Corridor ID Grant Program Webinar: Post-Selection Next Steps and SDP Statement of Work Framework

Wynne Davis and **Dr. Santiago Cruz-Roveda**, Office of Regional Outreach and Project Delivery
Lyle Leitelt, Office of Planning and Engineering

U.S. Department of Transportation
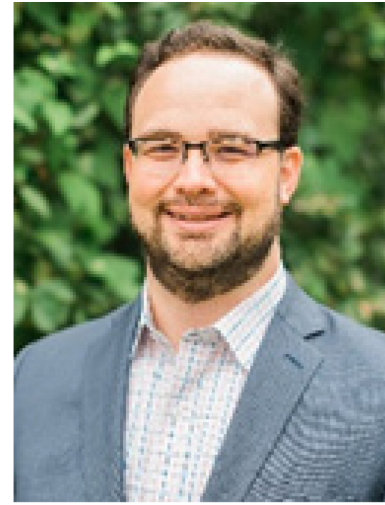**Federal Railroad Administration**

August 23, 2023

Presenters

Wynne Davis
Director,
Office of Regional Outreach and Project Delivery

Dr. Santiago Cruz-Roveda
Supervisor,
Office of Regional Outreach and Project Delivery

Lyle Leitelt
Acting Chief,
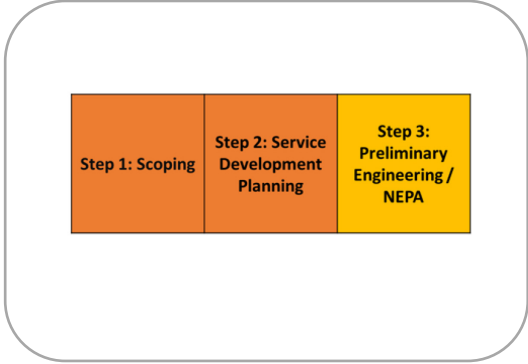*Office of Planning and Engineering*

Presentation Overview

- Timeline

- Webinar purpose and objective

- Corridor ID Overview

- Current status

- Step 1, Step 2, Step 3 Process

- Service Development Plan Overview and Statement of Work (SOW) Framework
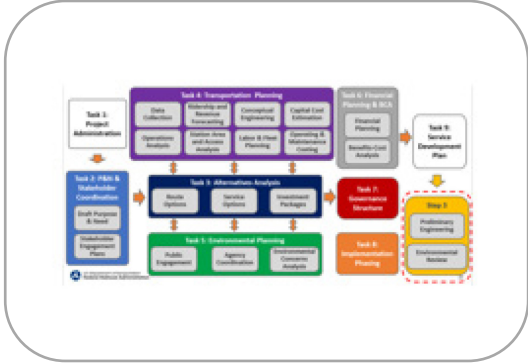
- Questions

