

Candidate Statements for 2020 Colorado Council Representative

Candidate: Daniel Zimny-Schmitt

Candidate Residence: Denver

Candidate Status: New Candidate

Why are you interested in serving in a NARP/RPA Leadership Position?

I am interested in continuing to serve in a leadership position to lend my advocacy efforts to the national level in addition to being involved on the state level in Colorado. Additionally, I would like to ensure that the younger generation of rail advocates continues to have a voice at the table in the RPA organization.

If elected to a Council position, what are the primary goals you personally would pursue?

I will pursue deeper research into how Amtrak and rail transportation more broadly serves as a public good, and why the economic arguments in favor of rail outweigh economic arguments against it. I've been inspired by recent RPA research on this topic, and would like to contribute to that effort or lead some of my own.

What is your passenger rail advocacy experience?

I have worked as a volunteer at the Midwest High Speed Rail Association in middle school and high school, including a summer internship. A few years after moving to Colorado, I ran for and joined the board of local organization ColoRail. Throughout this time, I have been involved with RPA, including attending many conferences.