

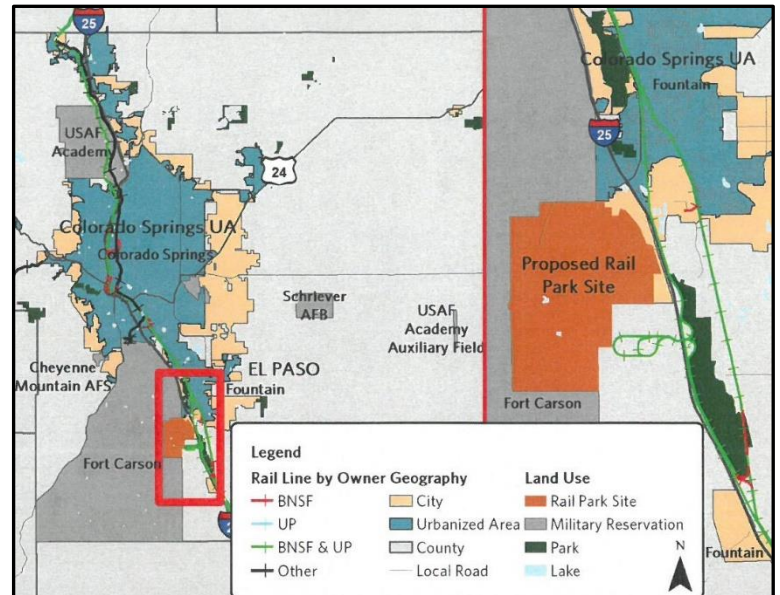
A Rail-Served Economic Initiative in El Paso County, Colorado

Project Update from October 16, 2019 Oversight Committee Meeting

OBJECTIVE: COMPLETE THE PREFERRED-ALTERNATIVE RAIL SPUR DESIGN TO ALIGN WITH FORT CARSON'S FUTURE RAILHEAD

➤ **Talking Points:**

- A. Colorado Springs Utilities designated a Preferred Alternative for an extension of the dual-served rail spur across the Ray Nixon Power Plant property to the Rail Park
- B. Fort Carson expressed a preference for continuation of the spur to a northernmost location on its joint property boundary with the Rail Park.
- C. The Project Team completed a Feasibility Study in June 2019.
- D. The Project Team submitted a USDOT Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Planning Grant Application on July 15, 2019.
- E. The announcement of BUILD grant recipients is scheduled for November 12, 2019.



➤ **Next Steps:**

1. Inform elected officials of both the Feasibility of the Project and the working relationship with Fort Carson planning initiatives.
2. Inform stakeholder of the multiple benefits of the Project as summarized in the BUILD grant and included on the reverse side.
3. Inform elected officials and members of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation of the completion of the EDC's inkind commitments to the Project. These include:
 - a. A Fiscal Impact study showing creation of 6,000+ jobs.
 - b. A Work Force Analysis documenting the viable work force available within 35 miles of the Project location.
4. A continuing investigation of prospective grant funding sources.

Oversight Committee

Steve Weiner

Vice President

Edw. C. Levy Company

**Mayor Gabe Ortega or
Mayor Pro Tem Phil Thomas**
City of Fountain

Longinos Gonzalez Jr.
County Commissioner, District 4
El Paso County

Dirk Draper
President and Chief Executive Officer
Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC

Tom Strand
C.S. City Council President Pro Tem
Colorado Springs Utilities

Jeff Greene
Mayor's Chief of Staff
City of Colorado Springs

TABLE 2: Rail Park Benefits

	STATE	REGIONAL	FORT CARSON	LOCAL
Establishes regional "destination" for heavy industrial / manufacturing uses				
Offers competitive "dual-service" rail rates				
Creates ± 6,000 quality employment opportunities for post-service veterans from 5 nearby military installations				
Supports planned base expansion at Gate 19				
Reduces regional truck traffic, improving safety and reducing road wear				
Enhances training capabilities at Fort Carson by improved access to Piñon Canyon Training area				
Improves rapid deployment capability at Fort Carson				
Provides harmonious, productive land use adjacent to a power plant and military training facility				