Purpose of Today's Webinar

Provide status

Explain Step 1, Step 2, Step 3 process in more detail

Provide an overview of SDP process
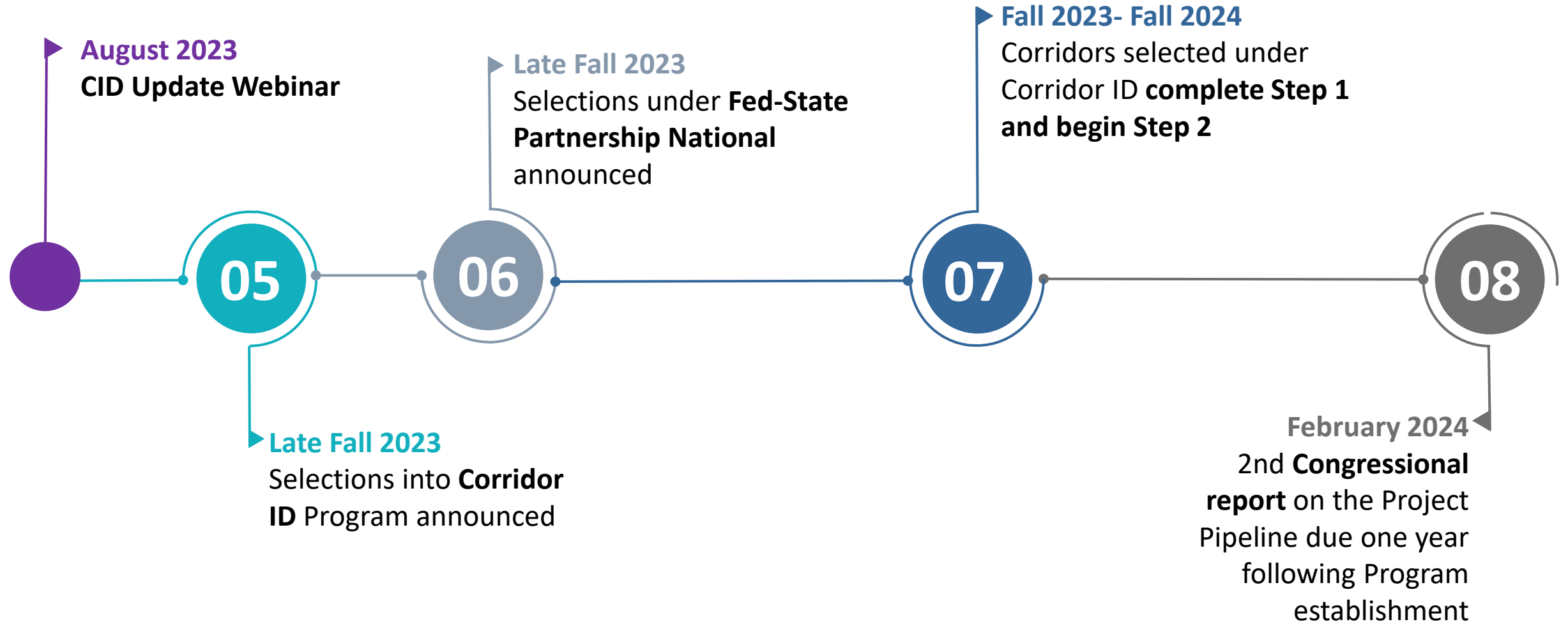
Introduce Service Development Plan SOW Framework

Give potential corridor sponsors information to consider in preparation for selection announcements

Corridor ID Timeline

May 13, 2022
FRA **established the Corridor ID Program** within 180 days of enactment

December 2022
FRA publish a **Notice of Corridor Solicitation** and Funding Opportunity for the Corridor Identification and Development Program

01

02

03

04

November 15, 2021
Enactment of the BIL

September - December 2022
Extensive **outreach** to Corridor ID potential sponsors

January – Current
Extensive **outreach** to Class I railroads

May 13, 2023
First **Congressional report** on the Project Pipeline due one year following Program establishment

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Corridor ID Timeline

August 2023
CID Update Webinar

Late Fall 2023
Selections under **Fed-State Partnership National** announced

Fall 2023- Fall 2024
Corridors selected under Corridor ID **complete Step 1 and begin Step 2**

05

06

07

08

Late Fall 2023
Selections into **Corridor ID** Program announced

February 2024
2nd **Congressional report** on the Project Pipeline due one year following Program establishment

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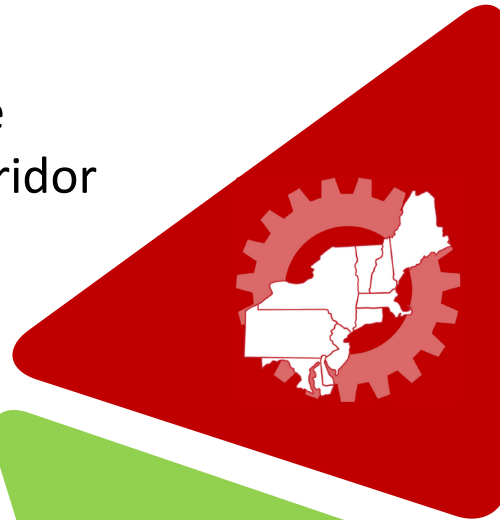
Corridor ID Overview

