

Regional Working Group Meeting 3





WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING





FRA OPENING REMARKS





INTRODUCTIONS





Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Study Overview and What We've Heard
- Route Development and Evaluation Methodology
- Identification of Routes
- Approach for Development of Route Service
- Development of Capital and Operations and Maintenance Cost Estimates
- Implementation Timeframe Feedback
- Ongoing Long-Distance Collaboration and Planning
- Closing and Next Steps





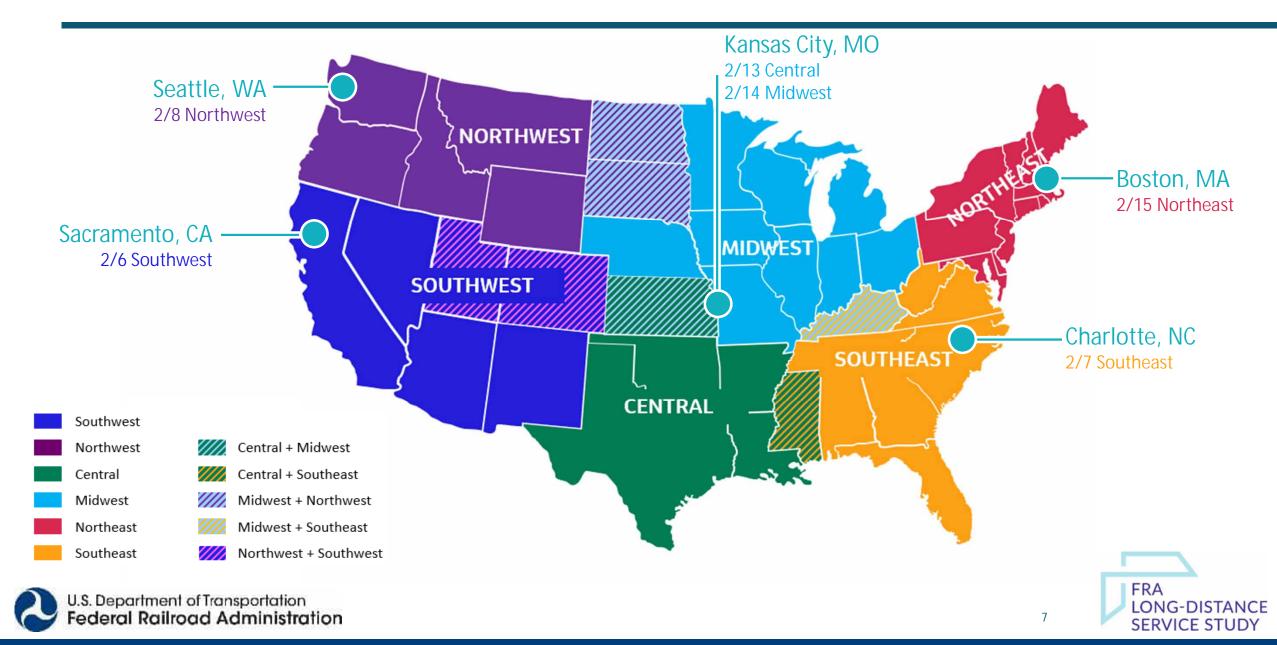
Meeting Objectives

- Brief stakeholders on the study progress
- Inform stakeholders on the methodologies for developing routes, route schedules, and cost estimates
- Review the preferred routes and get feedback
- Receive input from stakeholders on:
 - Prioritization concepts for implementation timeframes
 - Ongoing collaboration and planning

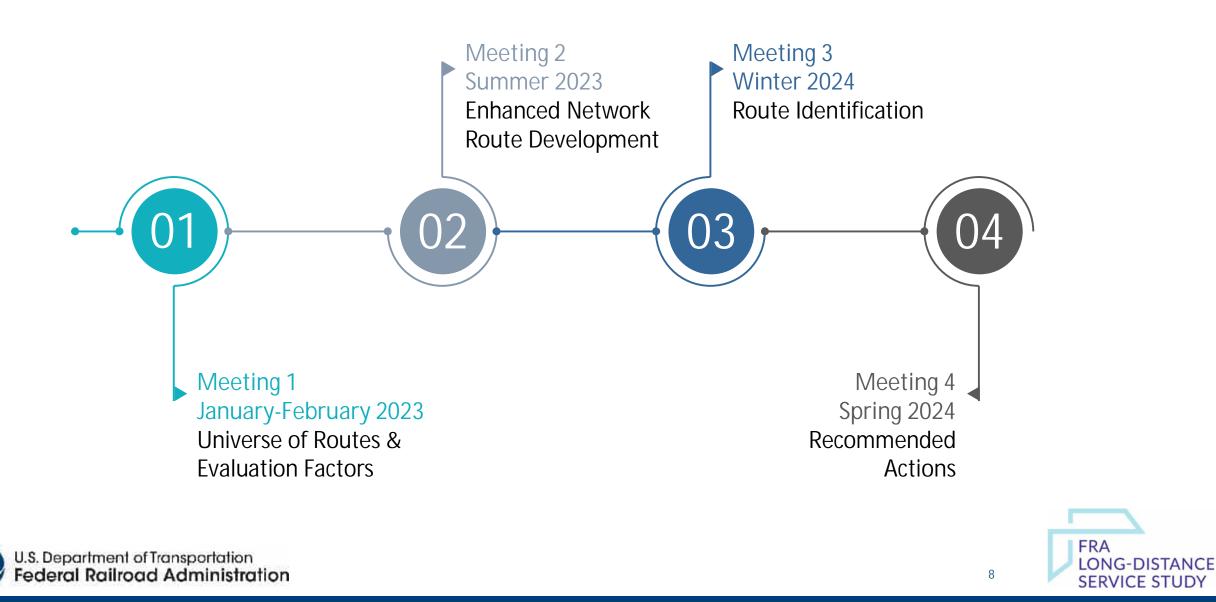




Long-Distance Service Study Regions: Stakeholder Group Meetings



Long-Distance Service Study Engagement Schedule



STUDY OVERVIEW



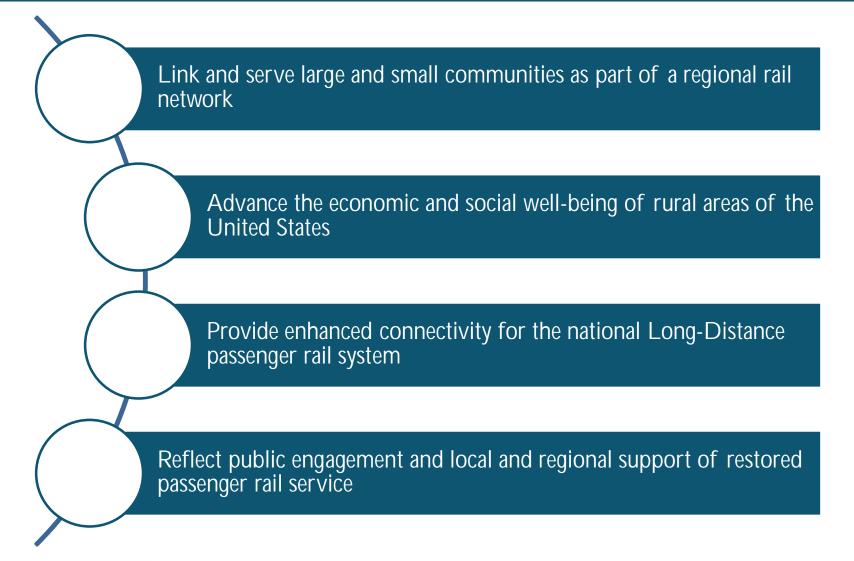


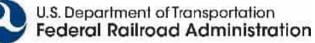
The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 requires the FRA to conduct a study to evaluate the restoration of daily intercity rail passenger service along —

- any Amtrak Long-Distance routes that were discontinued; and
- any Amtrak Long-Distance routes that occur on a nondaily basis.
- FRA may also evaluate potential new Amtrak Long-Distance routes, including with specific attention provided to routes in service as of April 1971 but not continued by Amtrak.



Legislative Considerations for Long-Distance Service Expansion







FRA Long-Distance Service Study – Report to Congress

Preferred options for restoring or enhancing Long-Distance service

Prioritized inventory of capital projects to restore or enhance service

Federal and non-Federal funding sources

Estimated costs and public benefits of restoring or enhancing intercity rail passenger transportation in the region impacted for each relevant Amtrak route





FRA Long-Distance Service Study – FRA's Preliminary Vision

Common long-term vision for Long-Distance passenger rail service, and capital projects needed to implement that vision, based on existing conditions, future travel demand, and the role of Long-Distance services in the linking communities across the country.

Potential institutional arrangements, financial requirements, and planning and development activities needed to implement the vision.

Strategies for Amtrak and other key stakeholders for implementation and coordination in development of Long-Distance routes, including potential opportunities and efficiencies in Amtrak's management and implementation of Long-Distance services.





Overview of Long-Distance Service Study Scope

- Plan and execute agency, stakeholder and public engagement
- Review previous Long-Distance services
- Assess current Long-Distance services and travel market
- Develop study methods and tools
- Develop restoration and expansion concepts
- Identify preferred options and prioritization
- Develop costs, benefits, and financing information
- Identify final recommendations and implementation strategies
- Issue final report

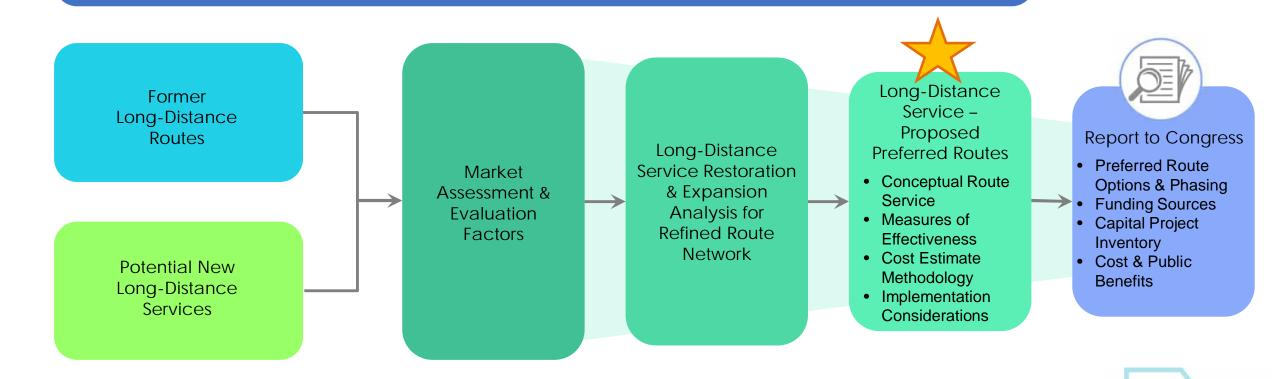


Long-Distance Service Study Approach

Amtrak Non-Daily (Cardinal & Sunset Limited) Routes

• Evaluate existing conditions & requirements to restore to daily service

• Consider & recommend daily service restoration plan



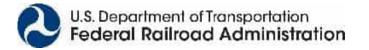


FRA

LONG-DISTANCE

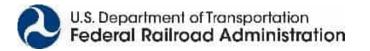
SERVICE STUDY

What this Study IS	What this Study IS NOT
Focused on Long-Distance Network	A "National Rail Plan"
Assessment of routes over 750 miles	Assessment of State-Supported routes
Focused on Amtrak as service provider	Identifying other service providers
Service frequencies to meet Long-Distance markets	High frequency service
Utilization of existing rail corridors	Identifying new "greenfield" alignments
Conventional rail/technology	High-speed or other emerging technologies



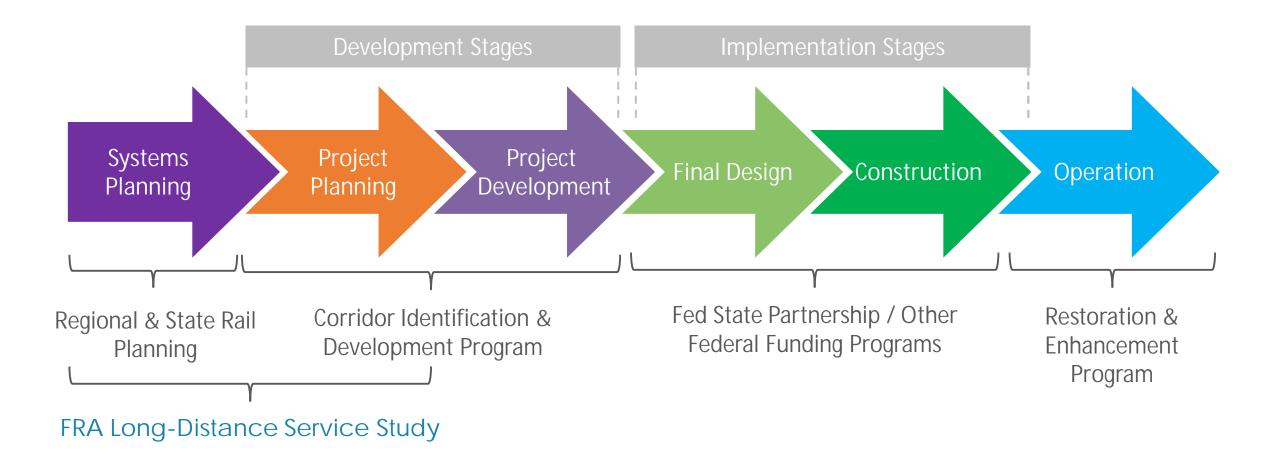
Long-Distance Service Study Technical Outputs

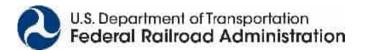
- Develop robust market demand and operations and maintenance (O&M) costs that emphasize the benefits and costs of both the existing and an expanded long-distance network
 - Includes developing demand, revenue, and O&M cost estimates for specific routes under consideration
- Identify passenger-service specific projects
 - Examples: stations, rolling stock, track upgrades
 - Projects will be included as part of "prioritized inventory" mandated by the legislation
 - Decision to focus on identifying these types of projects was based on feedback from host railroads during initial LDSS outreach





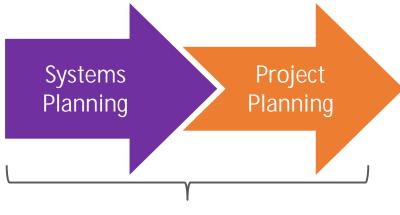
Long-Distance Service Study in the FRA Project Lifecycle Stages







Long-Distance Service Study in the FRA Project Lifecycle Stages



FRA Long-Distance Service Study

Key Systems and Project Planning Tasks Undertaken

- Examines broad needs, challenges, and opportunities
- Considers links with other transportation modes for safe, seamless, integrated transportation to carry travelers from origin to destination within and between megaregions
- Identify passenger-service specific projects, including their respective costs and benefits

Key Project Planning Tasks

Subject to Additional Analysis After This Study

- Route, service, and passenger-specific project recommendations are subject to further development and refinement under subsequent detailed project planning and project development efforts
- Identify potential capacity related improvements and operational issues associated with the proposed routes

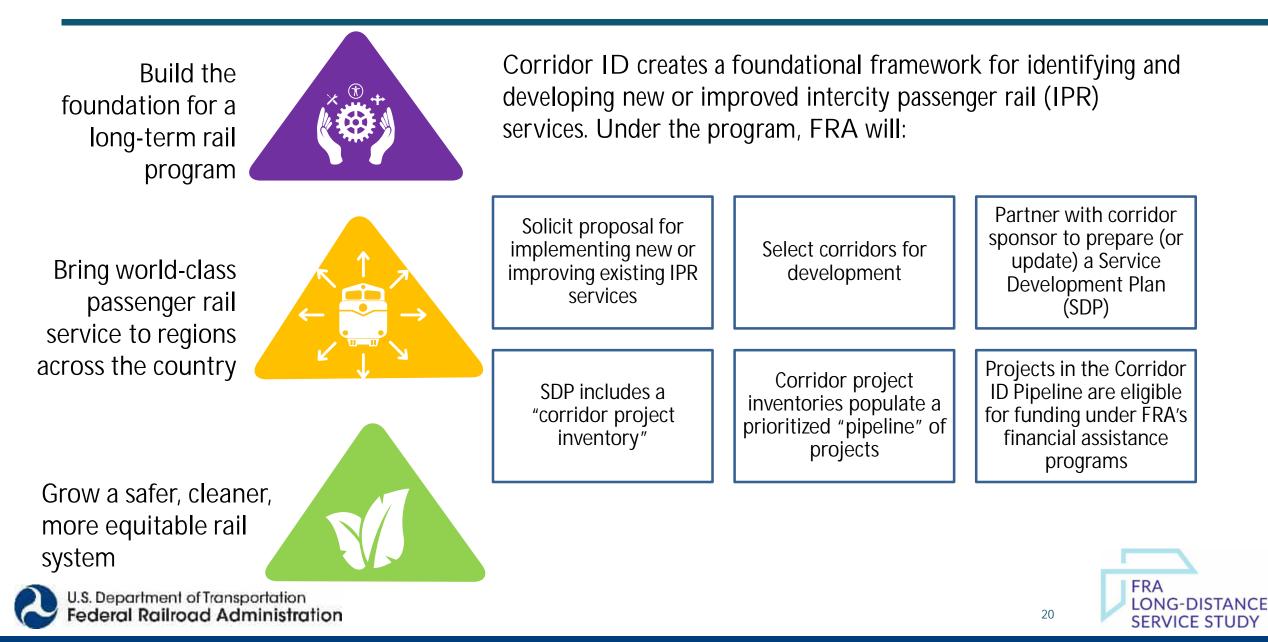
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 Develop conceptual engineering concepts with consideration of environmental factors





Corridor Identification and Development Program Overview



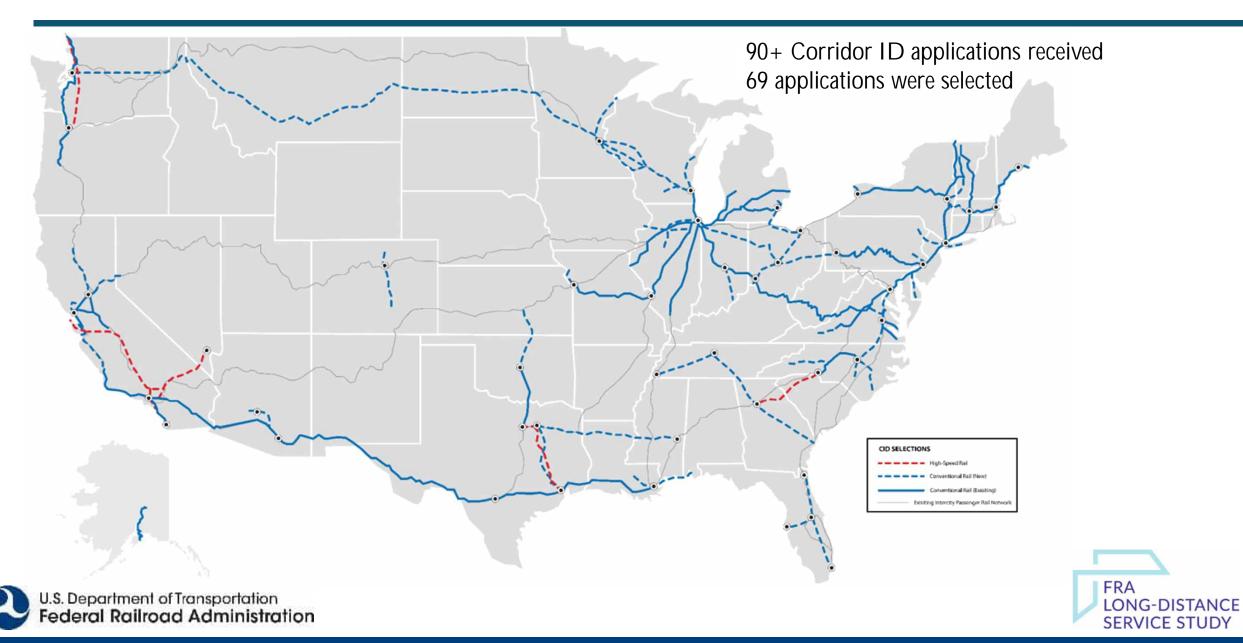
Corridor Identification and Development Program Overview

- Eligibility includes both short-distance (less than 750 miles) services, along with increasing the frequency of long-distance service, and restoring service over any route formerly operated by Amtrak
- The first selections of the Corridor ID Program were announced in December 2023. Long-distance service corridors selected into Step 1 of the program include:
 - Daily Cardinal Service (Amtrak)
 - Daily Sunset Limited Service (Amtrak)
 - North Coast Hiawatha (Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority)
- Step 1 of the program requires sponsors to develop a scope, schedule, and cost estimate for preparing, completing, or documenting its service development plan.





