

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Seth Lorson, FC Moves
Kerri Ishmael, Utility Financial Operations

SUBJECT

Resolution 2025-055 Supporting the Grant Application for Funding for Front Range Passenger Rail Project Planning.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to obtain support for the City in applying for funding under the Colorado Department of Local Affairs Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

FC Moves and Engineering, in collaboration with the City of Loveland, are presently pursuing two grant opportunities through the State of Colorado: Energy/Mineral Impact Assistance Fund Grant (EIAF) from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and Nonattainment Area Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME) Community Clean Transportation Assistance Grant Funding Program from Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). This funding will support station location and preliminary design for Front Range Passenger Rail (FRPR), a new passenger rail system along the Front Range. The collaborative request under the NAAPME program is pending.

Both City of Fort Collins and City of Loveland identify the need to commence this preliminary planning effort to align with timing of the FRPR. This initial planning study serves as the catalyst for the cities of Fort Collins and Loveland to align with the vision established by FRPR District, an independent government agency with the mission to plan, design, finance, construct, operate and maintain a new passenger rail system along the Front Range. While a priority to align with future operation of the FRPR, both cities have limited funds to support covering 100% of total project costs.

To support meeting the funding gap for this preliminary planning project, the City, in partnership with the City of Loveland, applied to the DOLA grant program in late March. The cities anticipate using the DOLA grant funds for the local match for the NAAPME grant. DOLA funds are needed regardless of CDOT supporting the preliminary study in full or in part under the NAAPME grant program. The scope of work will be scaled down absent NAAPME funds, supporting both cities in completing preliminary planning to identify station location in Fort Collins and Loveland and to meet the FRPA District's schedule for advanced station planning.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Support of FC Moves and Engineering in pursuing funds under DOLA's EIAF grant program does not impact City finances. If the grant is awarded, the City will seek appropriation of such grant funds from Council.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution 2025-055