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Rail Development Goals

Modernize the Northeast Corridor

Bring world-class passenger rail service to regions across the country

Grow a safer, cleaner, more equitable rail system

Build the foundation for a long-term rail program

Renew Amtrak's fleet & facilities and deliver high-quality intercity passenger rail service

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Corridor ID Program Overview

Build the foundation for a long-term rail program

Corridor ID creates a foundational framework for identifying and developing new or improved intercity passenger rail (IPR) services. Under the program, FRA will:

Bring world-class passenger rail service to regions across the country

Grow a safer, cleaner, more equitable rail system
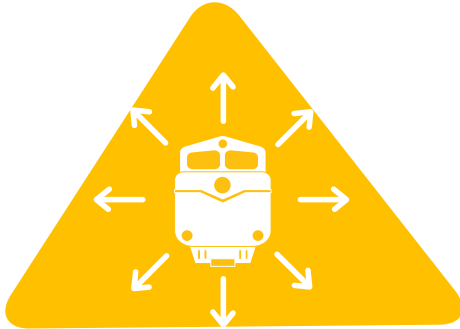
|		
Solicit proposal for implementing new or improving existing IPR services	Select corridors for development	Partner with corridor sponsor to prepare (or update) a Service Development Plan (SDP)
SDP includes a "corridor project inventory"	Corridor project inventories populate a prioritized "pipeline" of projects	Projects in the Corridor ID Pipeline are eligible for funding under FRA's financial assistance programs

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# FRA Project Lifecycle Stages – Corresponding FRA Funding Programs
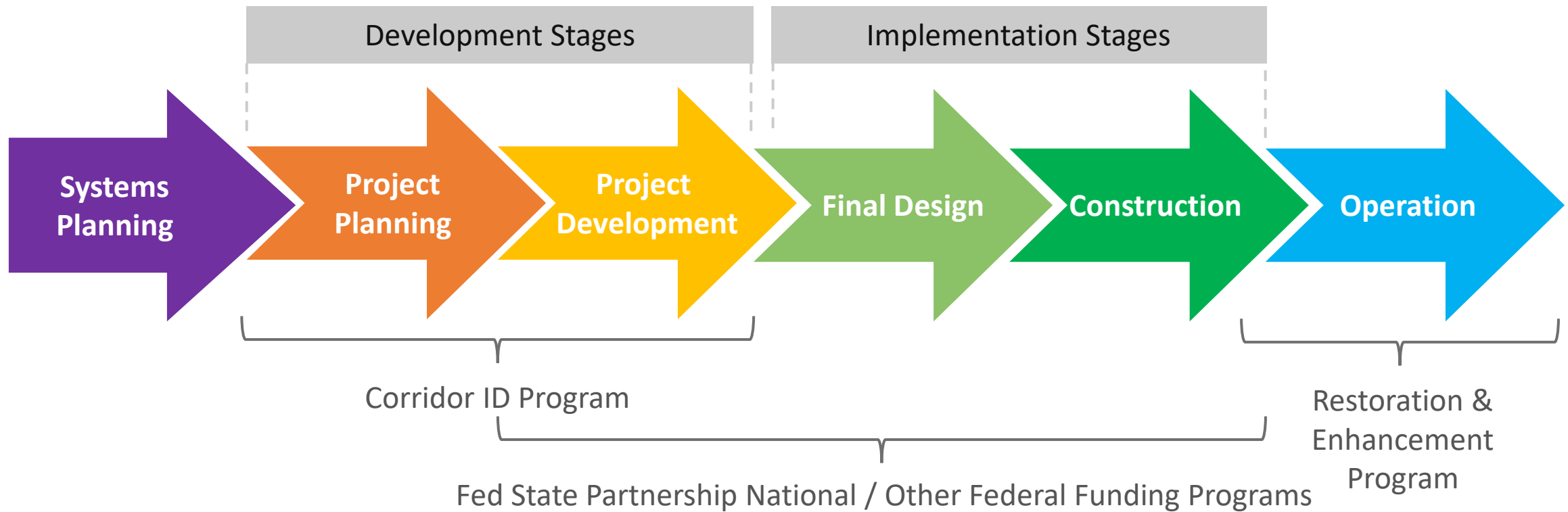
# Establishing the Program – Significant Policy Positions