FY 22 Corridor ID Selections



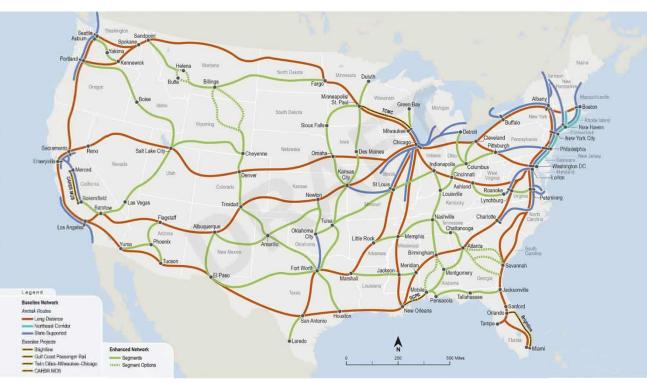
WHAT WE HEARD





Route Development Feedback Received at Meeting Series 2

- During interactive sessions, attendees used a map of the Enhanced Network to identify potential routes, including termini and intermediate stations. Common themes included:
 - Hubs at Kansas City, Denver, Dallas, Atlanta, St. Louis, Charlotte, Memphis, Nashville, Tulsa, Seattle, Los Angeles, Boise, Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, and Indianapolis
 - Support for greater accessibility to military bases and national parks
 - Consideration for restoration of segments of discontinued routes
 - Support for new segments connecting places in the network, like Rapid City, Baton Rouge, and Chattanooga and Roanoke via Knoxville.



Conceptual Enhanced Network presented at Meeting Series 2, July 2023. Not an FRA proposal for service. Segments are conceptual building blocks for consideration in developing potential new long-distance routes.



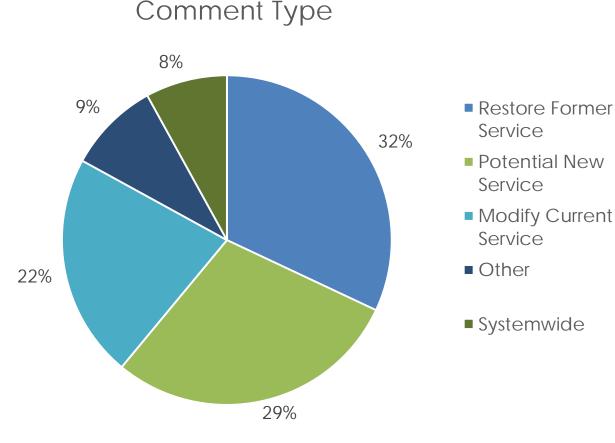
Governance Feedback from Meeting Series 2

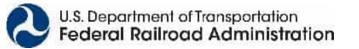
- Participants were asked how FRA and Amtrak could coordinate with stakeholders about current and future long-distance services.
 - Themes for current and future service input included:
 - Community and Rider Engagement: Increased awareness of services and related benefits; coordinated marketing with states and communities; local first/last mile connections; rider surveys; engagement with Tribal Nations, disability community, health care providers, higher education, and tourism/chambers of commerce
 - Planning: Coordinated planning across states and corridor(s), including regional transportation plans and potential multimodal connections/hubs; schedules; station amenities
 - Potential models of governance bodies included:
 - Congressionally-created bodies, such as SAIPRC and NECC; Interstate Rail Compacts, including SRC and MIPRC
 - ✓ Others, including: SPRC, Associations (APTA, AASHTO, CTAA), and MPOs



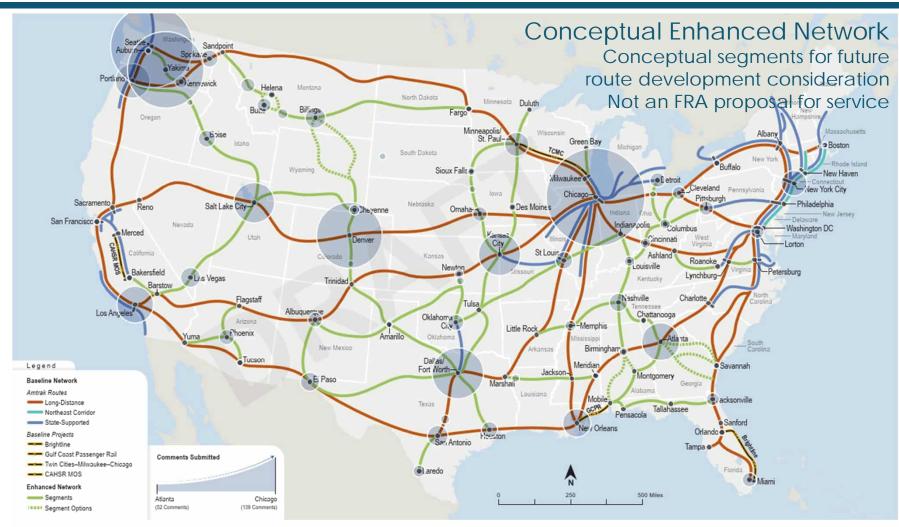
Feedback from the Website from Meeting Series 2

- Received approximately 2,000 comments in the weeks after meeting series 2
 - Project team reviewed and categorized all comments
 - Reviewed comments pertaining to termini and intermediate stations
 - Continued to see comments in support of the study and long-distance service





Route Feedback after Meeting Series 2



Conceptual Enhanced Network presented at Meeting Series 2, July 2023. Not an FRA proposal for service. Segments are conceptual building blocks for consideration in developing potential new long-distance routes.

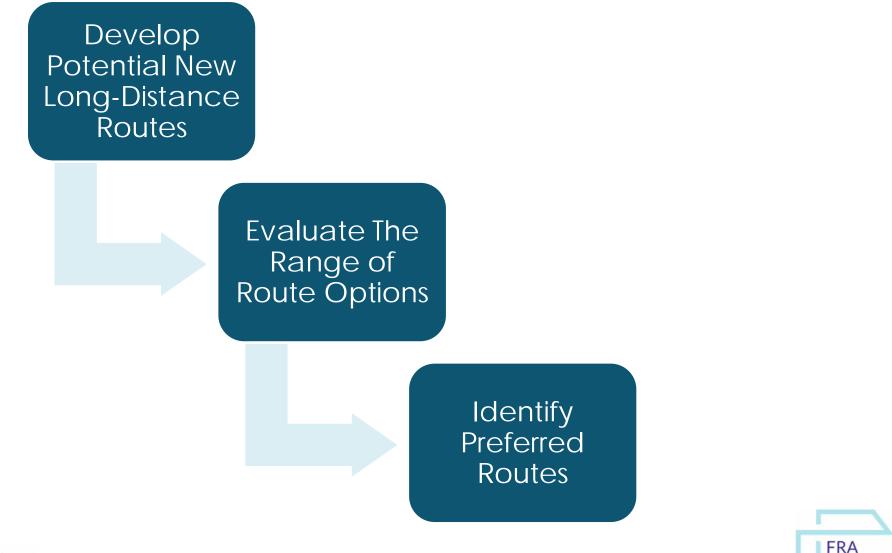


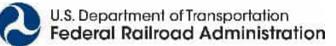
FRA LONG-DISTANCE SERVICE STUDY ROUTE DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY





Route Development and Evaluation Methodology





29

LONG-DISTANCE

SERVICE STUDY

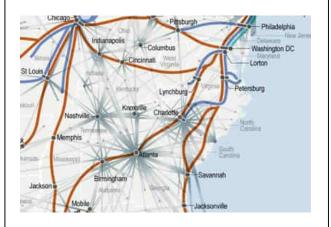
DEVELOP POTENTIAL NEW LONG-DISTANCE ROUTES





Methods Align with the Legislative Considerations

Large and Small Communities Identify metropolitan area travel flows not served by the existing passenger rail network



Link and serve large and small communities as part of a regional rail network

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration



Identify rural and disadvantaged communities not served by existing passenger rail network



Advance the economic and social well-being of rural areas of the United States



Enhance Connectivity

Identify gaps in the passenger rail network, and reflect regional plans for passenger rail service



Provide enhanced connectivity for the national long-distance passenger rail system

Reflect Public Engagement Check that Enhanced Network reflects stakeholder and public inputs



Reflect public engagement and local and regional support for restored passenger rail service

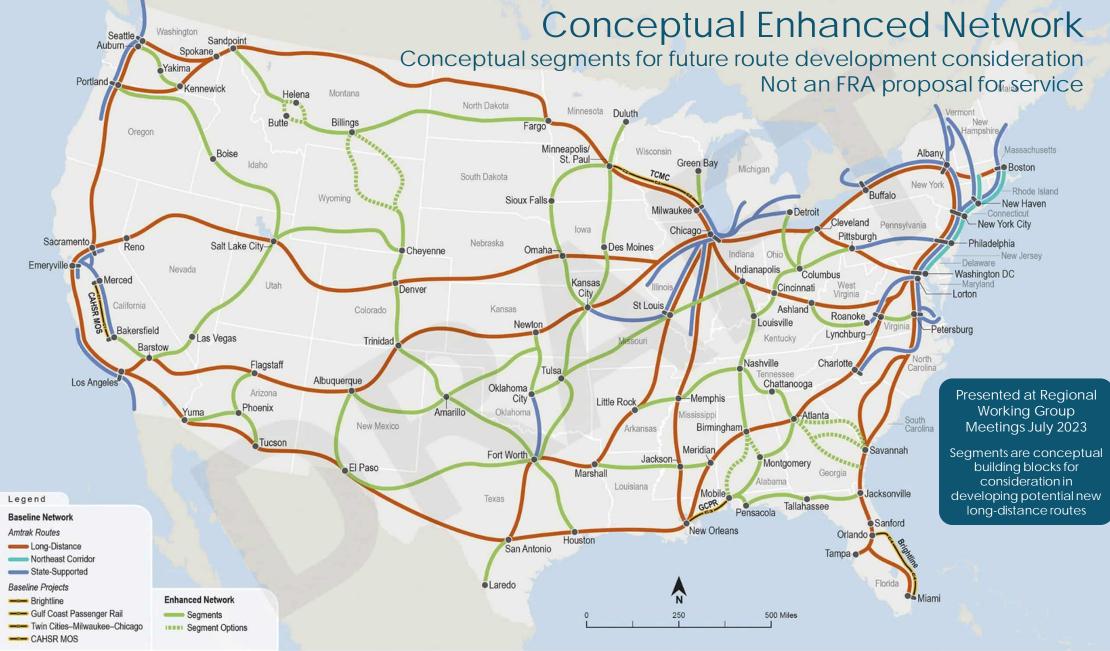




U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration Data provided by Amtrak, 2022



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration Existing Route and Station Data provided by Amtrak 2022; Baseline Projects Data provided by FRA 2023



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration Existing Route and Station Data provided by Amtrak 2022; Baseline Projects Data provided by FRA 2023

Approach to Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes



Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes

- Followed principles for long-distance service developed for this study
 - Begin and end in major markets
 - String together multiple intermediate markets
 - Avoid circuitous routing
 - Are more than 750 miles but less than 2000 miles in length
- Identified terminal markets for potential new long-distance routes
- Connected terminal markets with a range of route options
 - Use new segments in the Enhanced Network
 - New segments in the Enhanced Network reflect the legislative considerations

Approach to Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes



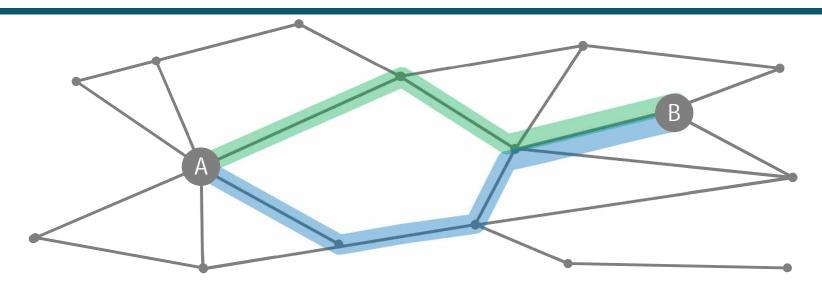
Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes

- Routes and route options developed to address:
 - Metropolitan Area Travel Flows
 - Rural Accessibility
 - Geographic Coverage/Network Connectivity
 - Additional Considerations: Stakeholder Input and Discontinued Routes
- Evaluated the range of route options to select one route option for each potential new long-distance route



Approach to Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes

Example: Two route options connecting major markets A and B



Route

- Made up of segments in the Enhanced Network
- Start and end in major markets
- Represents an existing or potential new long-distance route
- A long-distance route is over 750 miles in length

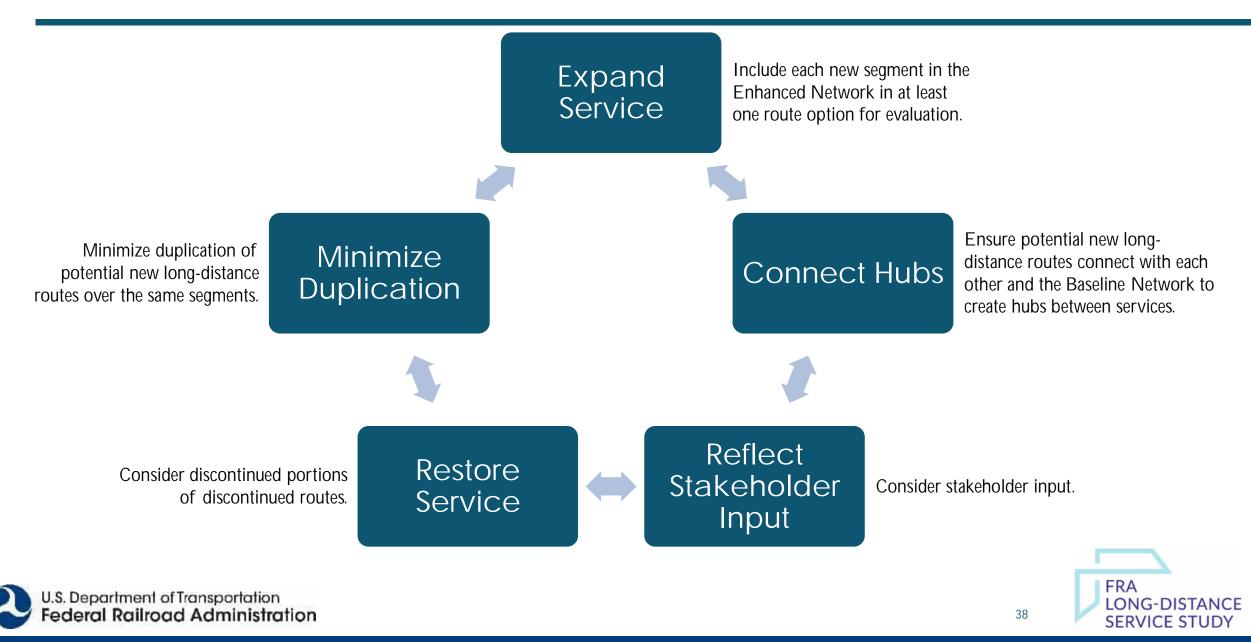
Route Options

- There are multiple ways to connect major markets using segments in the Enhanced Network
- Route options are the alternative means to connect the same or similar major markets using segments in the Enhanced Network





Approach to Develop Potential New Long-Distance Routes



Metropolitan Area Travel Flows

Considered travel demand between Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) Based on 2021 Next-Generation (NextGen) National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) National Passenger Origin-Destination Data

- Identified terminal markets for potential new long-distance routes
 - MSA pairs with 500,000 annual trips or more across all modes
 - Trip lengths of 750 to 2,000 miles
 - MSA pairs not served directly by rail in the Baseline Network
- Connected terminal markets with a range of route options
 - Considered travel demand between intermediate markets
 - MSA pairs with 500,000 annual trips or more across all modes

MSA: Urbanized areas with a minimum population of 50,000



In addition to metropolitan area travel flows, many routes and route options were developed to address needs related to rural accessibility.



Rural Accessibility

Considered those new segments in the Enhanced Network that provide rail service to:

- o Rural Counties
- o Tribal Lands
- o USDOT Justice 40 Transportation and Health Disadvantaged Areas
- Identified terminal markets for potential new long-distance routes:
 - Population greater than 500,000
 - MSA pairs are 750 to 2000 miles apart
- Connected terminal markets with a range of route options

In addition to metropolitan area travel flows and rural accessibility, many routes and route options were developed to address needs related to geographic coverage and network connectivity.





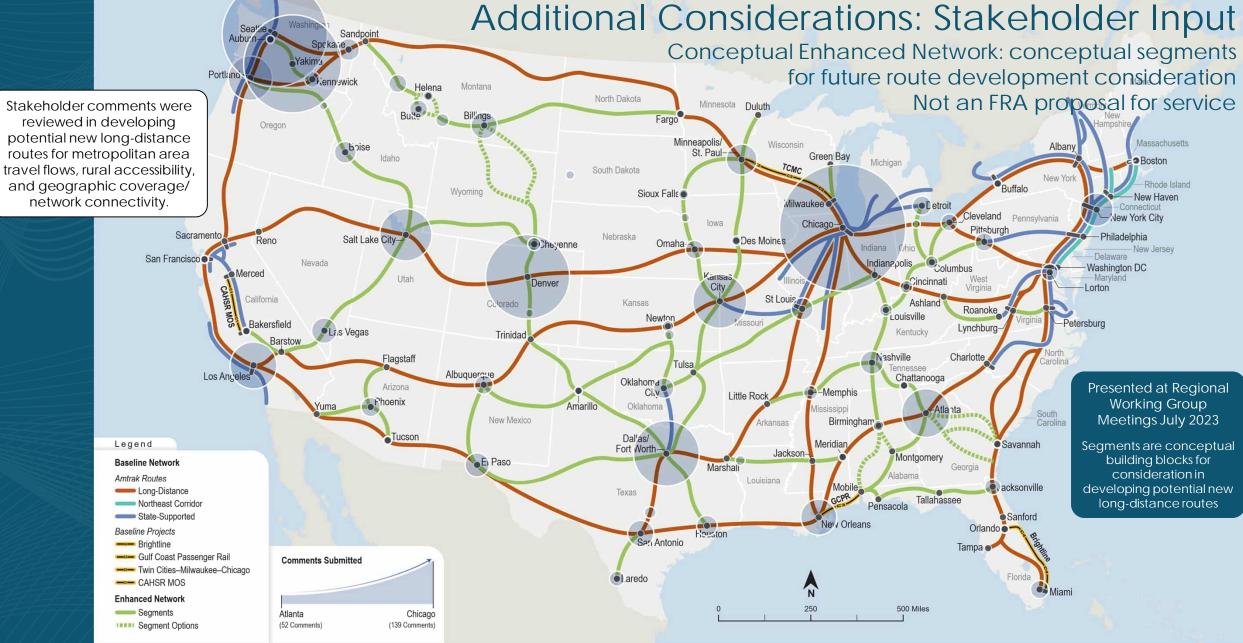
Geographic Coverage/Network Connectivity

Considered those new segments in the Enhanced Network that provide:

- o Rail service to unserved communities
- o Connectivity with other passenger rail services
- Identified terminal markets for potential new long-distance routes:
 - MSA pairs are 750 to 2000 miles apart
 - Served by the Baseline Network or another Preferred Route
- Connected terminal markets with a range of route options

Routes and route options developed to address metropolitan area travel flows, rural accessibility, and geographic coverage and network connectivity.

