

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

*Project Update for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021*

## **2021 OBJECTIVES: COMPLETE DESIGN FOR THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE TO SERVE FORT CARSON; COMPLETE THE U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GRANT (\$75,000)**

### ➤ **Talking Points:**

- A. Public Private Partnership, led by an Oversight Committee, meeting quarterly to move project into design and permitting.
- B. Funding for HDR Engineering committed to complete railroad spur design to Fort Carson boundary with private landowner.
- C. U.S. EDA grant final processing underway.

### ➤ **Next Steps:**

- 1. Coordinate location and elevation of property interface.
- 2. Complete trackage design with Colorado Springs Utilities.
- 3. Obtain “Will Serve” documentation from Class 1 RR’s BNSF and Union Pacific.
- 4. Interface with Federal Rail Administration Planning Group for environmental review, Benefit-Cost Analysis, and grant opportunities
- 5. Regular updates to Fort Carson and community leadership on project progress.

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### **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**  
**Executive Director**  
 Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC

**Tom Strand**  
**C.S. City Councilman & Chair of the**  
**Utility Board**  
 Colorado Springs Utilities

**Jeff Greene**  
**Mayor’s Chief of Staff**  
 City of Colorado Springs

### **U.S. Economic Development Administration Technical Assistance Grant Scope of Work**

<b>Task #1 Work Force</b>
<b>Task #2 Local Infrastructure Capacity</b>
Local Infrastructure definition
Transportation definition
Highway/rail logistics Pro & Con
US Army industry specific transportation needs
Electric Generation
Biomass Pro & Con
Biomass Watershed benefits
Carbon Credit Potential
<b>Task #3 Dual Service &amp; Private Rail Capacity</b>
Rail Capacity
Dual Service Benefits
Rail Operations at Park
Rail Benefits/Market/Biomass
Rail Competition/Passenger Benefits
<b>Task #4 Integrated Report</b>
<b>Task #5 Fiscal Agency</b>

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