RailNation: San Antonio

John Robert Smith

October 4, 2025



FAST Act

- First time transportation reauthorization included Amtrak as well as highways and transit
- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (CRISI)
 - Rail infrastructure/equipment
 - Nearly \$6 billion since 2015
- Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Grant
 - Covers 6 years of operational support



IIJA

- Corridor Identification and Development Program (CIDP)
 - Corridors under 750 miles and approved
 LD expansion
 - 69 corridors selected
- Interstate Rail Compacts (IRC) Grant Program
 - Operating support for up to 10 interstate compacts
 - Southern Rail Commission is the model



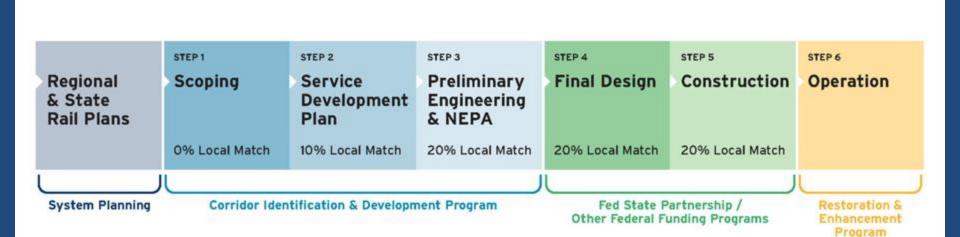
I-20 CIDP Updates







Corridor Identification and Development Program





Service Development Plans Answer Important Questions Task 2: Draft Purpose & Need Stakeholder Coordination Task 3: Task 4: **Alternatives Transportation Analysis Planning** What alternatives What is the corridor What are the goals Who are the What are the make sense from a and who does it for new or improved relevant alternatives to transportation serve? service? stakeholders? achieve the goals? perspective? Task 5: Task 6: Financial Planning & Task 7: Task 8: **Environmental Economic Evaluation** Governance **Implementation Planning** Phasing What alternatives What order should What are the improvements required for Who's in charge of make sense from an improvements which aspects of the service, how much do they cost, and environmental advance and be how do we pay for it? program? perspective? constructed?

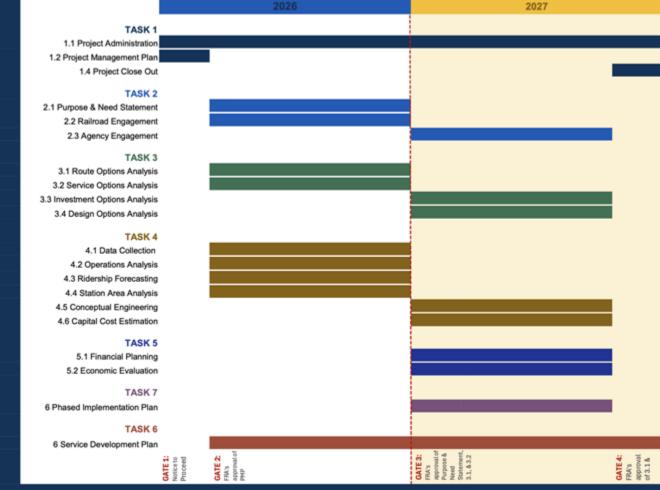
U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration



Corridor Identification and Development Program - STEP 2 2026 2028 TASK 1 1.1 Project Administration 1.2 Project Management Plan 1.4 Project Close Out TASK 2 2.1 Draft Purpose and Need Statement 2.2 Market Analysis 2.3 Railroad Statkeholder Engagement Plan 2.4 SDP Agency Coordination Plan 2.5 Public Coordination Plan 2.6 Engagement Activities TASK 3 3.1 Route Options Analysis 3.2 Service Options Analysis 3.3 Investment Package Options Analysis 3.4 Design Options Analysis 3 Final Report TASK 4 erational Requirements and Physical Conditions Data Collection 4.2 Operations Analysis 4.3 Ridership Forecasting 4.4 Revenue Evaluation Analysis 4.5 Station Area and Access Analysis 4.6 Conceptual and Early Preliminary Engineering 4.7 Capital Cost Estimation 4.8 Operations and Maintenance Cost Estimation 4 Final Report TASK 5 5 Environmental Planning TASK 6 6.1 Financial Planning 6.2 Economic Evaluation 6 Final Report TASK 7 7 Governance TASK 8 8 Phased Implementation Plan TASK 9 9 Service Development Plan

Corridor Identification and Development Program - STEP 2



National Railroad Partnership Program 2025

"Corridor Identification and Development (CID) Sponsors must explain the status of the sponsor's corridor within the CID Program (e.g., completed Step 1, beginning Step 2) in their project narrative. CID Sponsors should explain how the proposed FSP-National project is consistent with the corridor sponsor's planning efforts under CID and will not preclude any outcomes from planning activities explored under CID. The explanation provided shall demonstrate how the CID Sponsor has the support of participant stakeholders (as identified in the Service Development Plan), governance structure and institutional capacity to implement and maintain on-going service, funding identified for implementation and on-going operations support, and a clearly defined benefit for the Corridor."