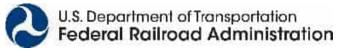




Existing Route and Station Data provided by Amtrak 2022; Baseline Projects Data provided by FRA 2023

Additional Considerations: Discontinued Network

- Examination of Long-Distance routes occurred during the formation of Amtrak in 1970
 - The passenger rail network was evaluated by US DOT and a system recommended to be continued by Amtrak
 - Criteria considered included: national transportation need (available alternative modes), demand, cost competitiveness, population of endpoint cities, profitability, and required capital investment
- The Amtrak Improvement Act of 1978 required US DOT to evaluate Amtrak's network based on financial performance, resulting in removal of several routes
 - Two primary metrics for evaluating route performance were ridership density (passenger-mile/train mile) and loss per passenger-mile
- In 1996, Amtrak's Intercity Strategic Business Unit (ISBU) performed another review of its Long-Distance network, resulting in the removal of additional routes
 - Criteria considered included financial performance, costs saved by elimination, route interconnectivity, and long-term growth and profit opportunities



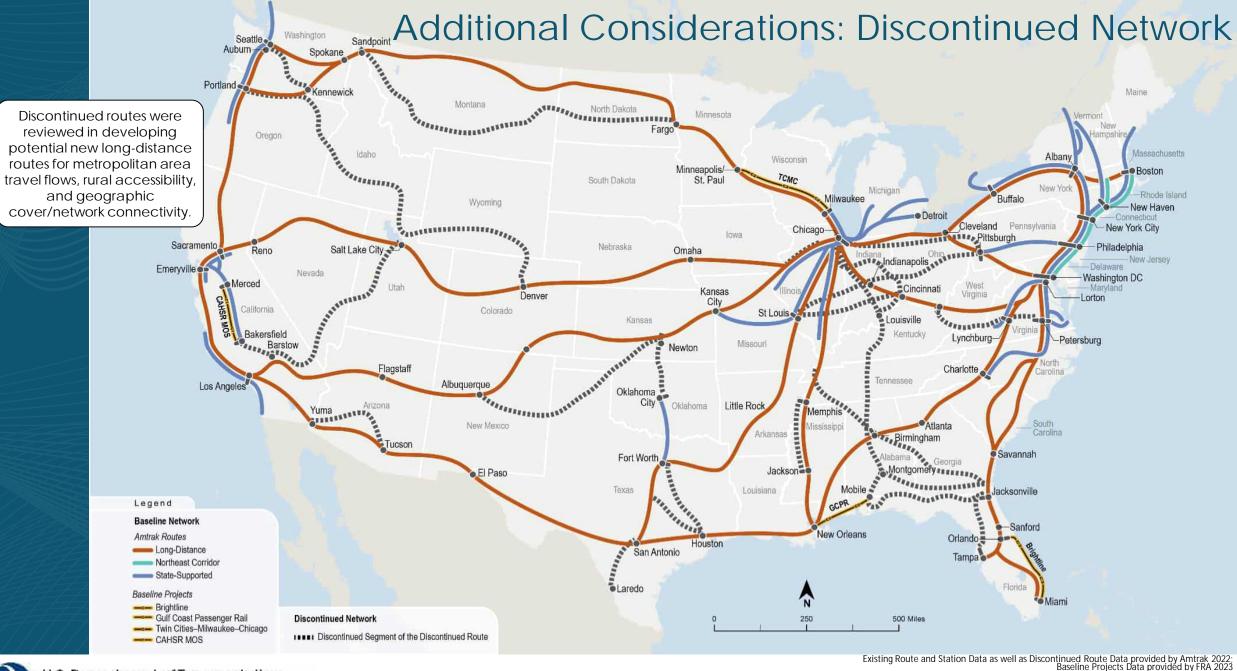
Pre-1971 Routes

Route	Endpoints	Disc.
City of Miami	Chicago, IL and Miami/St. Petersburg, FL	1971
George Washington	St. Louis, MO and Washington, D.C.	1971
Pan American	New Orleans, LA and Cincinnati, IN	1971
San Francisco Chief	Richmond, CA and Chicago, IL	1971

Former Amtrak Routes

Route	Endpoints	Disc.	
James Whitcomb Riley	Chicago, IL and Washington/Newport News	1977	
Mountaineer	Chicago, IL and Norfolk, VA	1977	
Champion	St. Petersburg, FL and New York, NY	1979	
Floridian	Chicago, IL and St. Petersburg/Miami, FL	1979	
Hilltopper	Catlettsburg, KY and Boston, MA	1979	
Lone Star	Dallas/Houston, TX and Chicago, IL	1979	
National Limited	Kansas City, MO and New York/Washington	1979	
North Coast Hiawatha	Seattle, WA and Chicago, IL	1979	
Inter-American	Laredo/Houston, TX and Chicago, IL	1981	
River Cities	New Orleans, LA and Kansas City, MO	1993	
Gulf Breeze	Mobile, AL, and New York, NY	1995	
Texas Eagle - Houston	Houston, TX and Chicago, IL	1995	
Sunset Limited - West	Los Angeles, CA and New Orleans, LA	1996	
Desert Wind	Los Angeles, CA and Chicago, IL	1997	
Pioneer	Seattle, WA and Chicago, IL	1997	
Silver Palm/Palmetto	Miami, FL and New York, NY	2004	
Sunset Limited - East	New Orleans, LA and Miami, FL	1996	
	New Orleans, LA and Orlando, FL		
Broadway Limited/Three Rivers	Chicago, IL and New York, NY	2005	





EVALUATE THE RANGE OF ROUTE OPTIONS





Route Options Evaluation Methodology

Evaluated the range of route options to select one route option for each potential new long-distance route

- Compared route options based on evaluation criteria
 - Compare and rate quantitative data
 - Evaluation criteria organized into four categories that align with the legislative considerations
 - ✓ Metropolitan Area Travel Flows
 - ✓ Rural Accessibility
 - ✓ Geographic Coverage/Network Connectivity
 - ✓ Stakeholder Input
 - Results of the comparison summarized by category
 - Other factors: Considered when selecting a route option where the evaluation criteria alone is inconclusive
 - ✓ Professional Judgement: leverage rail planning experience
 - ✓ Discontinued Network: Portion of discontinued routes that no longer have service
- Defined catchment areas for the route options to collect data
- Excluded trips for route options serving local MSA pairs

Evaluation Criteria

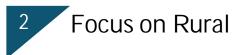
Large and Small Communities

Metropolitan Area Travel Flows

 Travel Demand: Number of annual trips per mile for all MSA trips pairs on the route option (2021 NextGen NHTS National Passenger Origin-Destination Data)

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration



Rural Accessibility

- Transportation Disadvantaged Access: Population per mile (USDOT Justice 40 Disadvantaged areas)
- Tribal Access: Population per mile (American Indian, American Indian Tribal Subdivisions, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas)
- Higher Education Access: Number of higher education institutions (Public and private not-for-profit)
- Medical Center Access: Number of medical centers (Level I or II trauma centers, cancer facilities, veteran facilities)
- National Park Access: Number NPS lands (National Park Service national parks, recreation areas, and preserves)



Connectivity Geographic Coverage/Network Connectivity

- Access for MSAs Unserved by Existing Passenger Rail: Number and population of MSAs (Population of census tracts in MSAs)
- Restored Portions of Discontinued Routes: Percent of route miles that include discontinued long-distance routes

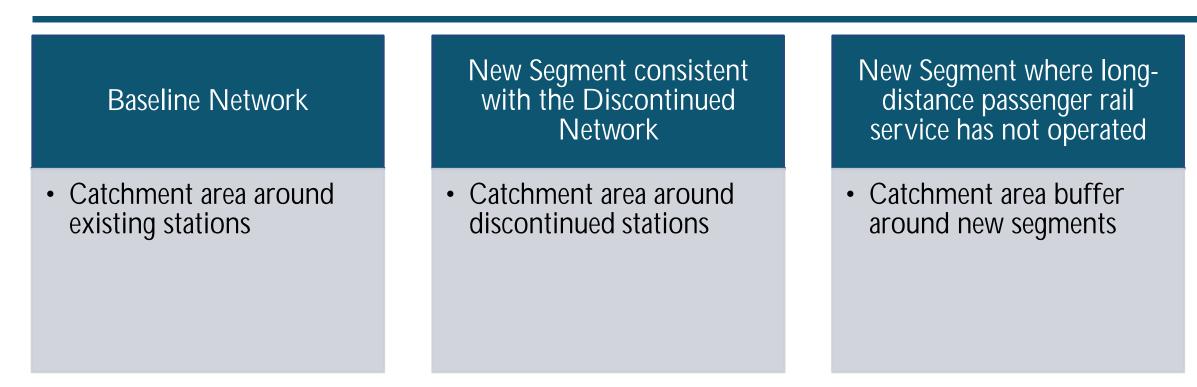


Stakeholder Input

 Feedback from Stakeholders: Top quartile by volume of comments received supporting markets and segments in route options



Places Served by the Route Options



Catchment Area: To support network-level analysis, catchment areas are defined as a 30-mile radius where the station or new segment is in an MSA, or a 50-mile radius where the station or new segment is in a non-MSA area.





Evaluation Criteria

- Analysis of travel demand data excluded major local trips
 - Some routes include local city pairs that may significantly bolster the overall travel flow.
 - Excluded these markets to accurately reflect demand for potential new long-distance routes.
 - Trips flows between MSA pairs were excluded if two conditions were met:
 - ✓ MSA pairs were within 100 miles
 - ✓ MSA pairs exceeded the 80th percentile of all demand for a given route option
- Examples: Excluded trips for route options serving MSA pairs

San Antonio – Austin, TX	Denver – Boulder, CO	Dayton – Springfield, OH
 53 million annual trips 80 miles	 70 million annual trips 25 miles	 25 million annual trips 25 miles





FRA

IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED NETWORK OF PREFERRED ROUTES





Inclusion of Cardinal and Sunset Limited

 This study is required to evaluate the restoration of daily passenger rail service along any long-distance routes that occur on a nondaily basis.



 The restoration of daily Cardinal and Sunset Limited passenger rail service is assumed when identifying the proposed network of preferred routes.

Sunset Limited: Los Angeles-New Orleans





- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Southwest Region

- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Denver
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- El Paso Billings



- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Southeast Region

- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Houston New York
- Detroit New Orleans
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta



- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Northwest Region

- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Seattle Denver
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- El Paso Billings



- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Central Region

- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta



- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Midwest Region

- Chicago Miami
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago



- Chicago Miami
- Dallas/Fort Worth Miami
- Denver Houston
- Los Angeles Denver
- Phoenix Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
- Houston New York
- Seattle Denver
- San Antonio Minneapolis/St. Paul
- San Francisco Dallas/Fort Worth
- Detroit New Orleans
- Denver Minneapolis/St. Paul
- Seattle Chicago
- Dallas/Fort Worth Atlanta
- El Paso Billings



Northeast Region

- Dallas/Fort Worth New York
 - o Oklahoma City
 - o St. Louis
 - o Columbus
 - o Pittsburgh
 - o Harrisburg
 - o Lancaster
- Houston New York
 - o New Orleans
 - o Montgomery
 - o Atlanta
 - o Chattanooga
 - o Roanoke
 - o Washington DC



How do the Enhanced and Preferred Network Compare?

	Baseline	Enhanced		Preferred
Total Long-Distance Route Miles	21,900	n/a		45,100
Total U.S. Population Served	247 million	290 million		292 million
Total Rural, Transportation- Disadvantaged Population Served	13 million	18 million	Ţ	19 million
Total Rural Population Below the Poverty Threshold Served	18 million	27 million		27 million
Total Population on Tribal Lands Served	2 million	4 million		4 million
		n/a = not applicable		



60

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LONG-DISTANCE

SERVICE STUDY





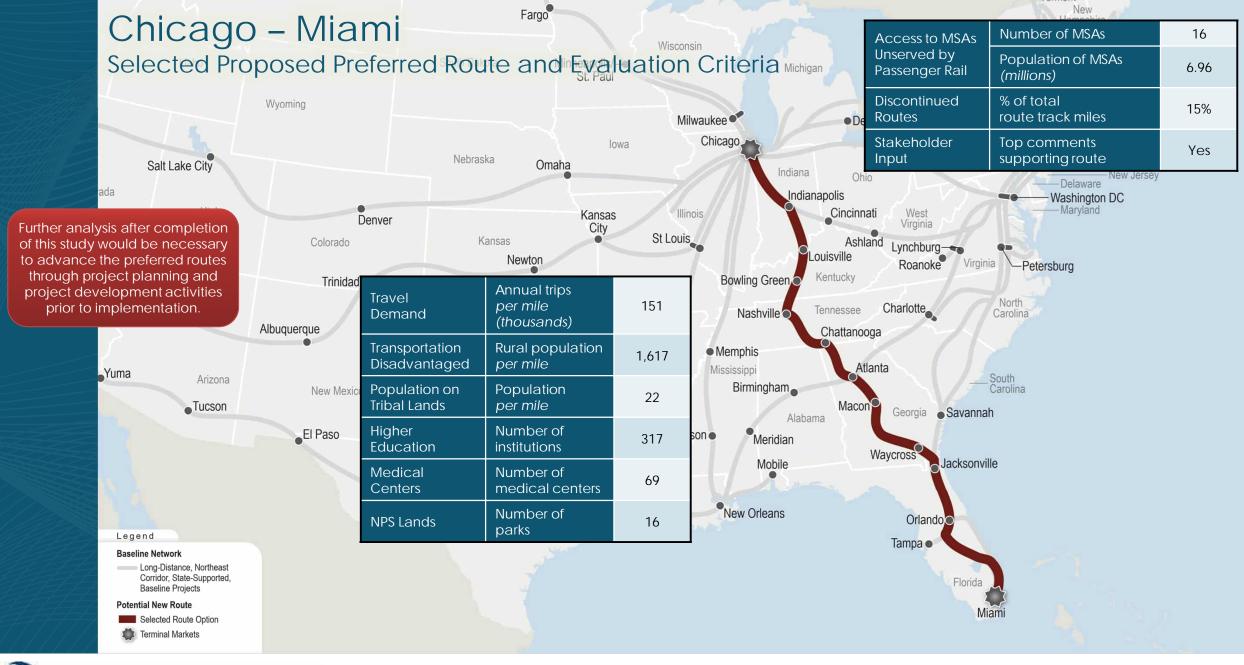
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LONG-DISTANCE