Corridor ID will be **the primary mechanism for developing off-Northeast Corridor intercity passenger rail corridors and projects** for subsequent implementation

Corridor ID is a home **for all types of Intercity Passenger Rail corridors**—new, significant improvements, and modest improvements to existing service are all welcome
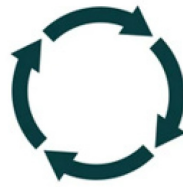
Corridor ID will **regularly solicit proposals for additional corridors** to enter the program—this is not a one-time opportunity
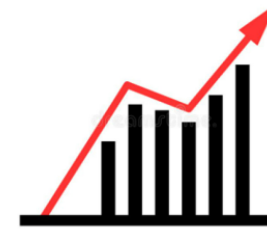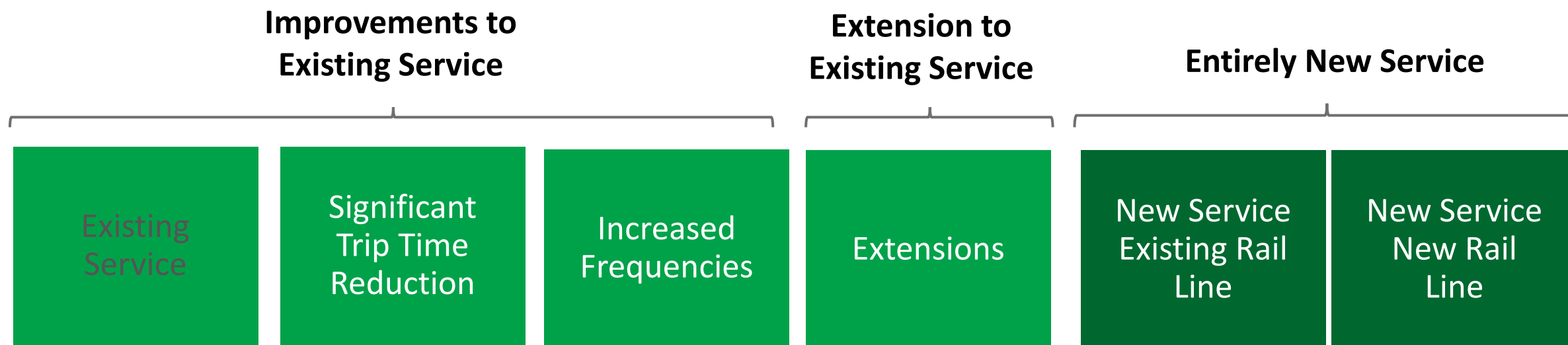
Level of non-Federal commitment may be modest at the beginning but must grow as a corridor advances through the Program

Corridors/Projects that advance to the Project Pipeline should be **ready for immediate implementation** (Final Design/ Construction)

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What Are the Different Types of Corridors?

Improvements to Existing Service

Extension to Existing Service

Entirely New Service

Existing Service	Significant Trip Time Reduction	Increased Frequencies	Extensions	New Service Existing Rail Line	New Service New Rail Line

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What Does This Mean for the Different Types of Corridors?