The Mardi Gras



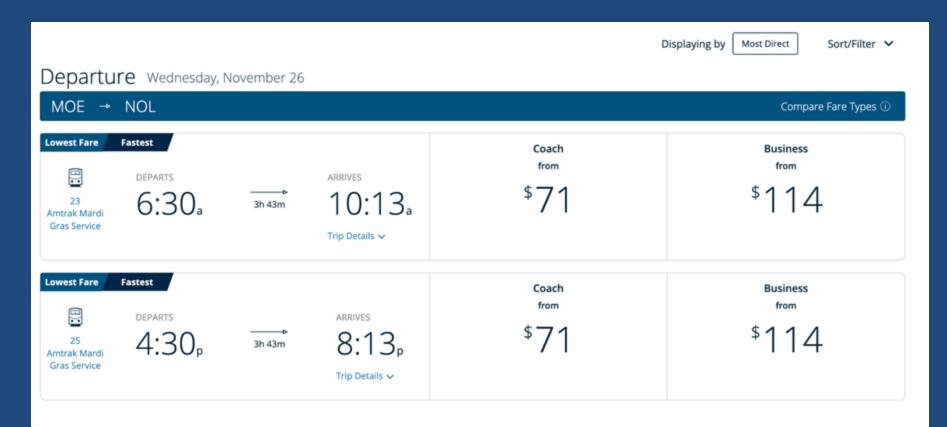




Performance of the Mardi Gras

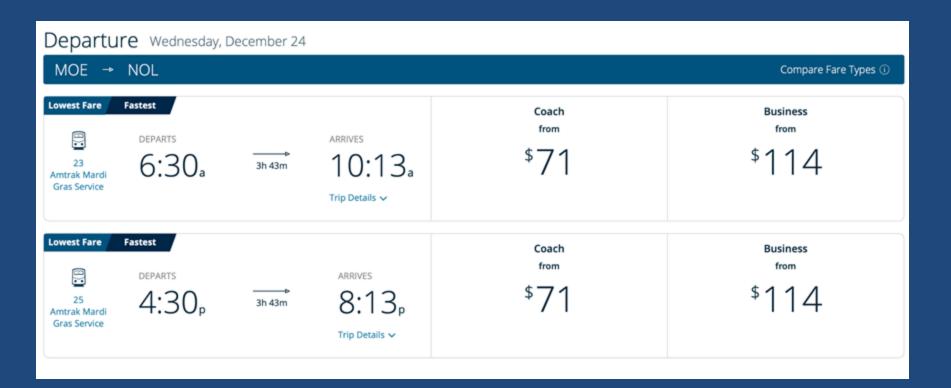
- Ridership is surpassing all expectations
 - 5k per month projection
 - 15k+ riders in the first month
 - Extra car added on weekends (and selling out)
- Highest passenger satisfaction rate of any Amtrak service (>90%)
- Food/beverage sales breaking records
- 86% OTP





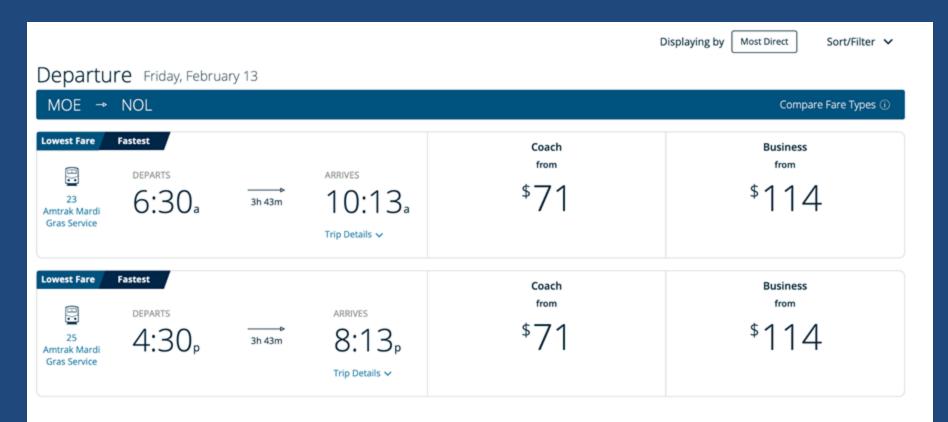
Wednesday before Thanksgiving





Christmas Eve





Friday before Mardi Gras







Kay Cox

As owner of Kay's Travel, I am enjoying taking groups on our new Amtrak service from Biloxi. I have already booked 2 groups for December 3rd and 10th. We'll be going in to see Christmas decorations and to have lunch at Commander's Palace. Everyone really enjoyed our first trip. The crew is friendly, very helpful and even funny, which we loved! They can't wait for the Christmas excursions!