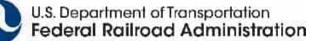
SERVICE STUDY

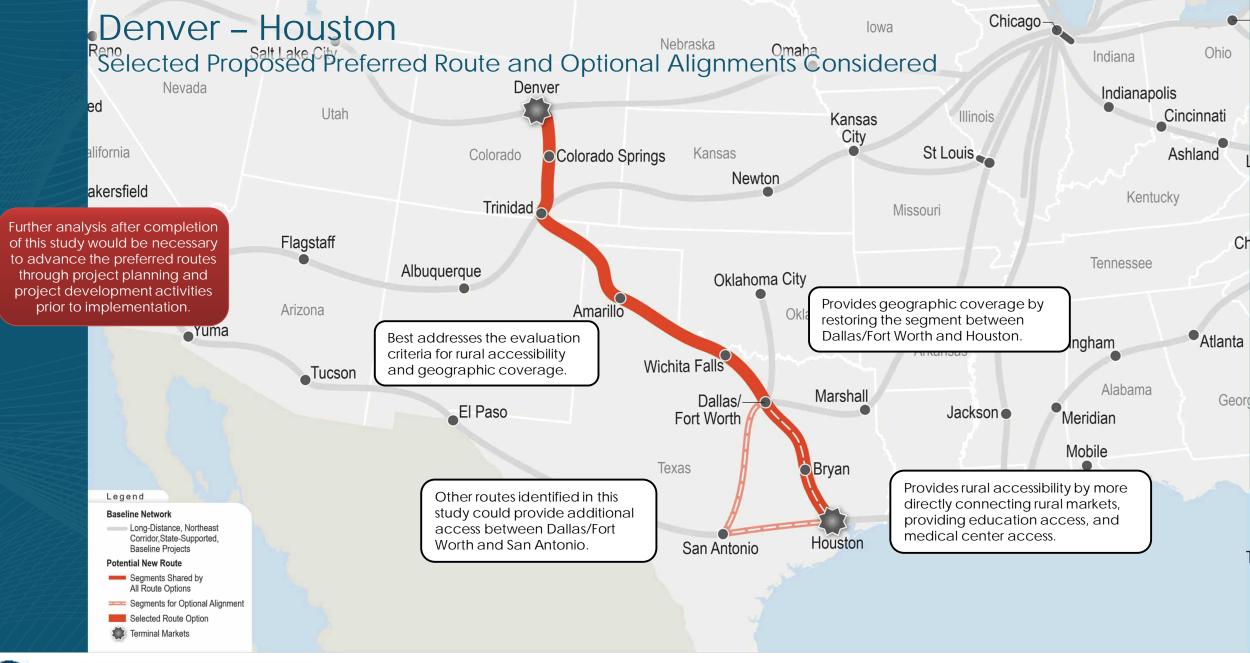


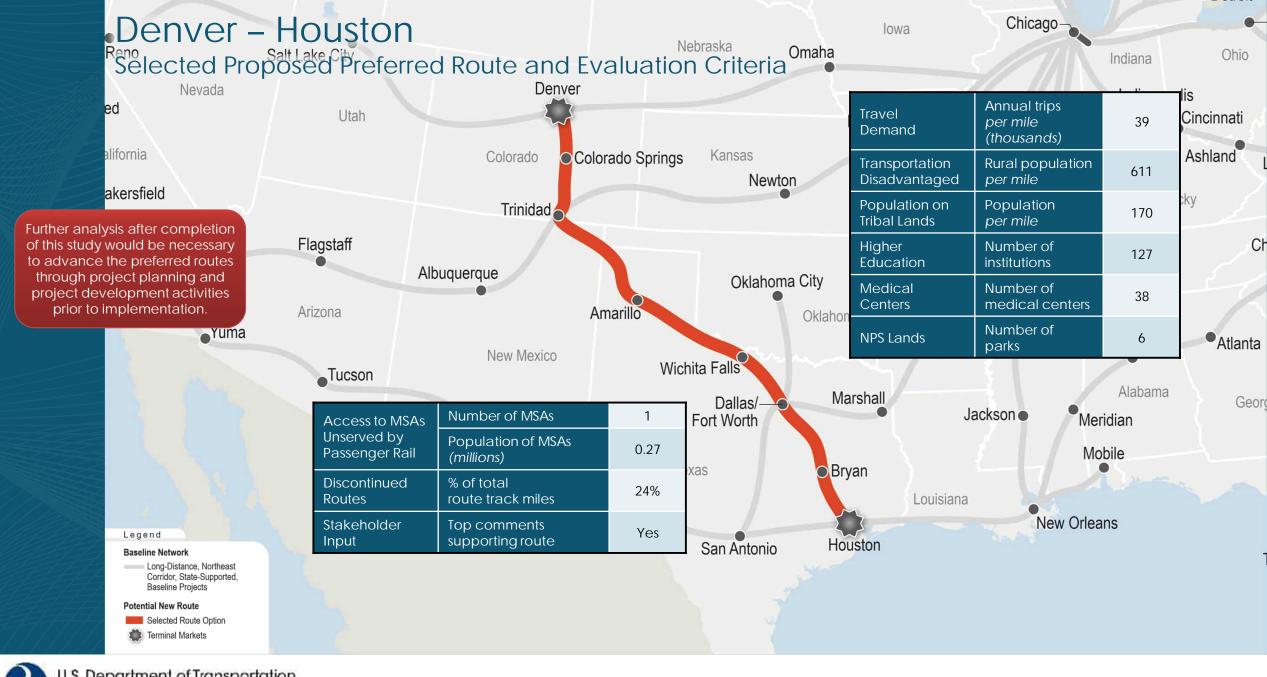


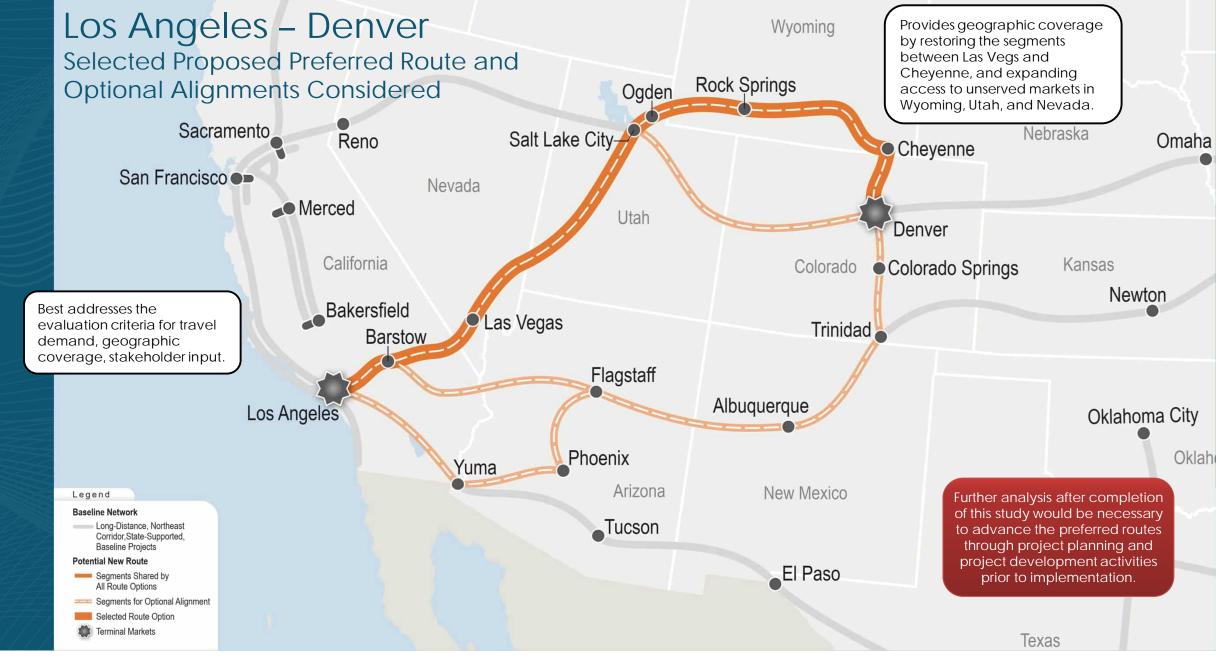






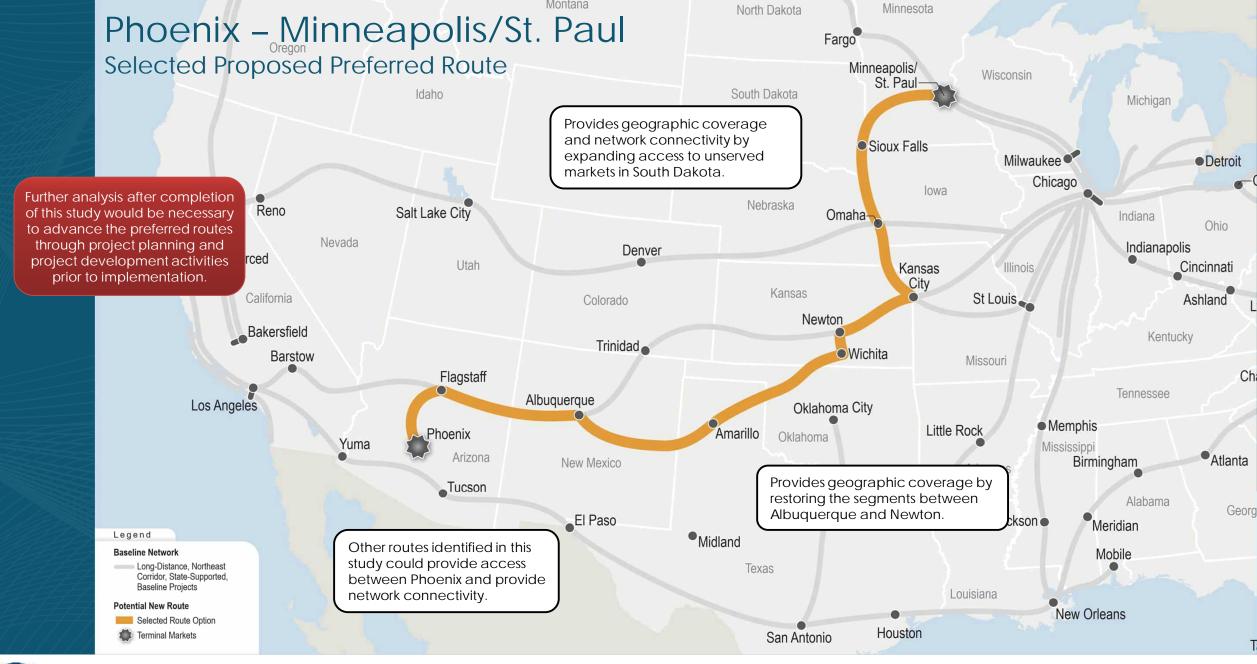


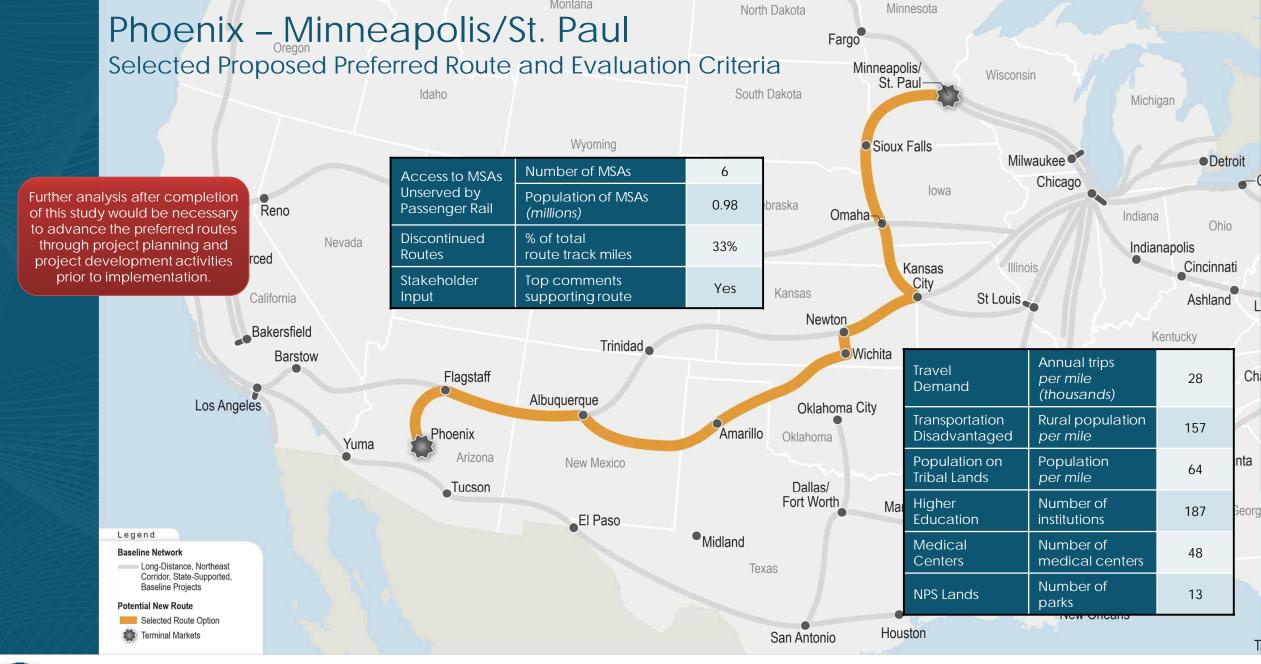


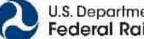


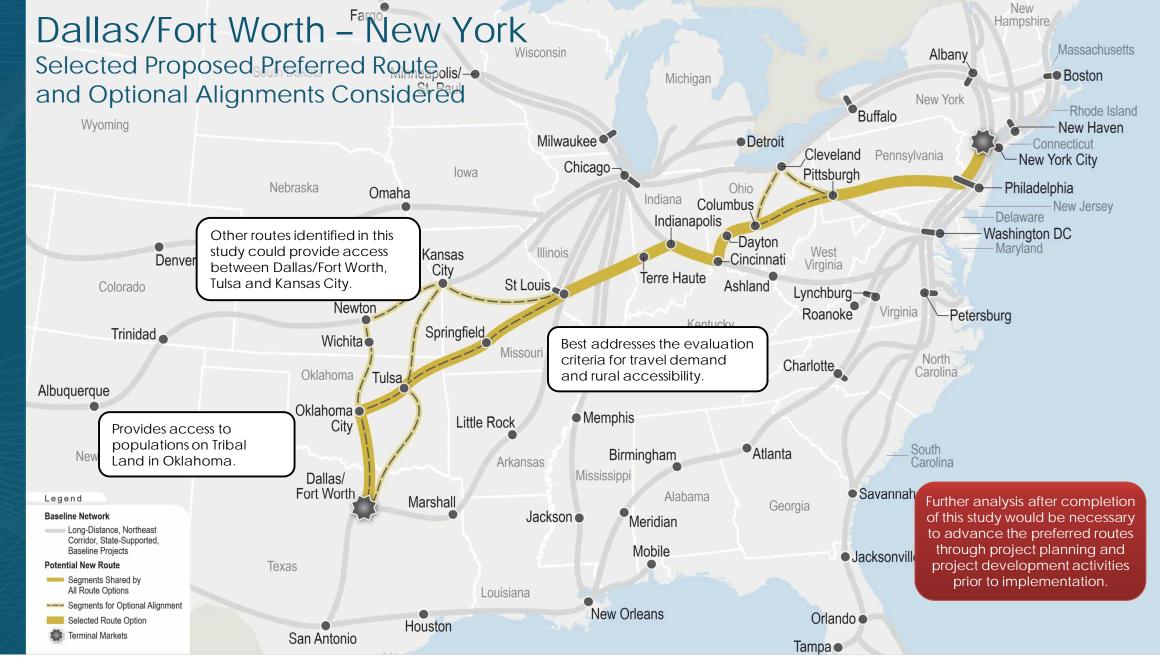


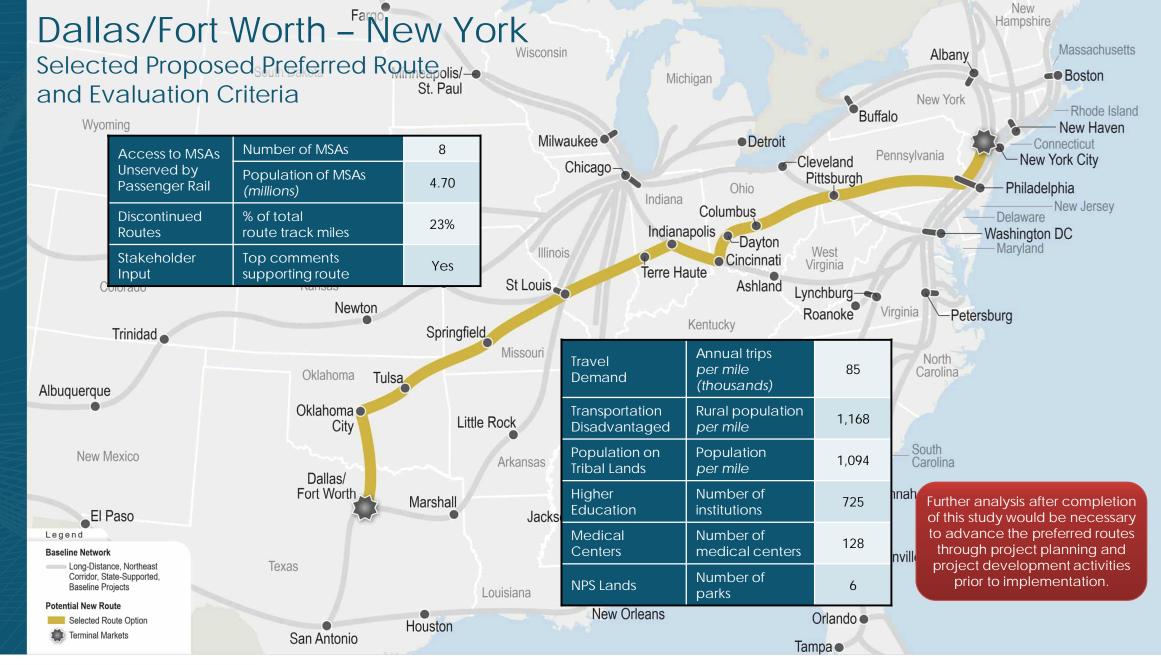


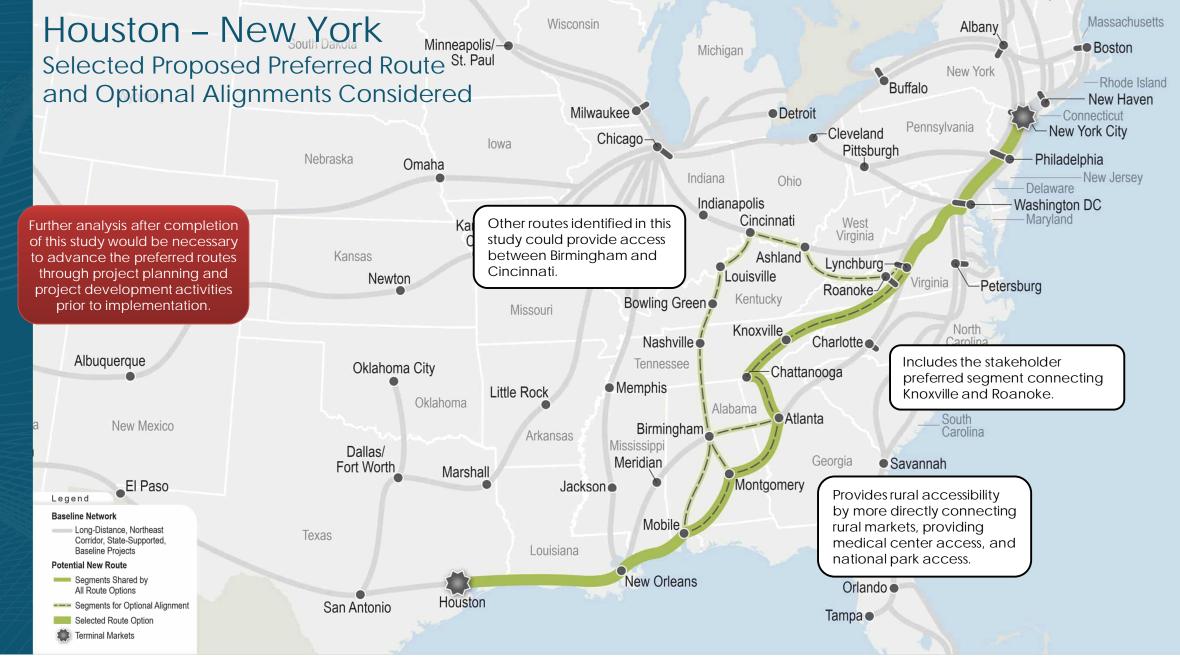










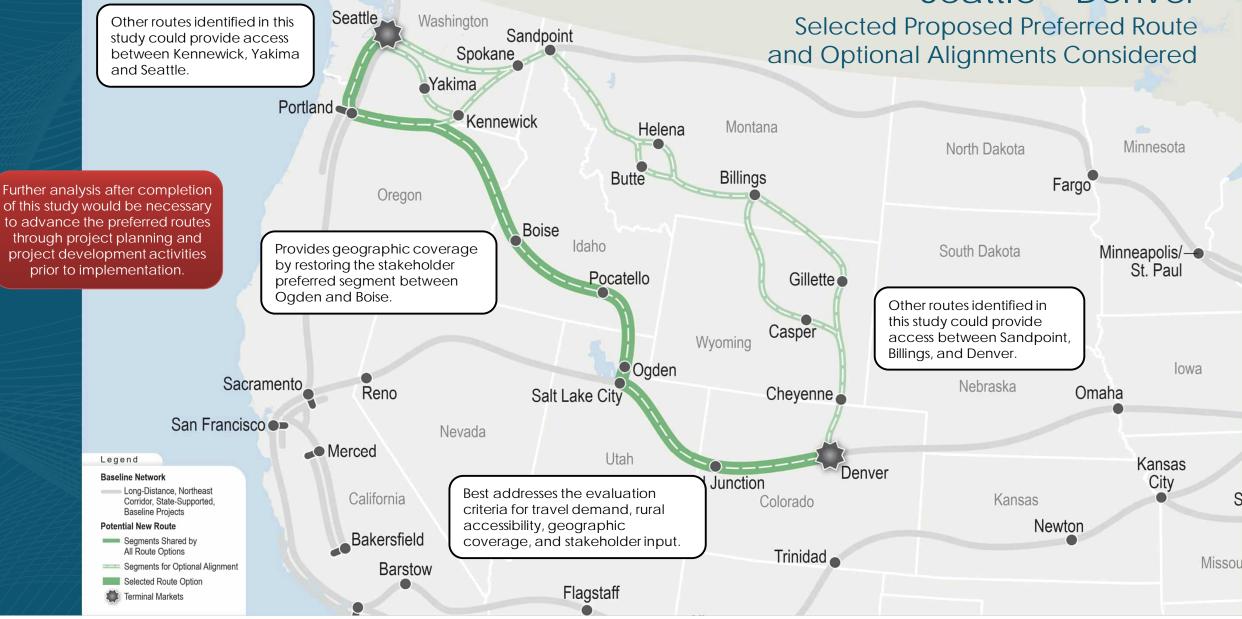


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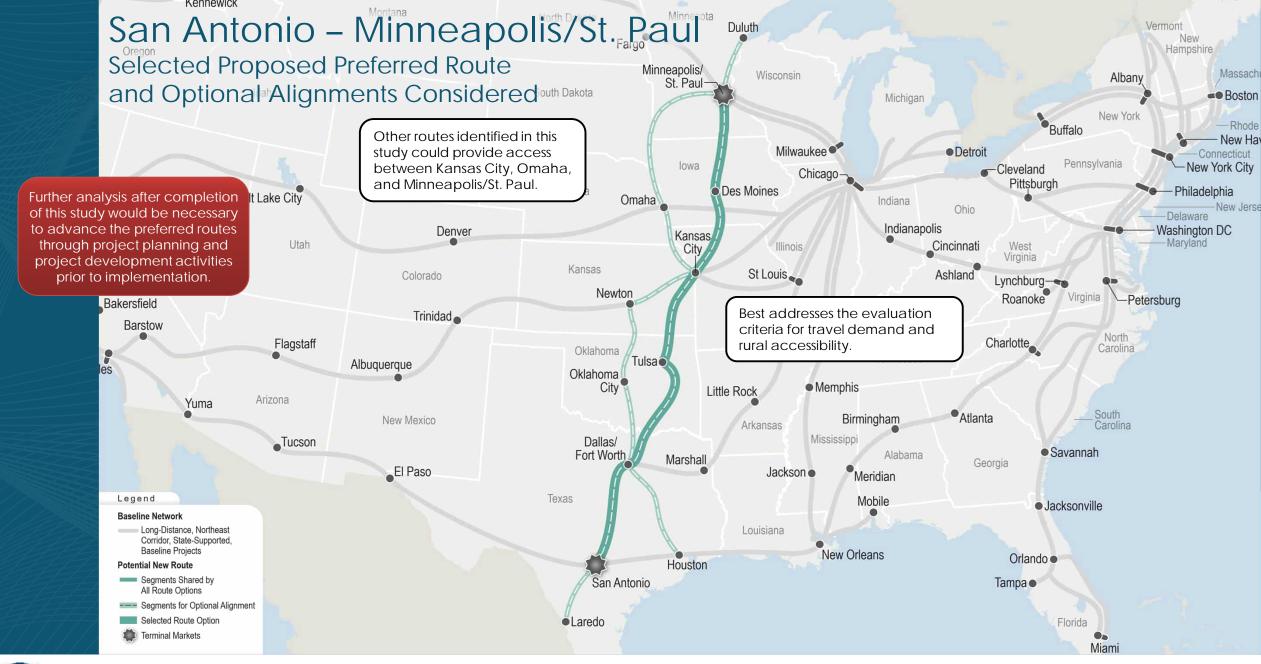