Level of Effort

Existing Service	Significant Trip Time Reduction	Increased Frequencies	Extensions	New Service Existing Rail Line	New Service New Rail Line
Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High

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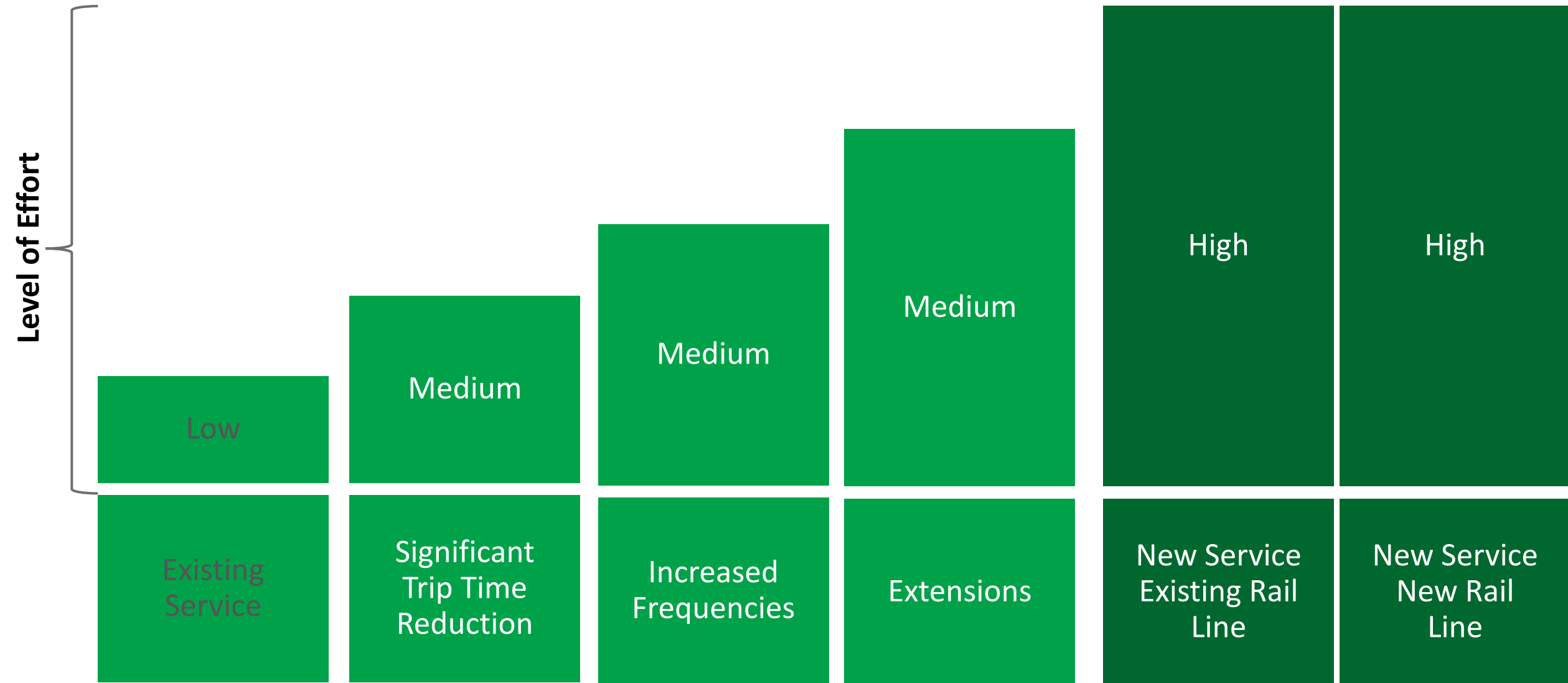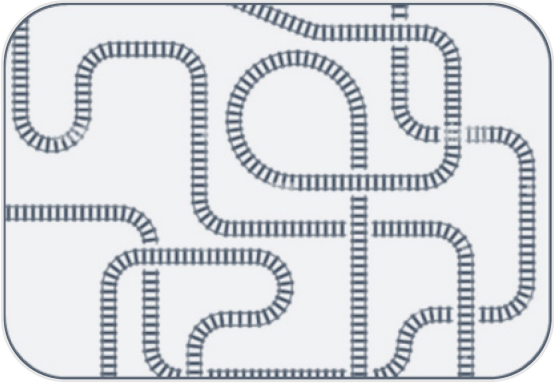
Selections made later this year will set the "baseline" for Corridor ID

