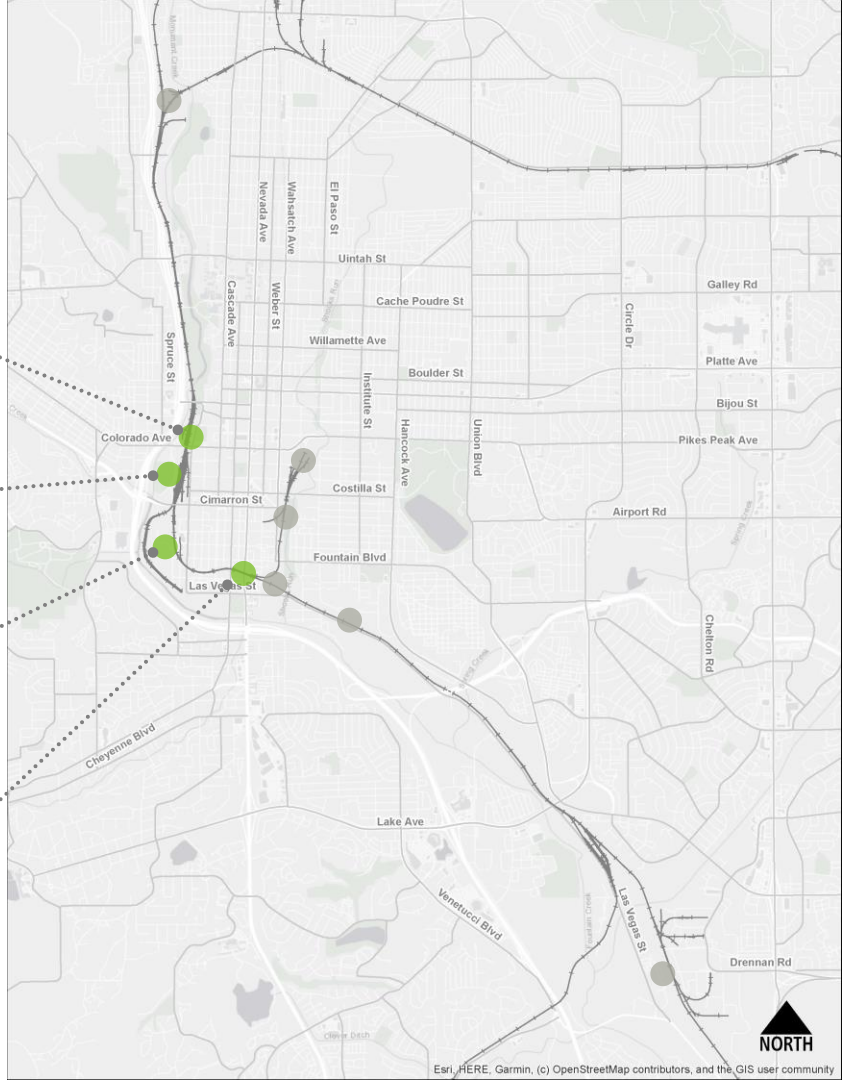
PARK

Opportunity, complexity, and timing

DRAKE

Connectivity, topography, and operations

NEVADA





04

Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- Advancing station program and layout concepts
- Evaluating remaining station sites
- Conducting next public engagement milestone:
 - Self-driven online presentation and questionnaire (late May - tentatively 5/9-5/13)





THANK YOU!