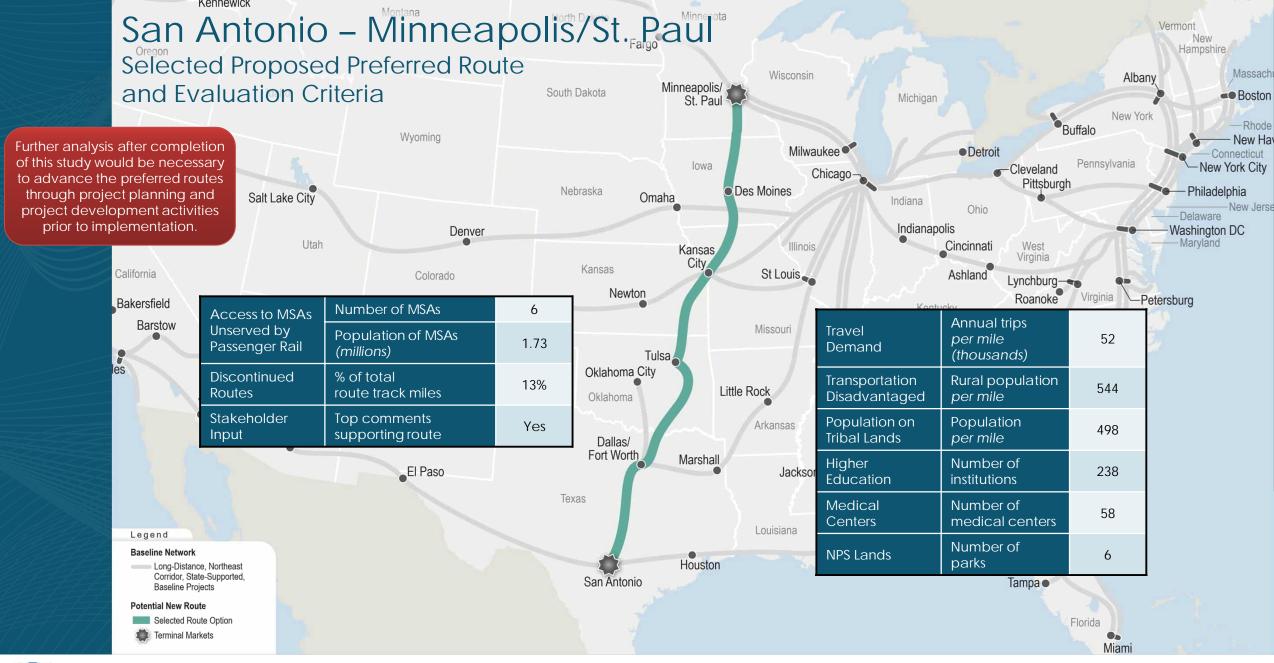
Seattle – Denver



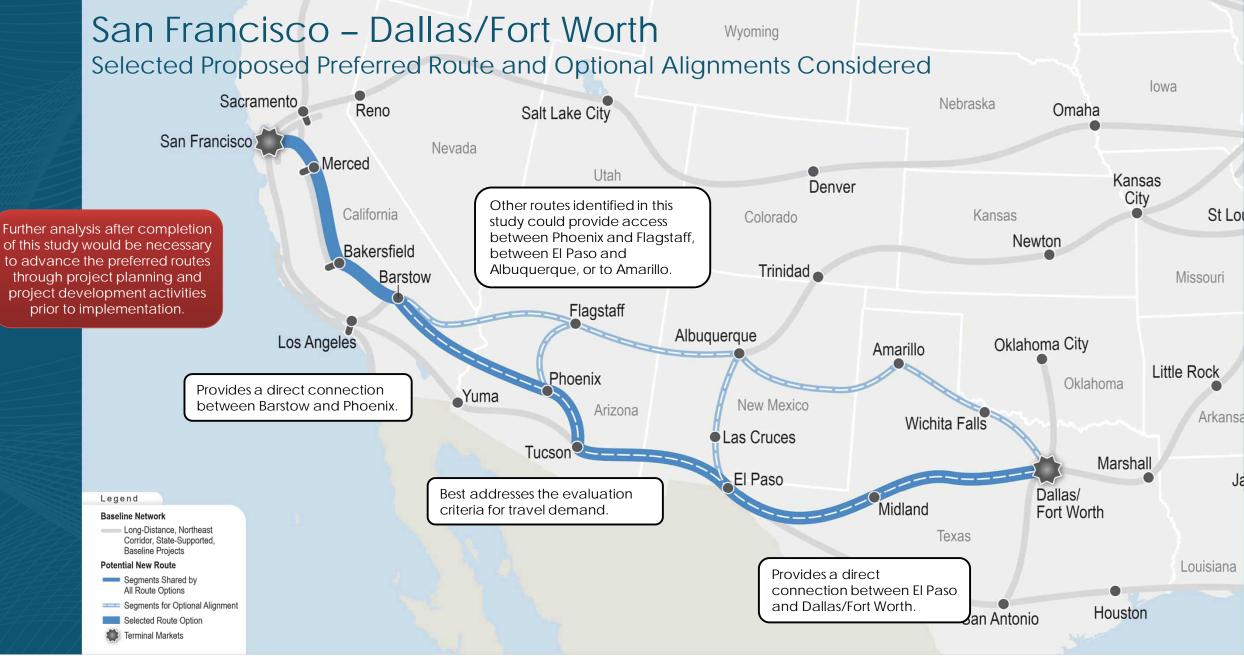
Seattle - Denver



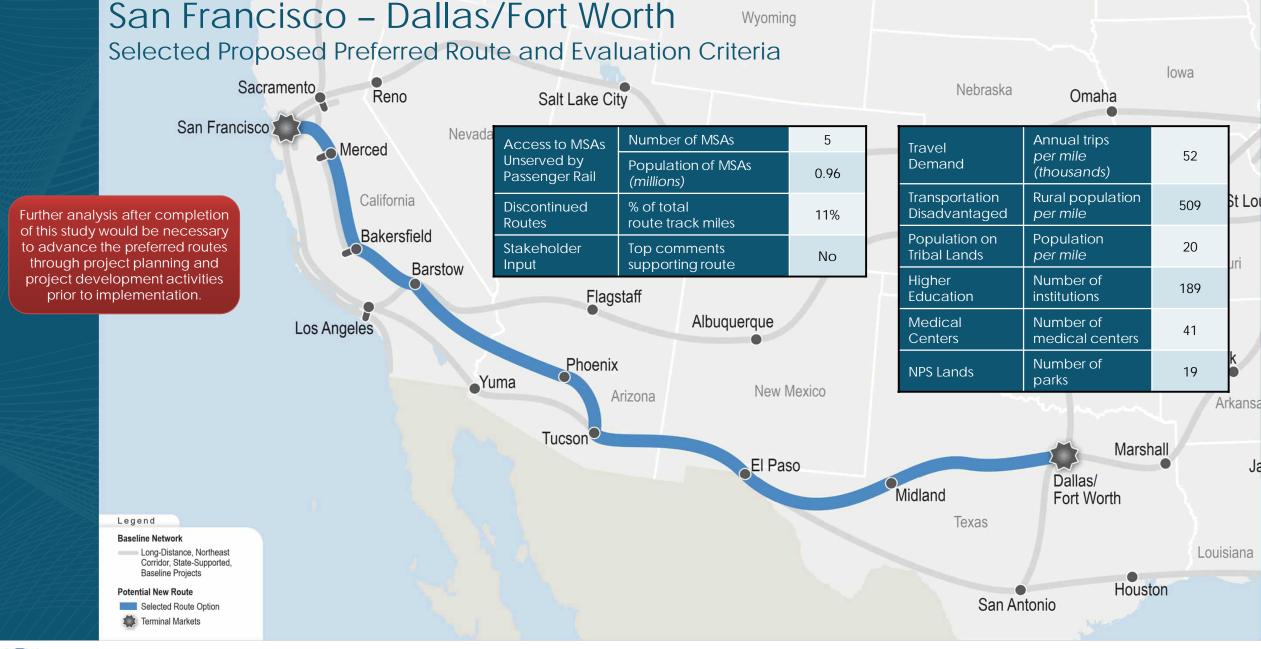


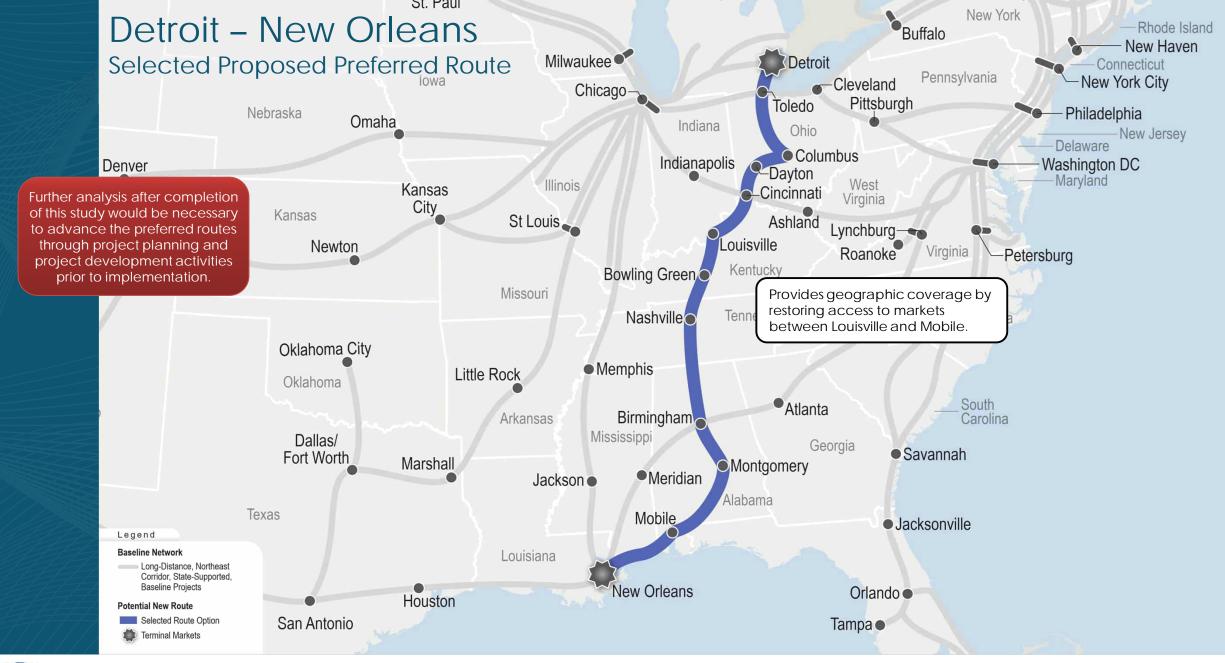






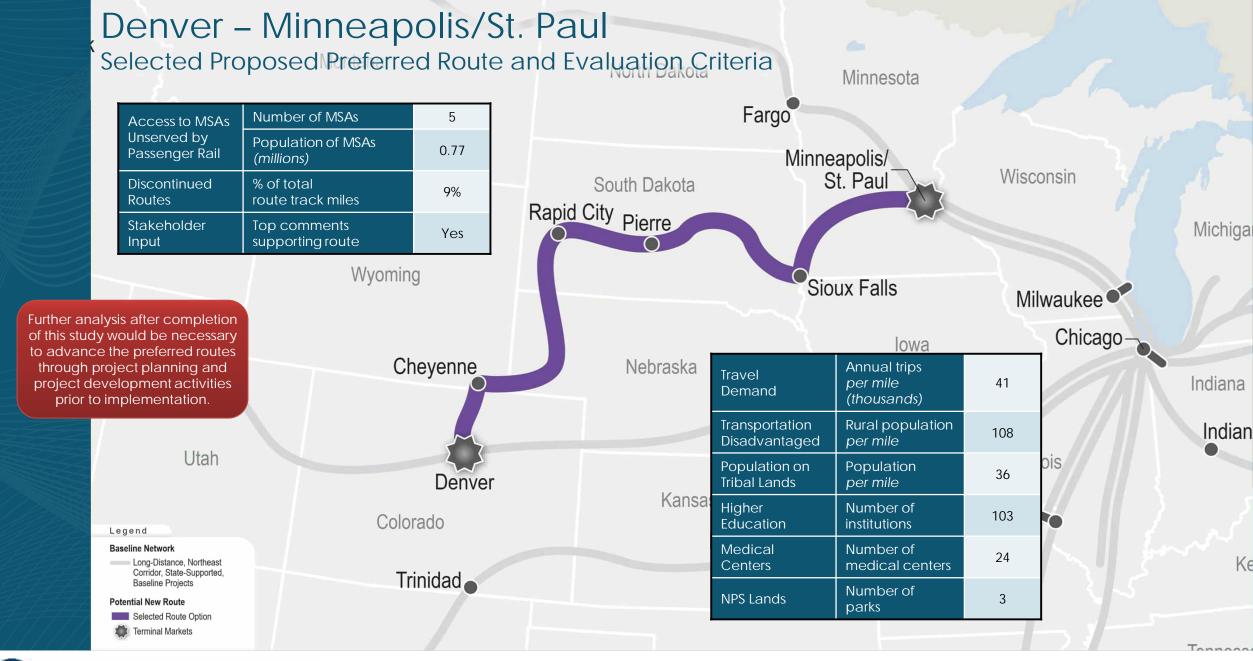


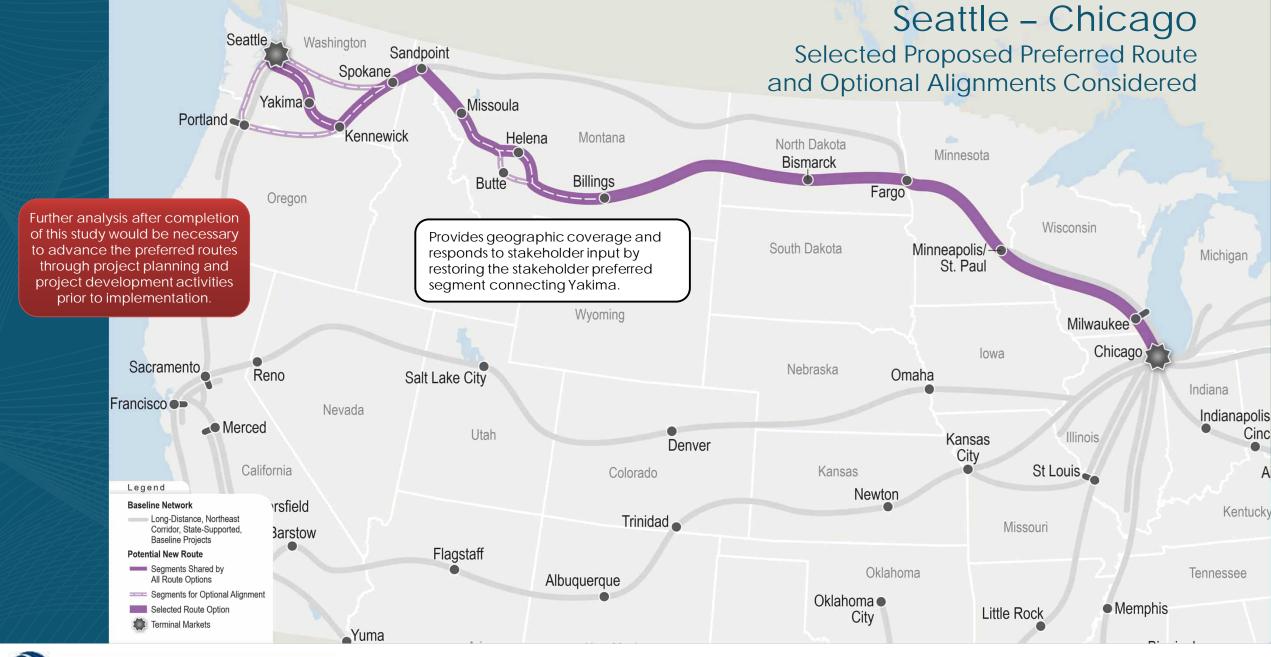






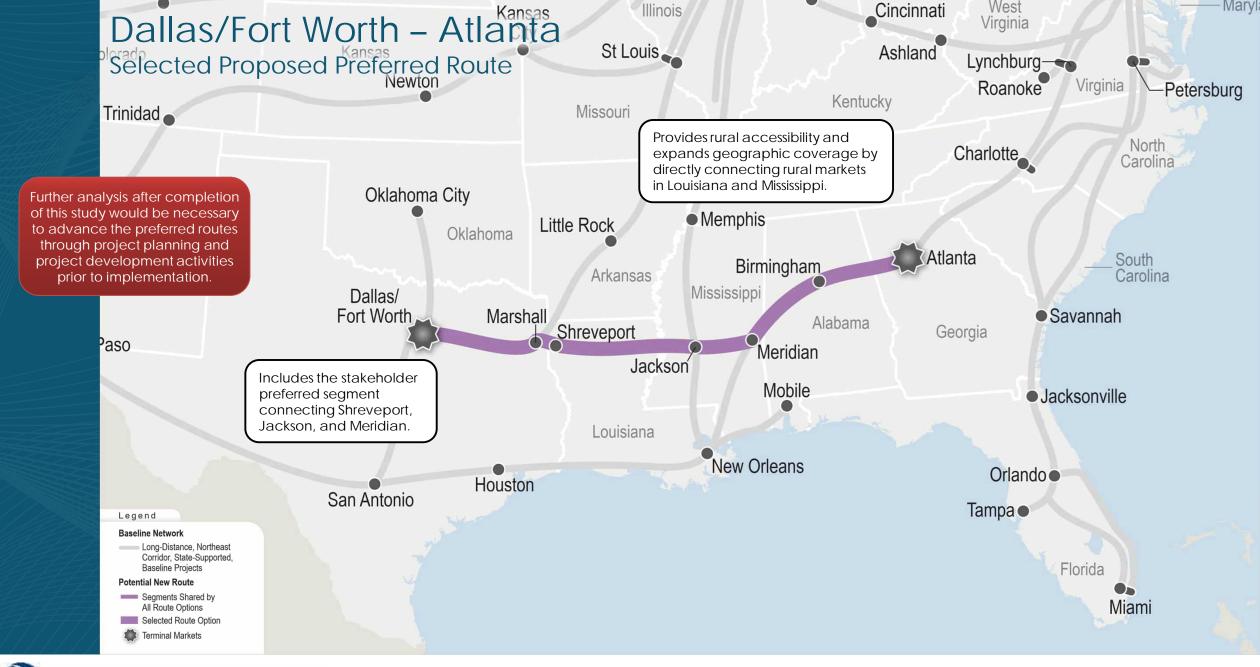








Federal Railroad Administration









COMPARISON OF PREFERRED AND BASELINE NETWORKS





Analyze the Preferred Network

Compare the Preferred Network to the Baseline Network



Calculate the measures of effectiveness of the Baseline Network Calculate the measures of effectiveness of the Preferred Network

Compare the Preferred Network to the Baseline Network Quantify how the Preferred Network meets the goals and objectives

93



Measures of Effectiveness

- Feedback on the evaluation factors from stakeholders informed the development of goals and objectives
- Goals and Objectives:
 - o Connectivity
 - ✓ Increase Passenger Access to the National Passenger Rail Network
 - Improve passenger rail geographic coverage
 - Link and Serve Large and Small Communities
 - ✓ Increase long-distance passenger rail connections to small communities
 - Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas
 - Enhance access for historically disadvantaged populations
 - ✓ Enhance access for tribal areas
 - Enhance rural access to services
- The Project Team developed measures of effectiveness for the goals and objectives to evaluate the Preferred Network





Measures of Effectiveness

Population with access to passenger rail

- 100 most populated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
- Rural areas

Rural population with access to passenger rail

- Transportation and health disadvantaged
- Below the poverty threshold
- Areas of persistent poverty

MSAs served by passenger rail (number and population)

- Discontinued routes
- New segments

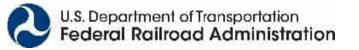
Number of passenger rail stations in small communities

Population on tribal lands with access to passenger rail

Number of services connected to passenger rail

- Public/private higher education institutions
- Medical centers
- National parks, recreation areas, & preserves





GOAL: CONNECTIVITY

INCREASE PASSENGER ACCESS TO THE NATIONAL PASSENGER RAIL NETWORK

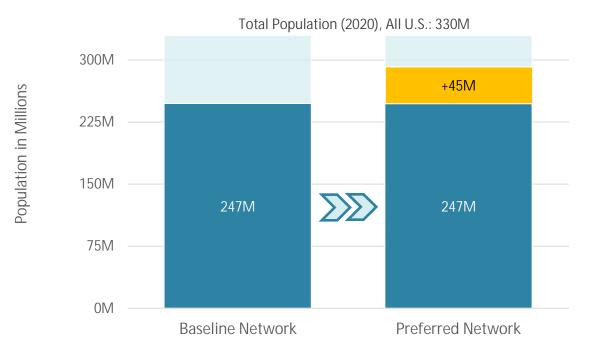
IMPROVE PASSENGER RAIL GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE





Objective: Increase Passenger Access to the National Passenger Rail Network

- Scope: Total U.S. Population
- 45 million more people could have access to passenger rail services



o an 18% increase

 \rightarrow capturing 54% of the previously unserved population

Population of census tracts served by the Baseline Network or Preferred Network. Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census (census tracts)

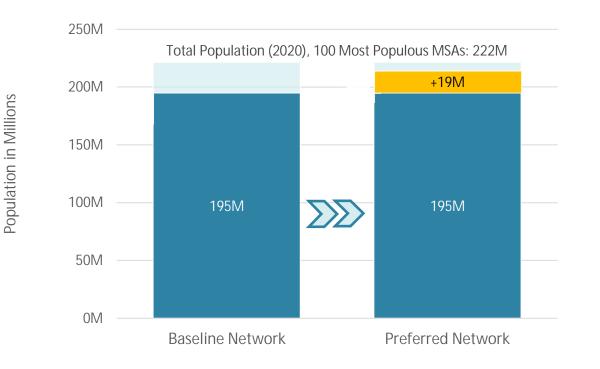


Objective: Increase Passenger Access to the National Passenger Rail Network

- Scope: Population of the 100 Most Populous MSAs
- 19 million more people could have access to passenger rail services
- o a 10% increase

 \rightarrow capturing 71% of the previously unserved population

MSA: Metropolitan Statistical Areas – population greater than 50,000



Population of census tracts served by the Baseline Network or Preferred Network. Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census (census tracts and MSAs)



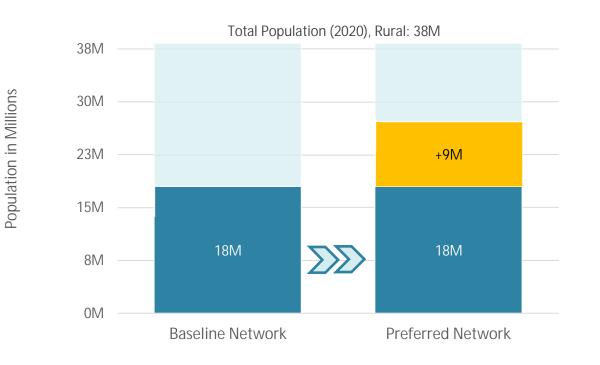
Objective: Increase Passenger Access to the National Passenger Rail Network

- Scope: U.S Population Outside Urbanized Areas (i.e., Rural)
- 9 million more people could have access to passenger rail services
- o a 51% increase

 \rightarrow capturing 46% of the previously unserved population

Rural: population outside of urbanized areas, located within neither Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) nor Micropolitan Statistical Areas (MMSAs)





Population of census tracts served by the Baseline Network or Preferred Network. Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census (census tracts and Urbanized Area boundaries)



Objective: Improve Passenger Rail Geographic Coverage

o 2 additional states

 \rightarrow 48 states, as well the District of Columbia, could have access to passenger rail services

24 additional congressional districts

 \rightarrow 431 congressional districts could have access to passenger rail services







will have access to passenger rail



Congressional Districts

407

46

States

+24 Additional Districts (6%) = 431

will have access to passenger rail

Baseline Network



100

States boundaries and congressional districts containing a segment in the Preferred or Baseline Network; values do not include District of Columbia counted separately Source: U.S. Census Bureau. State and congressional district boundary shapefiles (2022)





Objective: Improve Passenger Rail Geogr Coverage	aphic	Baseline Network		Preferred Network
 61 more MSAs a 21% increase 	MSAs	284	+61 Total +36 Discontinued +25 New	345
 19 million more people an 8% increase 	Population	229 million	+ 19 million Total +13 million Discontinued +6 million New	248 million
 23,200 more route miles a 106% increase 	Long- Distance Route Miles	21,900	+23,200 Total +5,900 Discontinued +11,100 New Segments +6,200 Baseline	45,100

... could have access to passenger rail service







GOAL: LINK AND SERVE LARGE AND SMALL COMMUNITIES

INCREASE LONG-DISTANCE PASSENGER RAIL CONNECTIONS TO SMALL COMMUNITIES





Goal: Link and Serve Large and Small Communities



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census (MSAs) MSA: Urbanized areas with a minimum population of 50,000 The methodology to identify potential station locations is presented in the section on the approach for development of route service. Stations in small communities are stations located in non-MSA areas Stations in large communities are stations located in MSA areas Objective: Increase long-distance passenger rail connections to small communities