Corridor ID map of selected corridors will illustrate FRA's plan for passenger rail development across the country for new AND existing corridors
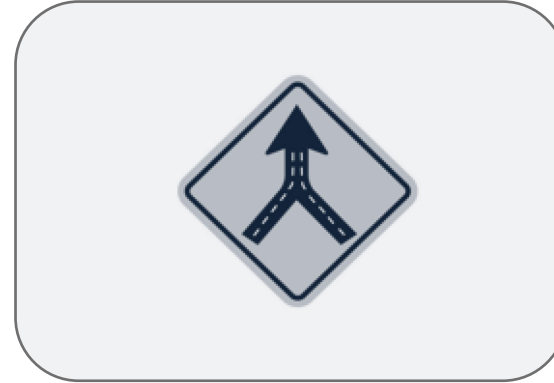
FRA's goal is to align the two programs—Corridor ID produces the Project Pipeline for Fed State Partnership – National Program

In future funding cycles, projects included in the Project Pipeline will receive priority funding under FSP-N

Corridor ID Selection and Beyond

Where Are We Now?

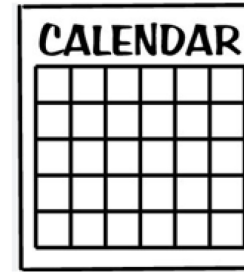FRA received over 90 eligible applications under the program

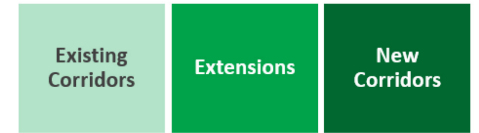Applications are currently under review

Several applications were ineligible

Debrief for ineligible and unselected corridors will follow announcements

Selection announcement planned for November

Existing Corridors | Extensions | New Corridors

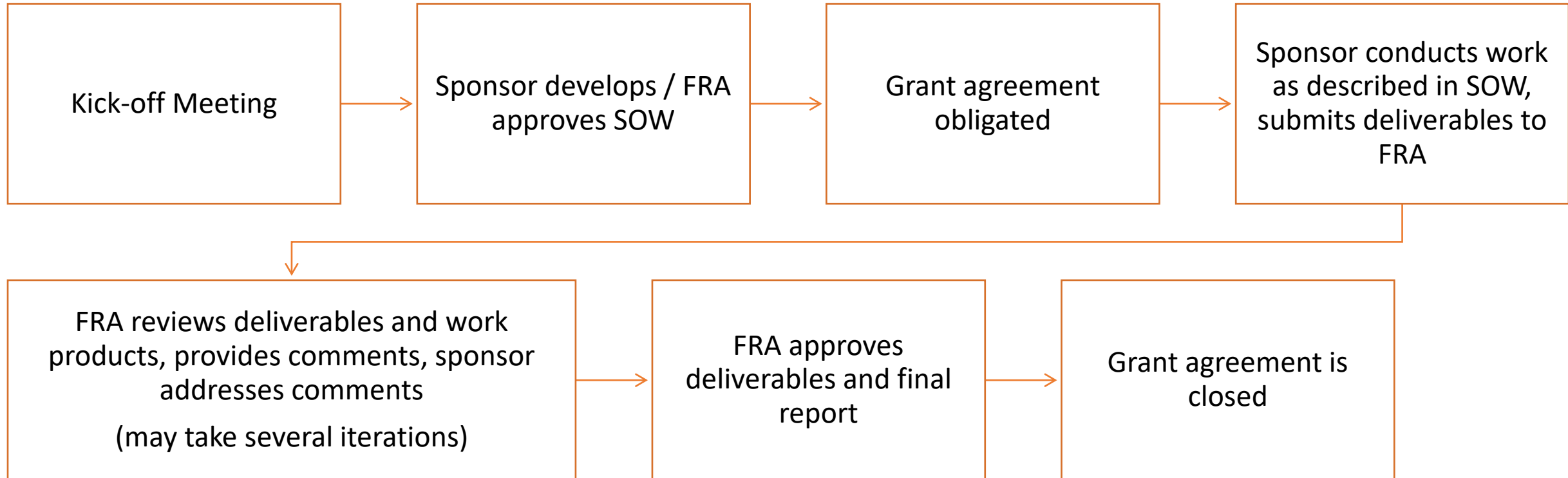Selections into the program will fall into the three categories presented earlier (slide 12)

