Amtrak’s Arizona Vision: Connect Fast-Growing Cities with Frequent and Sustainable Amtrak Service

Vision: New Tucson-Phoenix-West Valley Service
→ 3 daily roundtrips
→ 2:25 Phoenix-Tucson trip time vs. 2:30 peak driving time
→ 3:05 Buckeye-Tucson trip time

Expand sustainable travel, create economic impact
→ 200,000 riders annually
→ $77.7 million in annual economic impact
→ $2.3 billion in economic activity from capital investments based on $923 million projected total capital investment necessary
→ 3 years estimated minimum time required to start service

Learn more at AmtrakConnectsUS.com
What’s Next: Amtrak is ready to move quickly in collaboration with Arizona, cities, and other partners

1. Partnership for analysis
   → Conduct feasibility study.
   → Consider implementation options and develop service plan.

2. Secure federal funding
   → Develop Amtrak and state funding plan.
   → Amtrak proposes that federal funding cover up to 100% of initial capital investments and early operational costs.

3. Initiate capital investments and begin operations
   → Execute state, Amtrak and host railroad agreements.
   → Upgrade rail line, develop stations, acquire trainsets, and initiate other necessary capital investments.
   → Finalize operating plan and begin service.

Case Study

Front Range Corridor in Colorado

The Front Range Corridor, proposed new Amtrak service to connect Denver with cities in Colorado and Wyoming, offers one potential model for next steps to advance service.

- Active collaboration with states, Colorado DOT, cities, Amtrak, FRA, host railroads, and others.
- Established Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission to evaluate and advance future passenger rail service.
- Performed analysis of implementation options.
- Created Front Range Passenger Rail District with authority to secure funding.

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