- Additional potential station
 locations on preferred routes could increase the connections to small communities
- 102 more stations in small communities (non-MSA areas)
- o a 93% increase



GOAL: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF RURAL AREAS

ENHANCE ACCESS FOR HISTORICALLY DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

ENHANCE ACCESS FOR TRIBAL AREAS

ENHANCE RURAL ACCESS TO SERVICES



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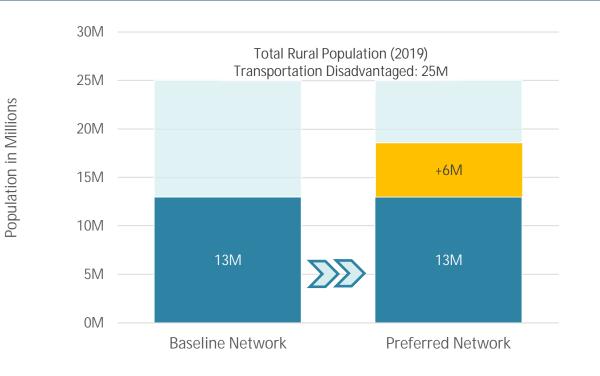


Goal: Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas

Objective: Enhance access for historically disadvantaged populations

- Scope: Population in rural *Transportation Disadvantaged* Areas (Justice 40)
- 6 million more people
 could have access to passenger rail services
- a 43% increase

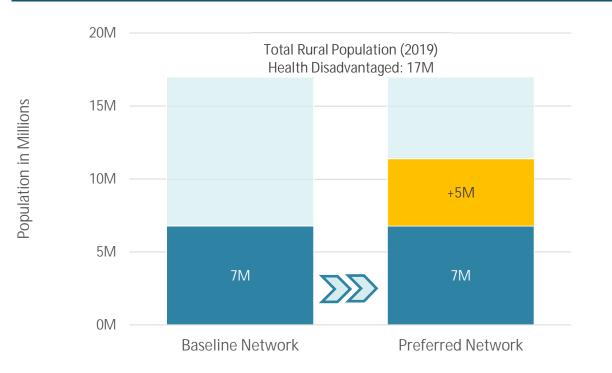
 \rightarrow capturing 49% of the previously unserved population



Population of census tracts outside urbanized areas served by the Baseline or Preferred Network that are defined as Transportation Disadvantaged based on the U.S. DOT Justice 40 Initiative: ACS Data (2015-2019 5-year estimates, 2010 Census Tract Shapefiles). Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii. Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Urbanized Areas boundaries, U.S. Census Bureau. ACS 2015-2019 5-year estimates (using 2010 census tract boundaries)



Goal: Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas



Population of census tracts outside urbanized areas served by the Baseline or Preferred Network that are defined as Health Disadvantaged based on the U.S. DOT Justice 40 Initiative: ACS Data (2015-2019 5-year estimates, 2010 Census Tract Shapefiles). Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Urbanized Areas boundaries, U.S. Census Bureau. ACS 2015-2019 5-year estimates (using 2010 census tract boundaries)

Objective: Enhance access for historically disadvantaged populations

> Scope: Population in rural *Health* 0 Disadvantaged Areas (Justice 40)

5 million more people 0 could have access to passenger rail services

- o a 66% increase
 - \rightarrow capturing 44% of the previously unserved population



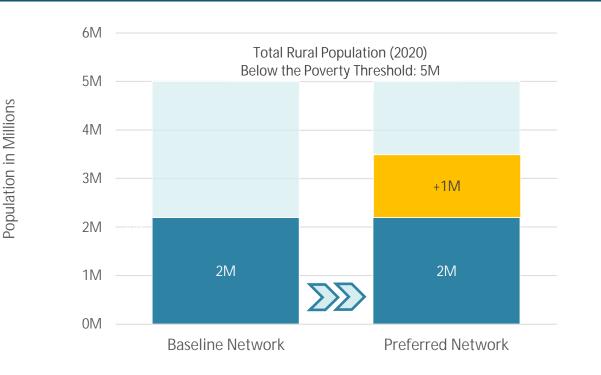


Goal: Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas

Objective: Enhance access for historically disadvantaged populations

- Scope: Rural Population Living Below the Poverty Threshold (2020)
- 1 million more people could have access to passenger rail services
- o a 59% increase

 \rightarrow capturing 45% of the previously unserved population



Population of census tracts living below the poverty threshold outside of urbanized areas served by the Baseline Network or Preferred Network. Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Urbanized Areas boundaries, U.S. Census Bureau Rural: population outside of urbanized areas





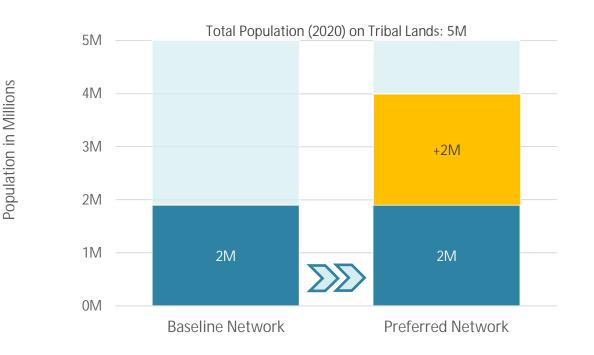
Goal: Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas

Objective: Enhance access for tribal areas

- Scope: Population on U.S. Tribal Lands
- 2 million more people could have access to passenger rail services

o a 112% increase

 \rightarrow capturing 74% of the previously unserved population



Population in census tracts covered by American Indian Tribal area boundaries served by the Baseline Network or Preferred Network. Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 Decennial Census (census tracts), U.S. Census Bureau. American Indian/Native Alaskan/Native Hawaiian Areas boundaries Tribal lands include American Indian and Alaska Native Land, American Indian Tribal Subdivisions, Bureau of Indian Affairs Regional Boundaries, Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas





Goal: Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas

Objective: Enhance rural access to services

82 more Medical Centers \rightarrow 584 medical centers could have access to passenger rail

services

- a 16% increase
- 600 additional higher education 0 institutions

 \rightarrow 3,300 public and private not-for-profit higher education institutions could have access to passenger rail services

- a 22% increase \cap
- 12 more NPS lands
 - \rightarrow 75 National Parks, Recreation Areas, and Preserves could have access to passenger rail services
- a 19% increase \mathbf{O}



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration





502



will have access to passenger rail



2,700 Public/Private **Higher Education**



63 National Parks, Recreation Areas. and Preserves

+600Additional Institutions (22%)

+12

Additional

Parks

(19%)

= 3300will have access to passenger rail

= 75

will have access to passenger rail

Baseline Network



110

Preferred Network

Values exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 census tract boundaries, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security 2023 (Locations), Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data Geoplatform (HIFLD), National Parks Service data created by Land Resources Division 2023



APPROACH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CONCEPTUAL ROUTE SERVICE





Approach for Development of Route Service



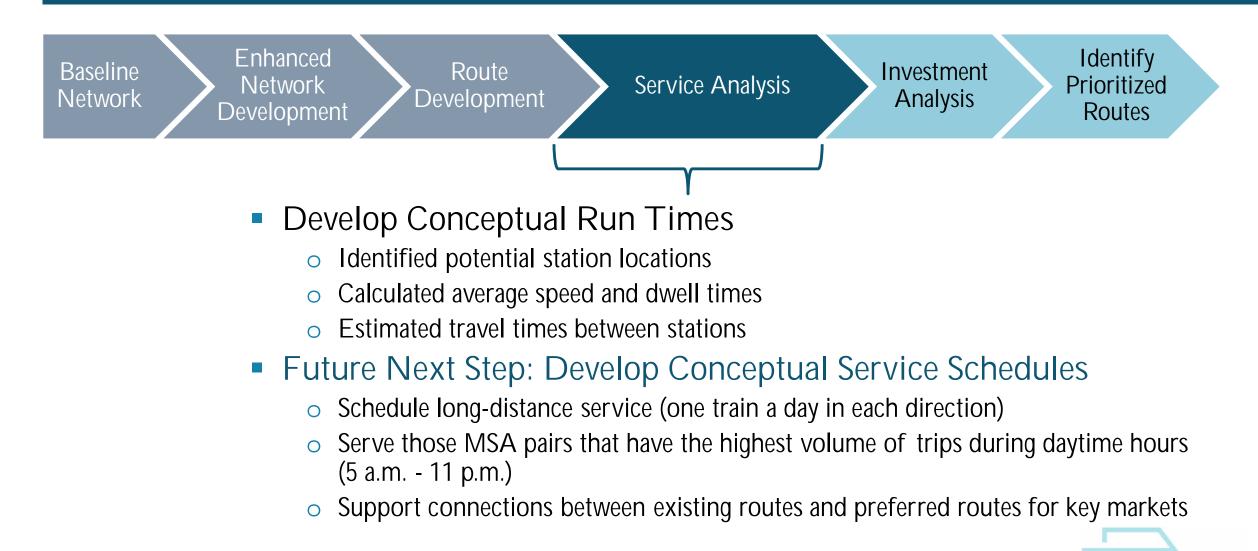
Purpose: Analyze and develop conceptual service concepts for each preferred route to support investment analysis

- Developed conceptual end-to-end run times for each preferred route to inform conceptual service schedules
- Future Next Step: Develop conceptual service schedules with approximate departure and arrival times for each preferred route to inform cost estimating, and public benefits analysis





Approach for Development of Route Service





113

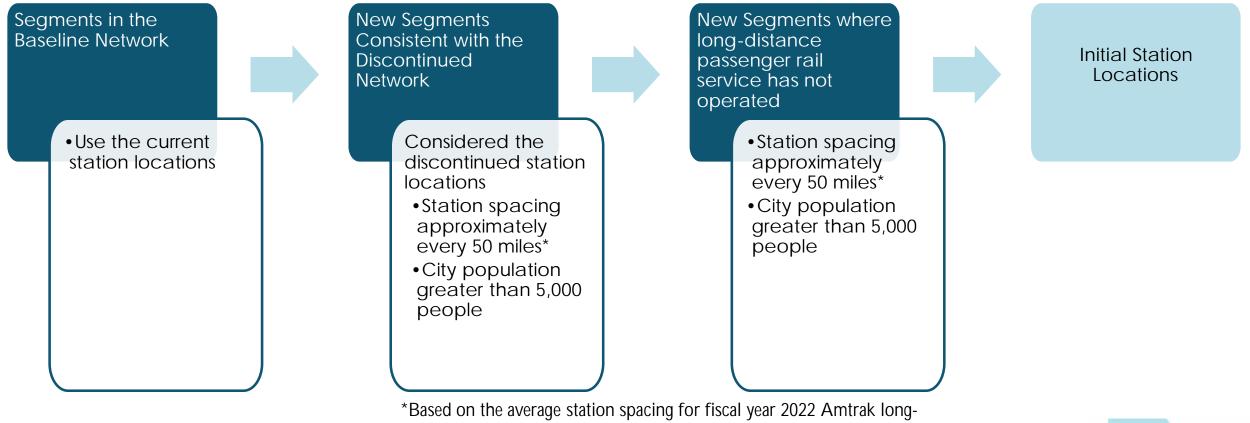
FRA

LONG-DISTANCE

SERVICE STUDY

Identification of Potential Station Locations

- This approach provides conceptual run times that will inform conceptual schedules.
- Schedules are not final and are not an FRA proposal for service.



*Based on the average station spacing for fiscal year 2022 Amtrak long distance service: average of 42 miles east of the Mississippi River, average of 70 miles west of the Mississippi River.





Identification of Potential Station Locations

Overlapping Multiple Existing Long-Distance Routes

- •Where a preferred route includes multiple overlapping existing long-distance routes, the service with more stations was adopted.
- Supports conservative approach to identifying station locations

Overlapping Existing State-Supported Routes

- Where a preferred route includes a state-supported route and no overlapping existing longdistance route, not all stations served by the state-supported route were included
- Consistent with existing long-distance operations that overlap state-supported service

Intersecting Existing Long-Distance Routes

•Where a preferred route intersects an existing route, a station was added to create a connection between the existing route and the preferred route

Note: New stations locations for the preferred routes were not identified for existing long-distance routes or state-supported routes unless required to create a connection between the existing route and the new preferred route.



FRA

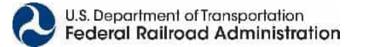
ONG-DISTANCE

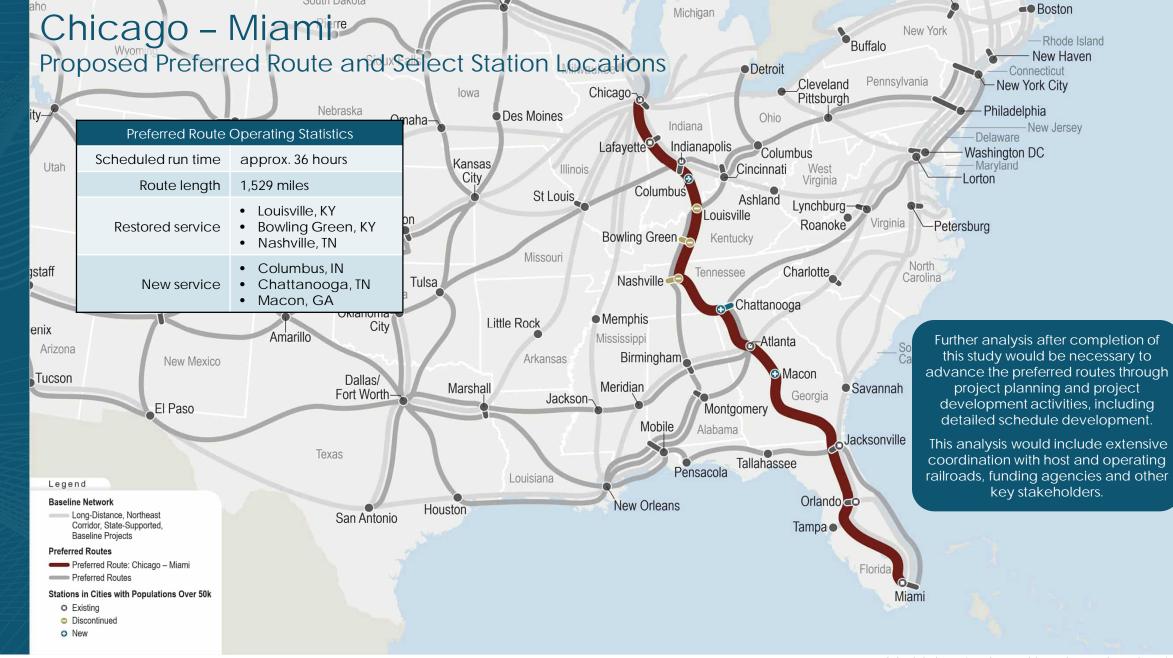
SERVICE STUDY

Estimate Conceptual Run Times

- This approach provides conceptual run times that will inform conceptual schedules
- Schedules are not final and are not an FRA proposal for service

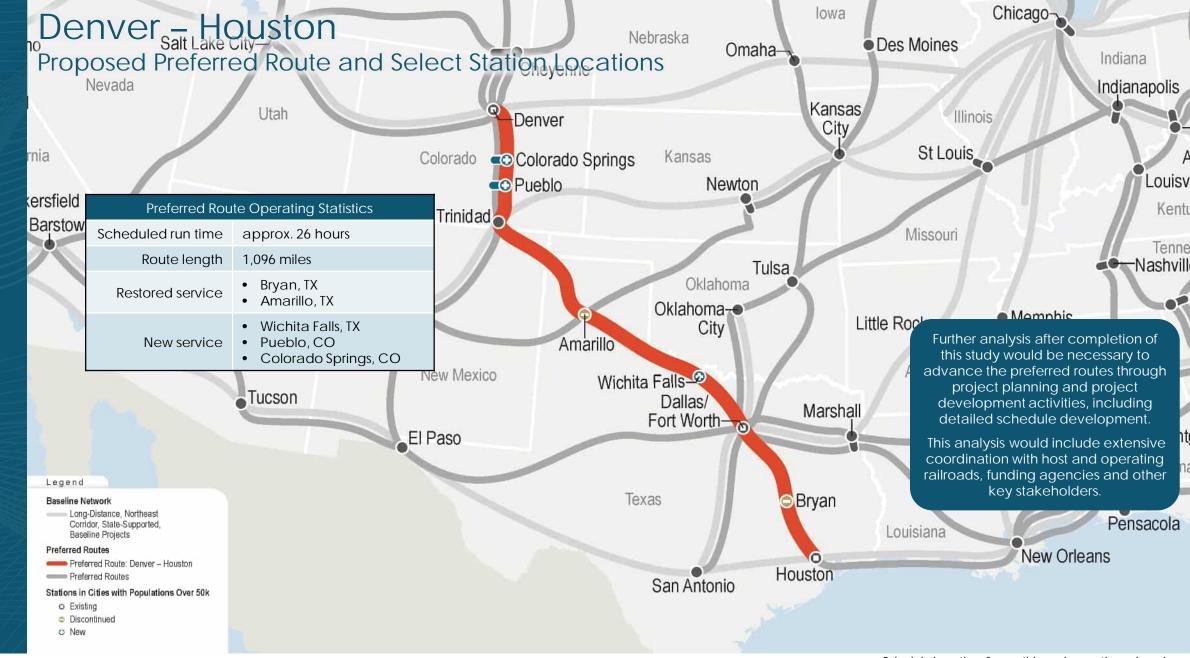
Segments with Current Passenger Rail Service			Conceptual Run
Use the current schedule	New Segments		Times for a Preferred Route
	Estimate travel time based on:		
	 Distance between stations Average speed of 48 miles per hour between stations* Average 4 minutes of dwell time at stations* Average 20 minutes dwell time at stations with crew base and enroute servicing activities* 		Conceptual run times do not consider existing or future traffic conditions along the routes.
	*Based on the average for fiscal year 2022 Amtrak long- distance service.		