What Happens Next—Steps 1, 2, and 3

Grant	Step 1: Scoping	Step 2: Service Development Plan	Step 3: Preliminary Engineering / NEPA
Funding	$500k / 0% match	$X / 10% match *($X determined during Step 1)*	$X / 20% match *($X determined during Step 2)*
Scope	• Using Service Development Plan SOW framework, **sponsor develops scope, schedule, and budget for Corridor SDP**, accounting for work on-going and/or undertaken to date	• Sponsor **develops a service development plan** in accordance with Corridor SOW and in coordination with FRA	• In coordination with FRA, sponsor completes **preliminary engineering** for capital projects • Sponsor completes **environmental review in coordination with FRA** for capital projects
Notes	• After kick-off meeting, **FRA will review work undertaken to date** • **Step 1 grant deliverable is SDP SOW** to include corridor-specific scope, schedule, and budget for service development planning	• Final service development plan includes a **Capital Project Inventory** as part of the **Phased Implementation Plan** • If readiness criteria are met, capital projects identified in **SDP may be advanced into Step 3** Project Development, at FRA's discretion and subject to funding availability	• Capital projects that complete Step 3 will move to **Project Pipeline** and may be prioritized for funding under Fed-State Partnership Program

Corridor ID Grant Process Overview for Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3 Grants

Each step will have a separate grant agreement

Kick-off Meeting	→	Sponsor develops / FRA approves SOW	→	Grant agreement obligated	→	Sponsor conducts work as described in SOW, submits deliverables to FRA

FRA reviews deliverables and work products, provides comments, sponsor addresses comments (may take several iterations)	→	FRA approves deliverables and final report	→	Grant agreement is closed

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Step 2: Service Development Plan
Draft SOW Framework Overview

Service Development Plan Draft SOW Framework

- FRA will release a Service Development Plan Framework on the Corridor ID Program webpage tomorrow (August 24)

- Potential corridor sponsors are encouraged to review SOW framework and begin identifying elements in the SOW to specific corridors

- FRA will engage the community again in October through presentations and webinars

DRAFT STATEMENT OF WORK FRAMEWORK
Corridor Identification and Development Program
Step 2 Service Development Plan

B. <u>SOW FRAMEWORK</u>

I. **BACKGROUND**

Instructions: In this section, the Recipient will provide a high-level background of the corridor history/status to inform the SDP preparation (approximately ½ page). Information may include, but is not limited to:
- *Identifying existing corridor service characteristics (if applicable) or identifying high-level characteristics of proposed corridor*
- *If an existing corridor, provide a high-level statement of intent for service development planning effort, such as "to improve reliability" or "extend current corridor from X to Y" or "to increase frequencies from X to Y"*
- *Identifying relevant stakeholders in the development of the proposed corridor*
- *Identifying relevant preceding efforts which may have been completed to date (which would be validated by FRA under Step 1)*

II. **OBJECTIVE**

This grant will fund the completion of <u>a</u> SDP for *"Insert Corridor Name"* Corridor in partnership with FRA. The main objectives of a SDP are to identify the draft Purpose and Need Statement for intercity passenger rail development; incorporate an analysis of alternatives supported by technical transportation planning and conceptual engineering; incorporate a high-level analysis and consideration of environmental factors associated with the alternatives; include input provided through public involvement and relevant public agencies; and identify the governance structure for the implementation and operation of the Corridor.

