Corridor Identification and Development Program
Listening Session

Federal Railroad Administration
Overview: Corridor Identification and Development Program

• Creates a foundational framework for identifying and developing new or improved intercity passenger services.

• Requires FRA (under delegation from the Secretary) to:
  1. Solicit proposals for implementing new or improving existing intercity passenger rail service;
  2. Select proposals for development under the Program;
  3. For each selected proposal, partner with the entity that submitted such proposal to prepare or update an existing Service Development Plan (SDP), which must include a “corridor project inventory”; and
  4. Establish a prioritized “pipeline” of projects that may be implemented with funding provided under FRA’s (and potentially other Federal) capital investment financial assistance programs.

• Eligibility includes both short-distance (<750 miles) services, along with increasing the frequency of long-distance service, and restoring service over any route formerly operated by Amtrak.
Major Program Statutory Deadlines and Considerations

1. November 15, 2021
   Enactment of the IIJA

2. May 14, 2022
   FRA must establish the Corridor ID Program within 180 days

3. May 14, 2023
   First Congressional report on the Project Pipeline due
FRA Approach to Establishing the Program

• By May 14, 2022, issue formal document “establishing” the Program, providing a general description of how FRA intends for the Program to function.
  o Major stakeholder outreach effort during February/March 2021 to inform drafting of document.

• In later 2022, issue more detailed Solicitation for Proposals.
  o Detailed description of required content for proposals.
  o Criteria for evaluating and selecting proposals.
  o Next steps for both selected proposals and those that were not selected.
• On February 7, FRA issued a Request for Information (RFI) seeking input into establishment of the Program.

• Topic Areas for Discussion:
  o Roles and Responsibilities within the Program
  o Service Development Plans
  o Project Pipeline
  o Funding of Program Activities
  o Readiness of Proposals for Selection into the Program
  o Criteria for the Selection of Proposals
  o Selectivity of the Program