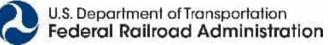




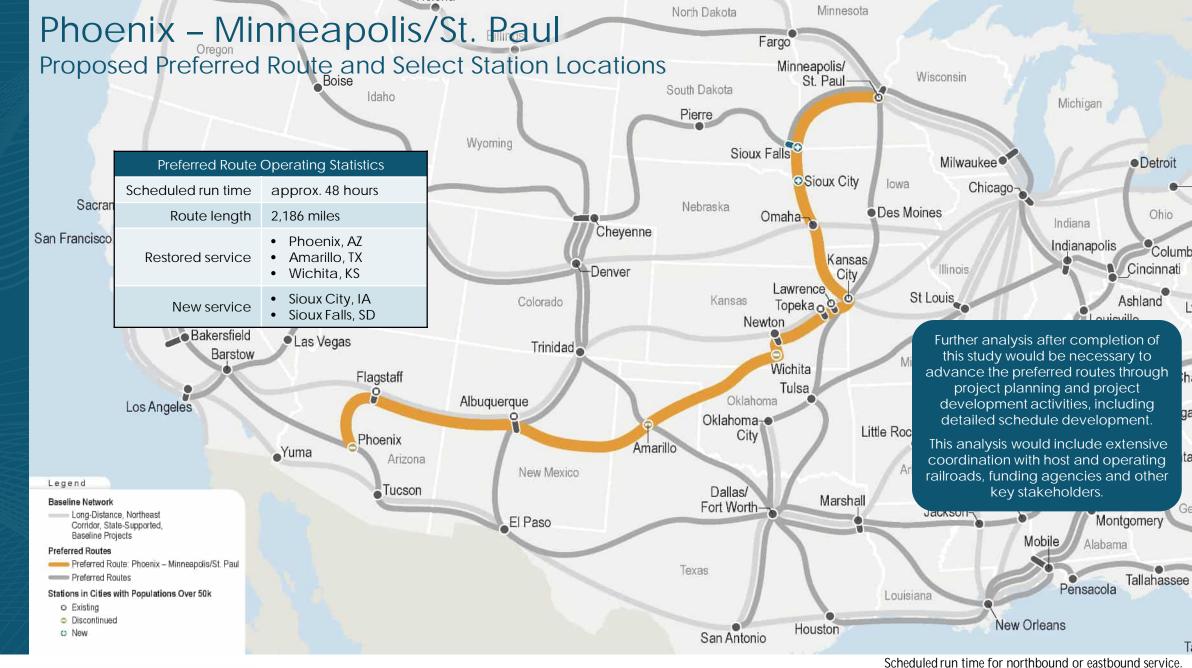




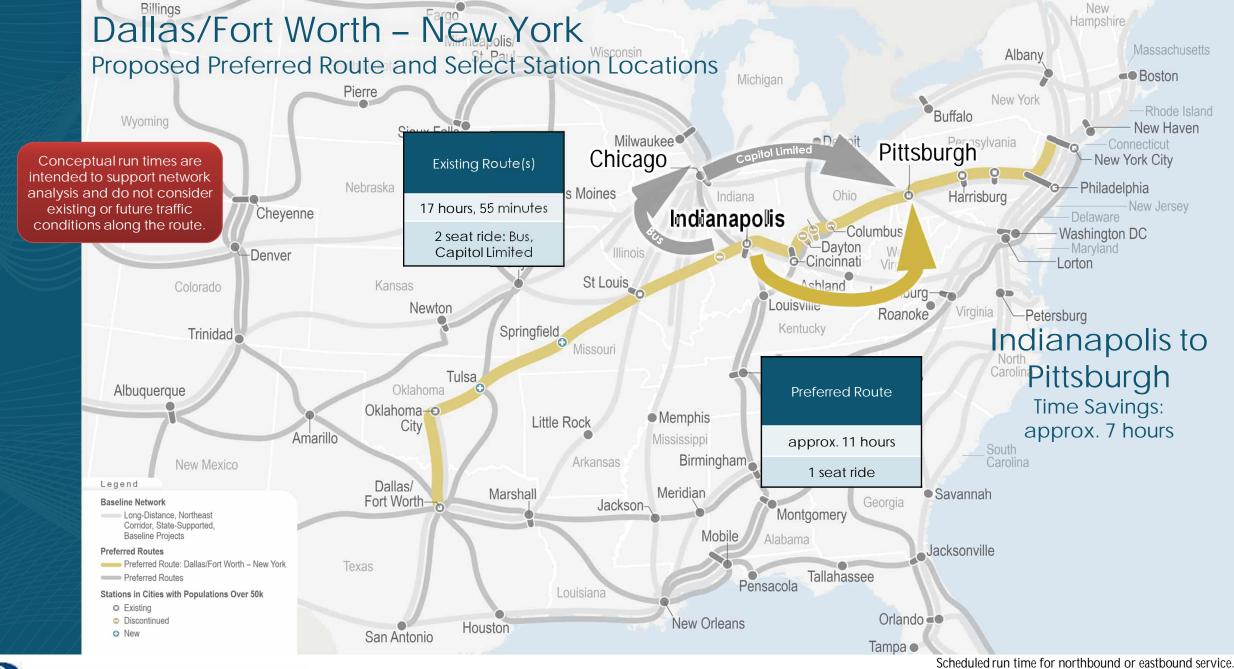






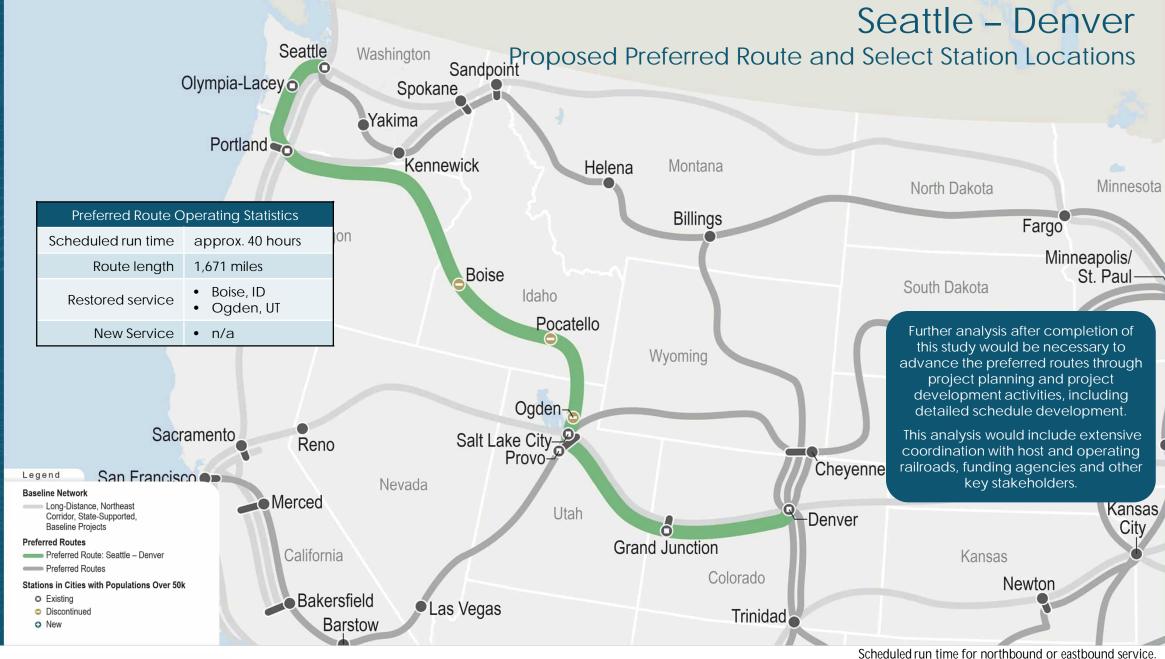


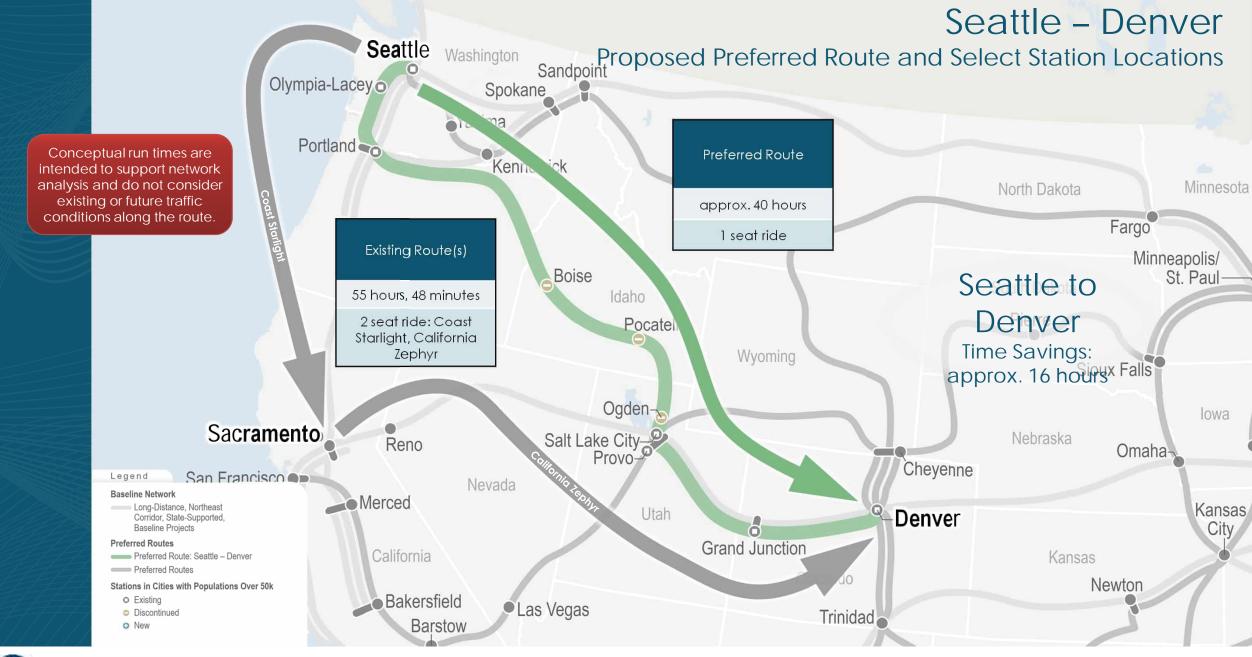


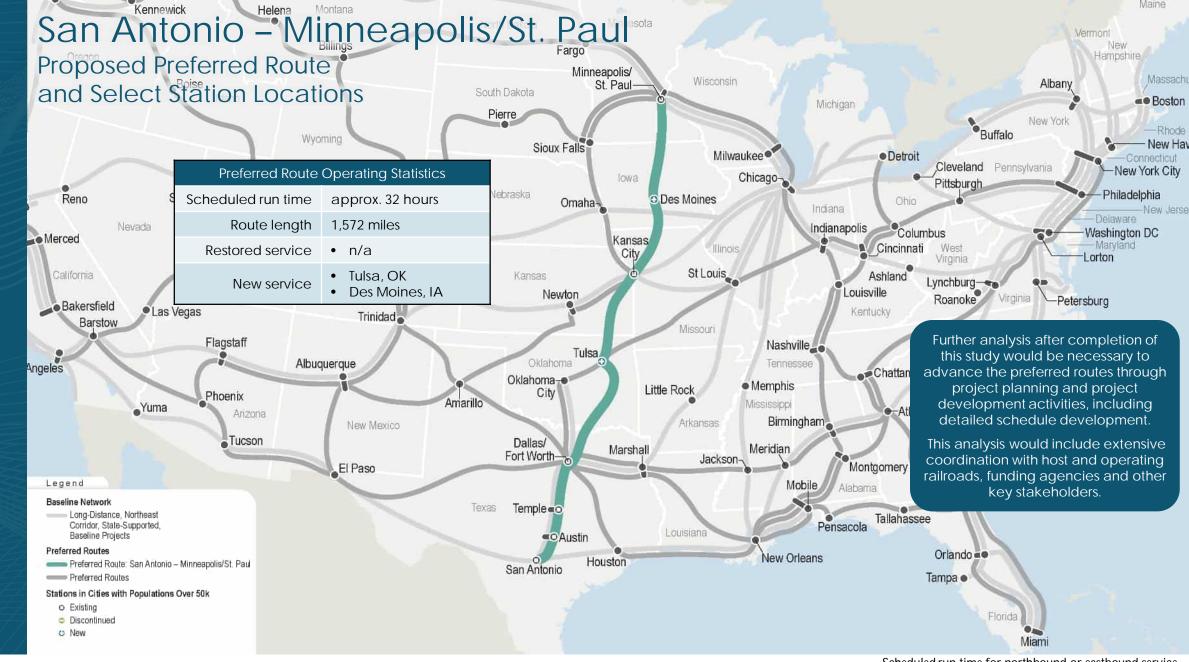


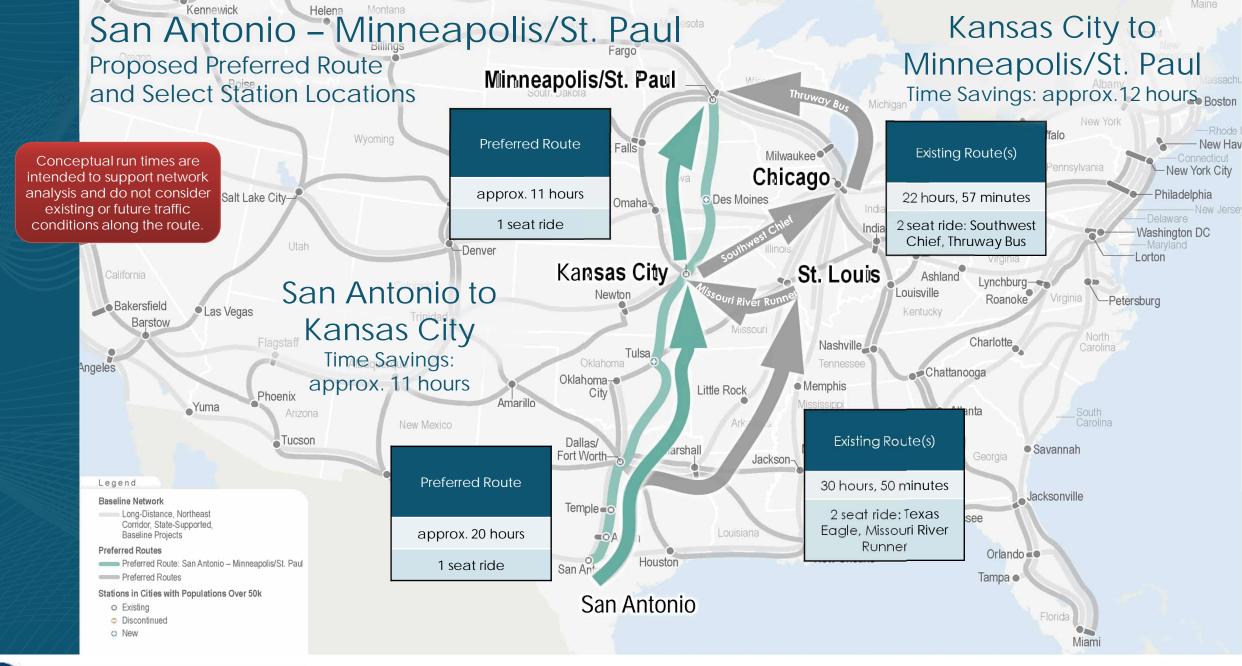


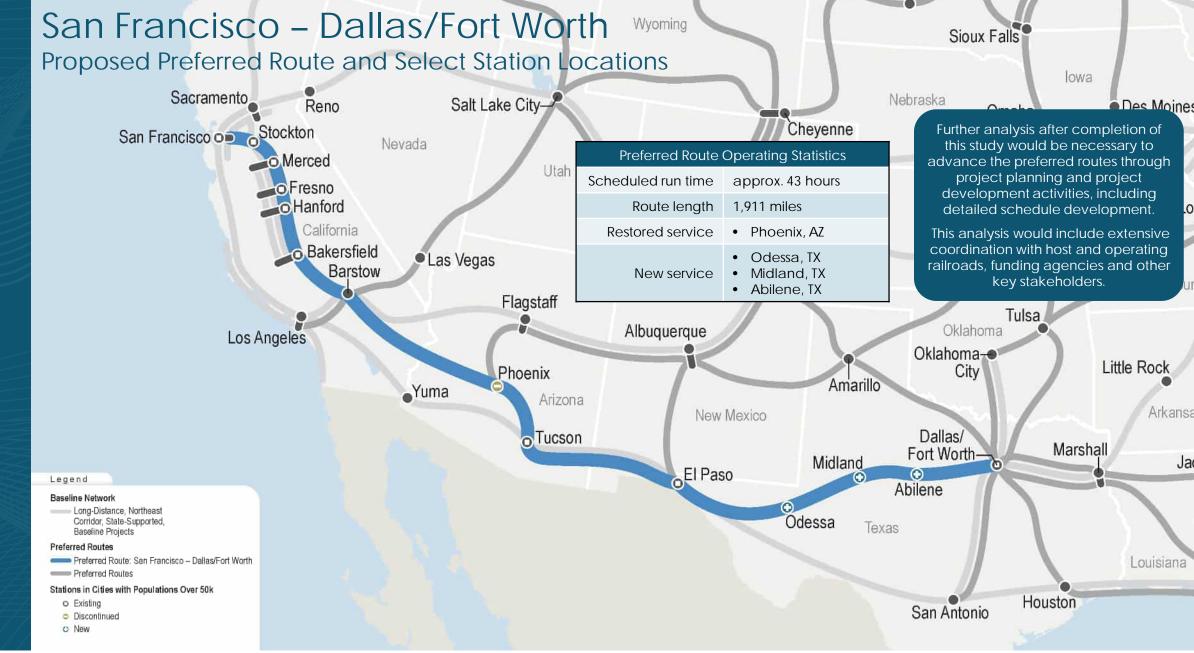


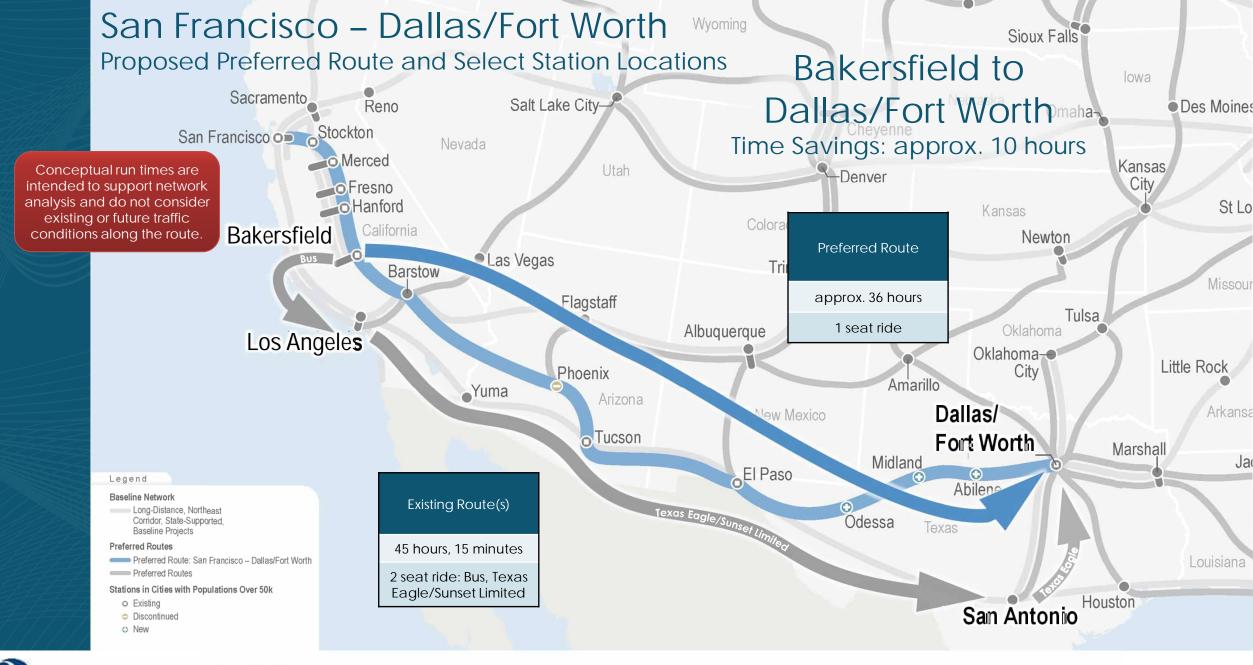


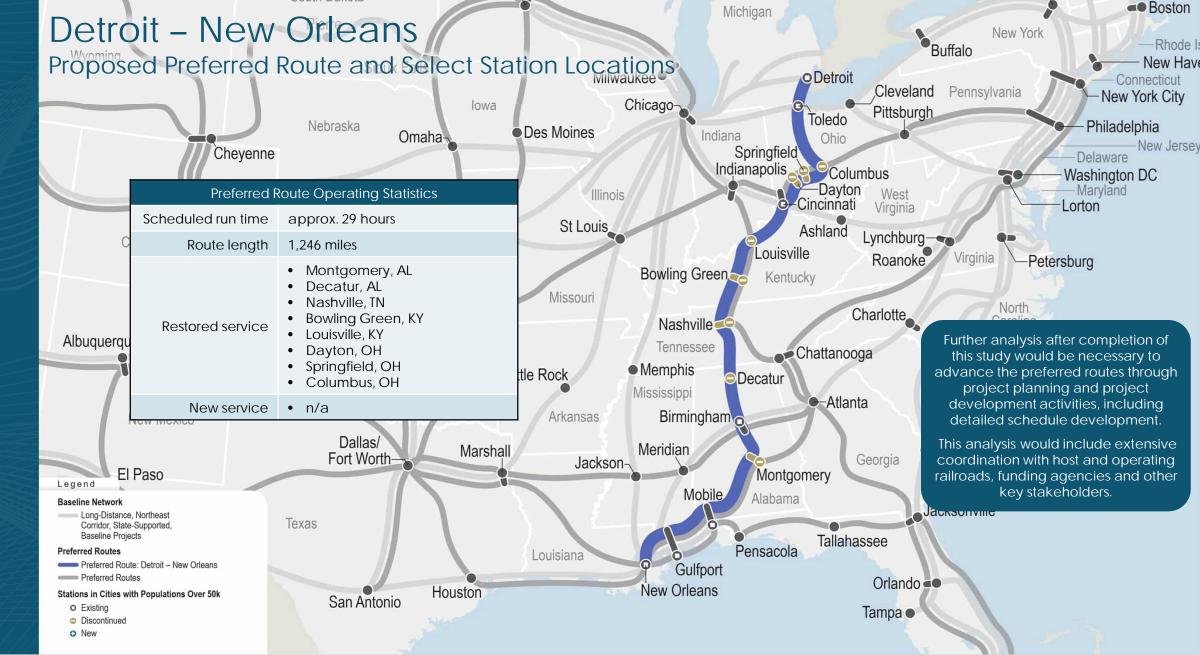


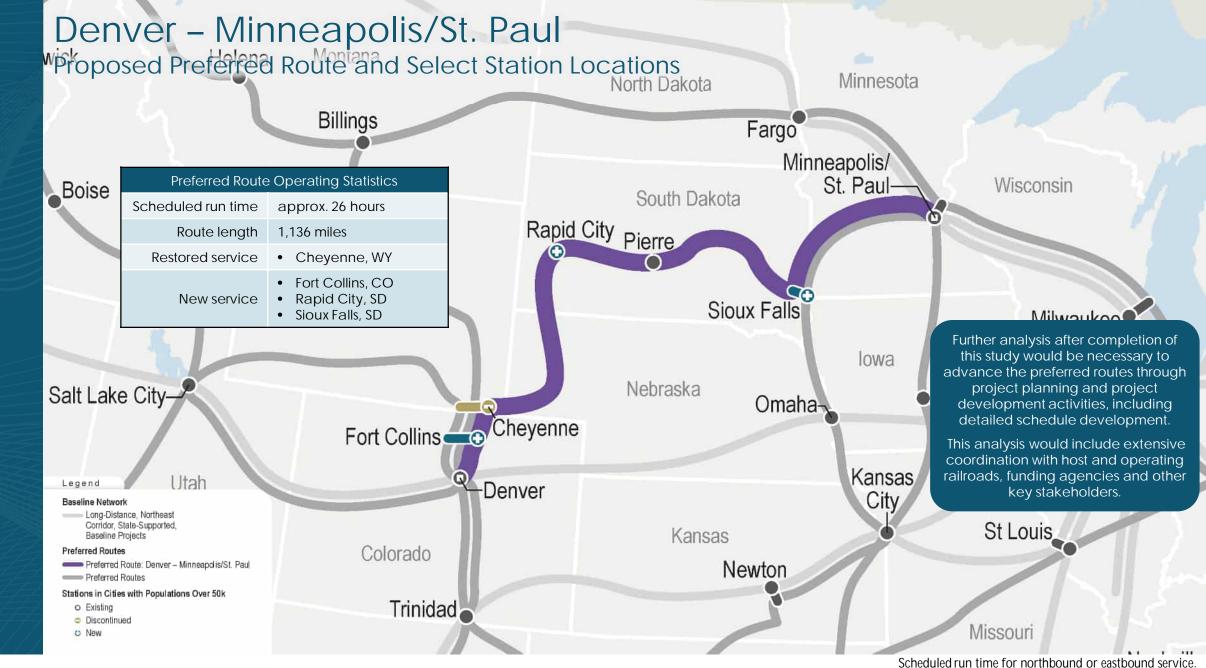


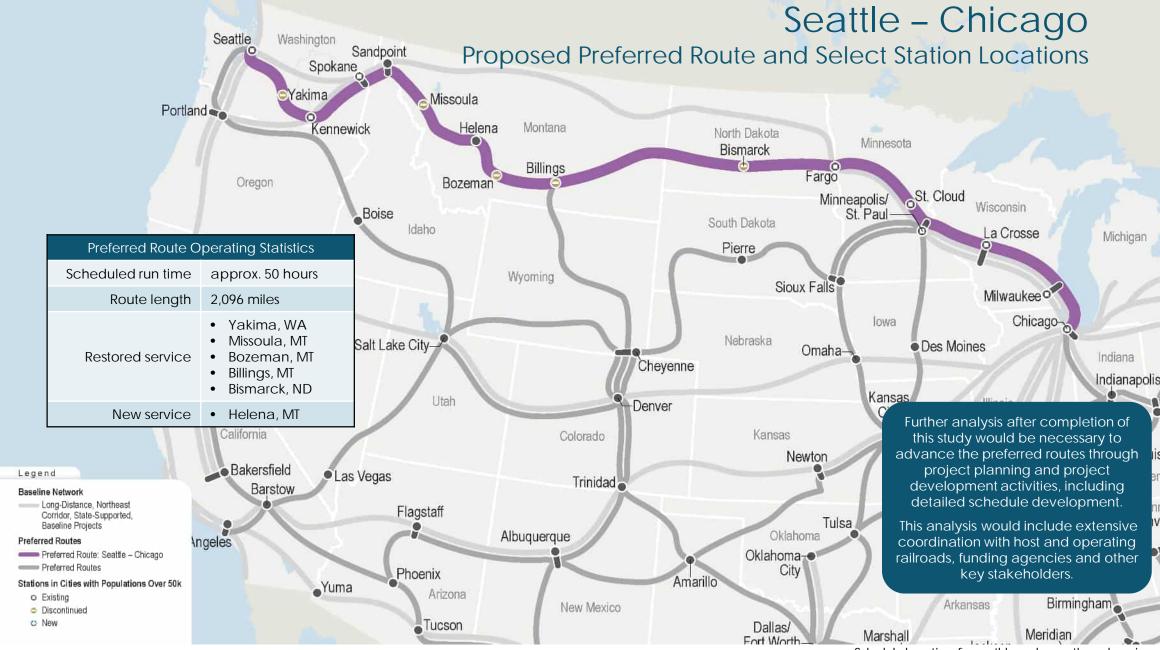




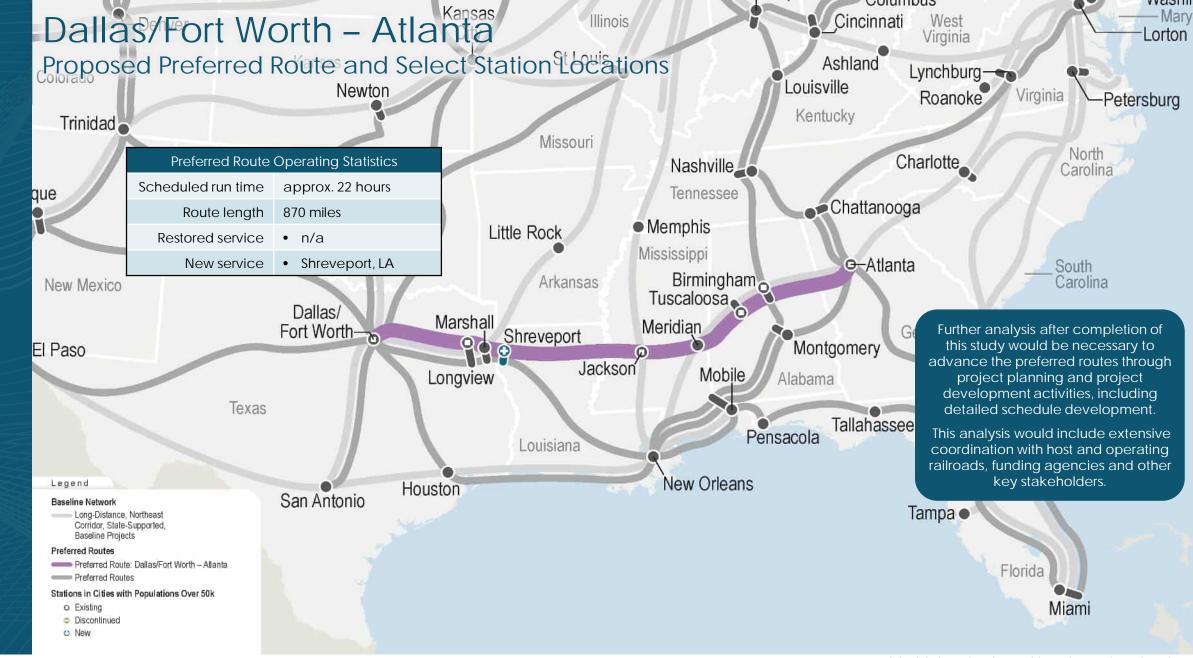


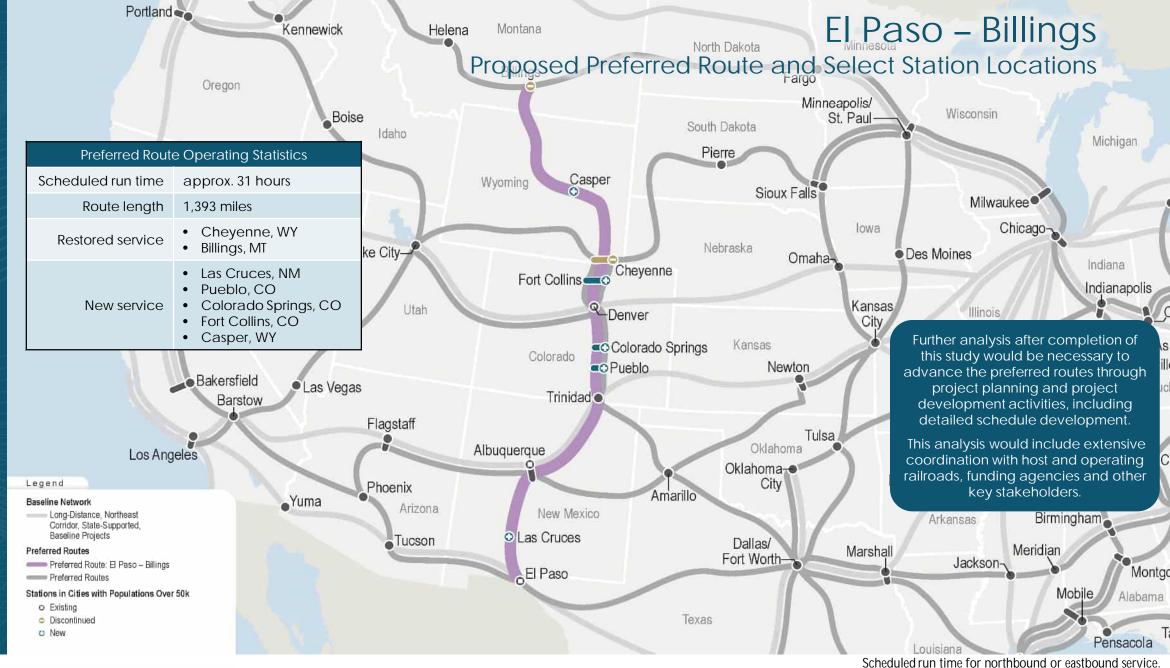






Scheduled run time for northbound or eastbound service.





Development of Route Service: Next Steps

- Develop conceptual service schedules
 - Schedule long-distance service (one train a day in each direction)
 - Serve those MSA pairs that have the highest volume of trips during daytime hours (5 a.m. 11 p.m.)
 - Support connections between existing routes and preferred routes for key markets
- Conceptual service schedules will inform:
 - Cost estimating (capital and operating & maintenance costs)
 - Elements of the public benefits analysis (number of new origin-destination pairs, travel time savings on the network, jobs and earnings supported by operations/construction)
 - Travel demand estimating



DEVELOPMENT OF CAPITAL AND OPERATING & MAINTENANCE COST ESTIMATES





CAPITAL COST ESTIMATING





Capital Cost Estimating for Passenger Specific Projects

Provides high-level cost estimating to support early planning activities

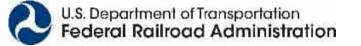
Includes 35% allocated contingency to address project risks Estimates Passengerservice specific project costs

- Track upgrades
- Stations
- Maintenance facilities
- Signalization and Positive Train Control (PTC)

141

• Rolling stock





Capital Cost Methodology

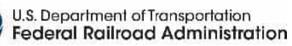
FRA Budgeting Tool: Standard Cost Categories (SCC)

SCC 10: Track Structures and Track	SCC 20: Stations and Terminals	SCC 30: Support Facilities: Yards, Shops, Admin. Bldgs.	SCC 50: Communications and Signaling	SCC 70: Vehicles
 Upgrade track class 1, 2, or 3 to track class 4 New track connections 	New stationsNew platforms	 New yard leads to access storage tracks New maintenance facilities New enroute servicing facilities 	 Signals & PTC for new track connections (crossovers and turnouts) Signals & PTC for upgraded track 	 Diesel locomotives Baggage cars Sleeper cars Diner cars Lounge cars (café/sightseer) Single- and bi-level passenger cars

SCC 80: Professional Services

- Service Planning
- Project Environmental/Survey
- Conceptual & Preliminary Engineering
- Final Design
- Project Management

- Construction Administration,
- •Engineering Inspection
- •Startup, Certification, Commissioning
- Contract Administration
- Insurance



142

FRA

LONG-DISTANCE

SERVICE STUDY

Passenger Rail Route Infrastructure

Track Considerations

- Identify new track connections where necessary to connect the end-to-end route
- Improve existing rail infrastructure to FRA Track Class 4
 - Identify existing track speed based on track classification and available data
 - ✓ Upgrade track classification 1, 2, or 3 to track class 4
- Signalization and PTC Considerations
 - Add signaling and PTC where missing to support FRA Track Class 4 passenger rail operations
 - Add PTC where existing signalization is sufficient to support passenger rail operations as required

Passenger rail maximum speed

- Track Class 1: 15 miles per hour
- Track Class 2: 30 miles per hour
- Track Class 3: 60 miles per hour
- Track Class 4: 80 miles per hour



Stations and Terminals

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Amtrak Station Types	Use Case		
Large Station Large station building, transit connections, offices, restrooms	New large terminal stationsLocated at route endpoints		
Medium Station Station building, offices, restrooms	 Staffed stations with ticket office Includes crew base and enroute servicing 		
Caretaker Station Station building, restrooms	 Unstaffed station with ticketing machine Supports variability in long-distance train operations 		
Shelter Station Sheltered waiting room	 Not considered for preferred routes Supports a conservative approach to cost estimating 		

- Costs included for new stations not currently served by passenger rail
- Station types may be adjusted to reflect the needs within the station area



Support Facilities

Costs included for new terminal facilities, additional yard track, and enroute servicing





145

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Capital Cost Estimate Outputs

- Capital Cost estimates will be reported as a range by FRA SCC for each of the preferred routes
- The high-cost estimate includes an additional 30% unallocated contingency over and above the low-cost estimate to account for unforeseen circumstances that impact project delivery.
- The values will represent high-level cost estimates to support early planning.
- Substantial additional planning and analysis would be required for further refinement and accuracy.

FRA SCC

SCC 10: Track Structures & Track

SCC 20: Stations and Terminals

SCC 30: Support Facilities: Yards, Shops, Admin. Bldgs.

SCC 50: Communications & Signaling

SCC 70: Vehicles

SCC 80: Professional Services

Total



OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COST ESTIMATING





Operating and Maintenance Cost Estimating

- Provides high-level cost estimating to support early project planning
- Operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for marginal and fixed costs

Marginal Costs

Costs vary by the level of service provided

- Boardings
- Locomotive Miles
- Locomotive Trips
- Coach, Food Service, Sleeper Car Hours
- Passenger Car Trips
- Non-Shared Staffed
 Stations

- Train Hours
- Train Miles
- Locomotive Days
- Passenger Car Days

Fixed costs

Costs that are static regardless of the level of service provided

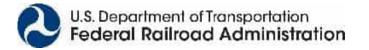
- General & Administrative (Except Sales & Marketing)
- Non-Operating





Operating and Maintenance Cost Methodology

- Based on Amtrak Performance Tracking statistics for fiscal year 2019