The SDP results in a corridor project inventory that identifies the capital projects necessary to achieve the proposed service. The SDP serves as the foundation for Step 3 Project Development activities under the CIDP.

III. **PROJECT LOCATION**

Instructions: In this section, the Recipient will describe and identify the "Insert Corridor Name" project's[2] study area and provide a map identifying at a minimum the major markets the corridor is intending to serve. The description may include identifying existing rail corridors that are relevant to the SDP.

Step 2: Service Development Plans—Why?

Task 2: Draft Purpose & Need Stakeholder Coordination

What is the corridor and who does it serves? → What are the goals for new or improved service? → Who are the relevant stakeholders?

Task 3: Alternatives Analysis

What are the alternatives to achieve the goals?

Task 4: Transportation Planning

What alternatives make sense and why from a transportation perspective?

Task 5: Environmental Planning

What alternatives make sense from an environmental perspective?

Task 6: Financial Planning & BCA

What are the improvements required for service, how much do they cost, and how do we pay for it?

Task 7: Governance

Who's in charge of which aspects of the program?

Task 8: Implementation Phasing

What order should improvements advance and be constructed?

Step 2: Service Development Plans Are an Iterative Process

Task 1: Project Administration

Task 2: P&N & Stakeholder Coordination
- Draft Purpose & Need
- Stakeholder Engagement Plans

Task 4: Transportation Planning
- Data Collection
- Ridership and Revenue Forecasting
- Conceptual Engineering
- Capital Cost Estimation
- Operations Analysis
- Station Area and Access Analysis
- Labor & Fleet Planning
- Operating & Maintenance Costing

Task 3: Alternatives Analysis
- Route Options
- Service Options
- Investment Packages

Task 5: Environmental Planning
- Public Engagement
- Agency Coordination
- Environmental Concerns Analysis

Task 6: Financial Planning & BCA
- Financial Planning
- Benefits-Cost Analysis

Task 7: Governance Structure

Task 8: Implementation Phasing

Task 9: Service Development Plan

Step 3
- Preliminary Engineering
- Environmental Review

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Step 2: Service Development Plan Draft SOW Framework

Task 1: Project Administration	Task 2: Draft P&N & Stakeholder Coordination	Task 3: Alternatives Analysis	Task 4: Transportation Planning	Task 5: Environmental Planning	Task 6: Financial Planning & BCA	Task 7: Governance Structure	Task 8: Implementation Phasing	Task 9: Service Development Plan
Project Management Plan	Draft Purpose & Need	Route Options	Data Collection	Public Engagement	Financial Planning	Corridor Governance Report	Phased Implementation Plan	Service Development Plan
Closeout Report	Stakeholder Engagement Plans	Service Options	Operations Analysis	Agency Coordination	Benefits-Cost Analysis			
		Investments Packages	Ridership and Revenue Forecasting	Environmental Concerns Analysis				
			Station Area and Access Analysis					
			Conceptual Engineering					
			Capital Cost Estimation					
			Labor & Fleet Planning					
			Operating & Maintenance Costing					

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Resources

- **FRA Webinars:**
https://railroads.dot.gov/rail-network-development/training-guidance/webinars-0

- **Corridor Identification and Development Grant Program:**
https://railroads.dot.gov/corridor-ID-program

- **Corridor ID Program Support:**
PaxRailDev@dot.gov

Contact Us

Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Corridor ID Program Support:

Email: PaxRailDev@dot.gov

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QUESTIONS?

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