- Identified 135 operating statistics addressing marginal and fixed O&M cost categories
- Identified marginal O&M unit costs for existing long-distance routes by operating statistic
- Weighted average unit costs for existing long-distance routes applied to preferred routes with the same number of nights and days operated/week
 - Not including existing non-daily Cardinal or Sunset Limited routes, or Auto Train
- Existing fixed costs would remain unchanged





O&M Cost Estimate Outputs

- O&M cost estimates will be reported as a range for each of the preferred routes.
- The low- and high-range of cost estimates reflect the variation in marginal unit costs by operating statistic of existing long-distance routes.
- The values will represent high-level cost estimates to support early planning.
- Substantial additional planning and analysis would be required for further refinement and accuracy.

Туре

Marginal Cost

Fixed Cost

Total O&M Cost



PRIORITIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION FEEDBACK





Prioritization Considerations

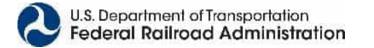
Category	Examples
Public and Rider Benefits	Access to new markets Passenger rail travel time savings Jobs and earnings supported by operations/construction Expanding geographic coverage of the long-distance network Increasing number of passenger rail connections
Capital Cost Estimates	Total capital costs Capital costs per mile
O&M Cost Estimates	Operating cost by route mile Operating cost by population served
Complexity in Development and Implementation	Number of host and operating railroads
Consistency with Intercity Passenger Rail Projects	Corridor ID selections for long-distance routes Benefit to state supported services





What parameters are the most important to consider for prioritization?

- Place the sticky dot on each "Category" that should be prioritized as we develop an implementation phasing plan. Please limit to 3 sticky dots.
- Provide input on sticky notes for any other examples you think should be considered.





Development and Implementation Timeline for a Preferred Route

15 Year Timeline

- Year 0-4: Project Planning
- Year 4-8: Project Development
- Year 8-14: Final Design and Construction
- Year 15: Start of Operations

Conceptual Timeframes for Implementation

- Near-term: 2040 to 2050
- Mid-term: 2050 to 2060
- Long-term: 2060 +





ONGOING LONG-DISTANCE COLLABORATION AND PLANNING





Governance Feedback from Meeting Series 2

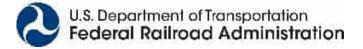
- Participants were asked how FRA and Amtrak could coordinate with stakeholders about current and future long-distance services.
 - Themes for current and future service input included:
 - Community and Rider Engagement: Increased awareness of services and related benefits; coordinated marketing with states and communities; local first/last mile connections; rider surveys; engagement with Tribal Nations, disability community, health care providers, higher education, and tourism/chambers of commerce
 - Planning: Coordinated planning across states and corridor(s), including regional transportation plans and potential multimodal connections/hubs; schedules; station amenities
 - Potential models of governance bodies included:
 - Congressionally-created bodies, such as SAIPRC and NECC; Interstate Rail Compacts, including SRC and MIPRC
 - ✓ Others, including: SPRC, Associations (APTA, AASHTO, CTAA), and MPOs





Ideas for Ongoing Long-Distance Collaboration

- FRA is considering ideas for a new Long-Distance Public Committee, which would likely need to be established by Congress
- This committee could focus on ongoing feedback for current Amtrak longdistance service.
- This Long-Distance Public Committee could serve several functions, including:
 - Coordinating with Amtrak on policies for engagement / marketing with station communities and states
 - Developing annual customer service reports or passenger surveys
 - Serving as a forum for long-distance service policy discussions related to current service
- Committee membership could potentially include states with long-distance service, Amtrak, FRA, and other long-distance-focused associations or groups.

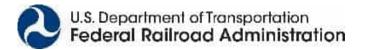




Ideas for Ongoing Long-Distance Planning

- FRA is considering ideas for a recurring, high-level long-distance planning process, potentially updated approximately every five years, documenting:
 - Existing long-distance service, trends and forecasts, as well as needs and opportunities
 - Proposed long-distance passenger rail programs and investments, as well as the status of previously proposed long-distance passenger rail plans, projects, or other programs
- This process, led by FRA, could be similar to State Rail Plans or other comparable transportation investment plans, focusing on the status and needs of future Amtrak long-distance service, as well as needs for current service.

 Any new planning process would involve significant stakeholder engagement





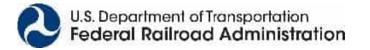
NEXT STEPS





Next Steps for Stakeholders

- Encourage your communities and constituencies to review the meeting materials on the website
 - All presentations and summaries will be posted online after the completion of the meeting series
- Submit any feedback on the topics and materials from this meeting via the project website by March 8 for inclusion in our analysis and report
 - Due to the breadth of the study, it may not be possible to respond to all feedback, but all feedback will be reviewed by the team and captured in our report

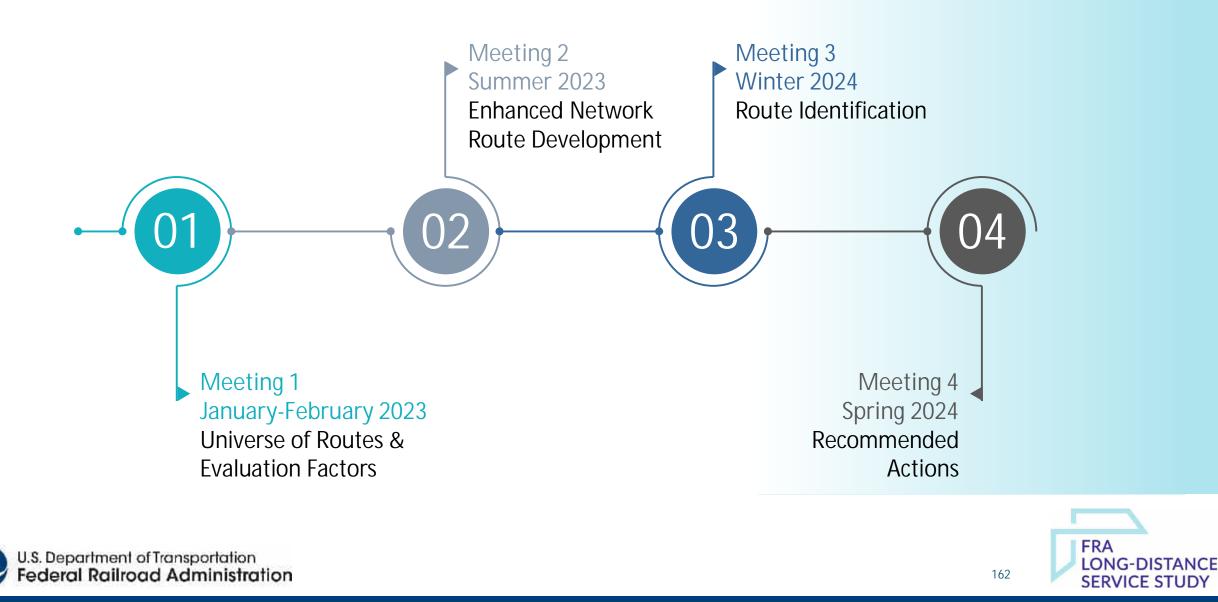




- Based on feedback received from this meeting and the other regions:
 Identify preferred routes for near, mid and long-term implementation
- For stakeholder meeting 4:
 - Show costs and public benefits of the preferred routes
 - Identify implementation schedules for the preferred routes
 - Present long-distance study recommended actions and discuss next steps
- Post all meeting materials on the project website



Long-Distance Service Study Engagement Schedule



Stay Informed

FRA Long-Distance Service Study Website: <u>www.fralongdistancerailstudy.org</u> Email: <u>contactus@fralongdistancerailstudy.org</u>





