



Phoenix to Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor Study

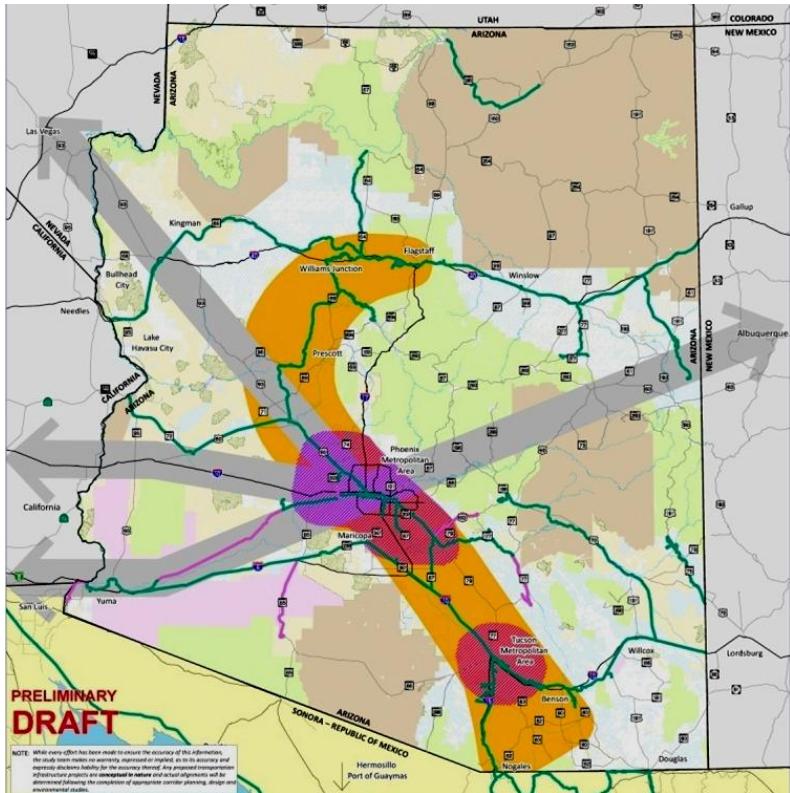
PAG Regional Council
January 29, 2026

Agenda

- State Rail Plan
- Previous Study Efforts
- Federal Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program
- Phoenix - Tucson Intercity Rail Study
 - Key Tasks & Milestones
 - Stakeholder and Public Goals
 - Next Steps



State Rail Plan – Passenger Rail Vision



- State Rail Plan provides comprehensive assessment of Arizona's statewide freight and passenger rail system and future needs
- Intercity Passenger Rail Vision connecting northern Arizona to Mexican border
 - Statewide phased implementation: Phoenix to Tucson Corridor

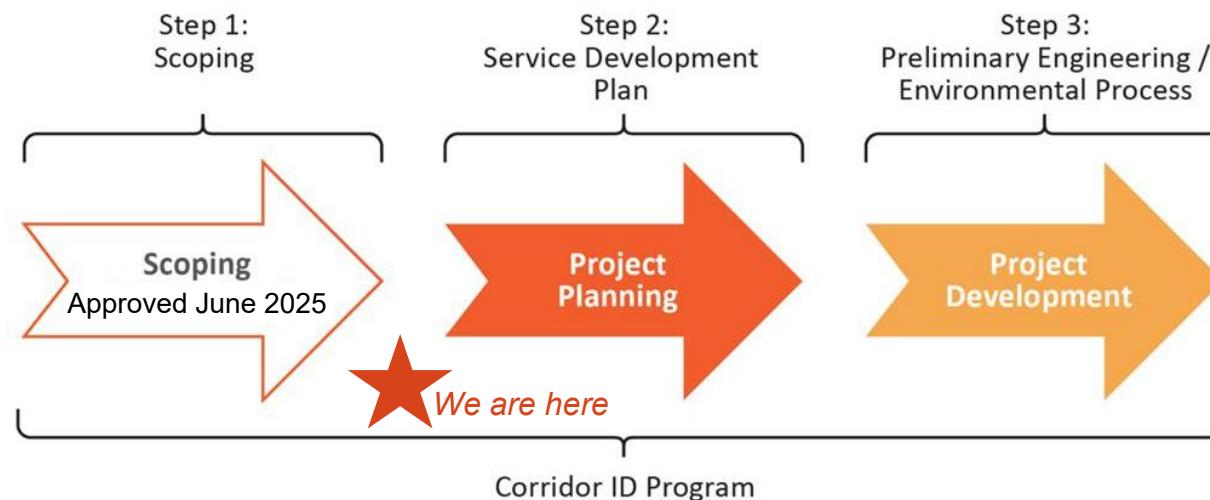
2011-2016 Arizona Passenger Rail Corridor Study: Tucson to Phoenix



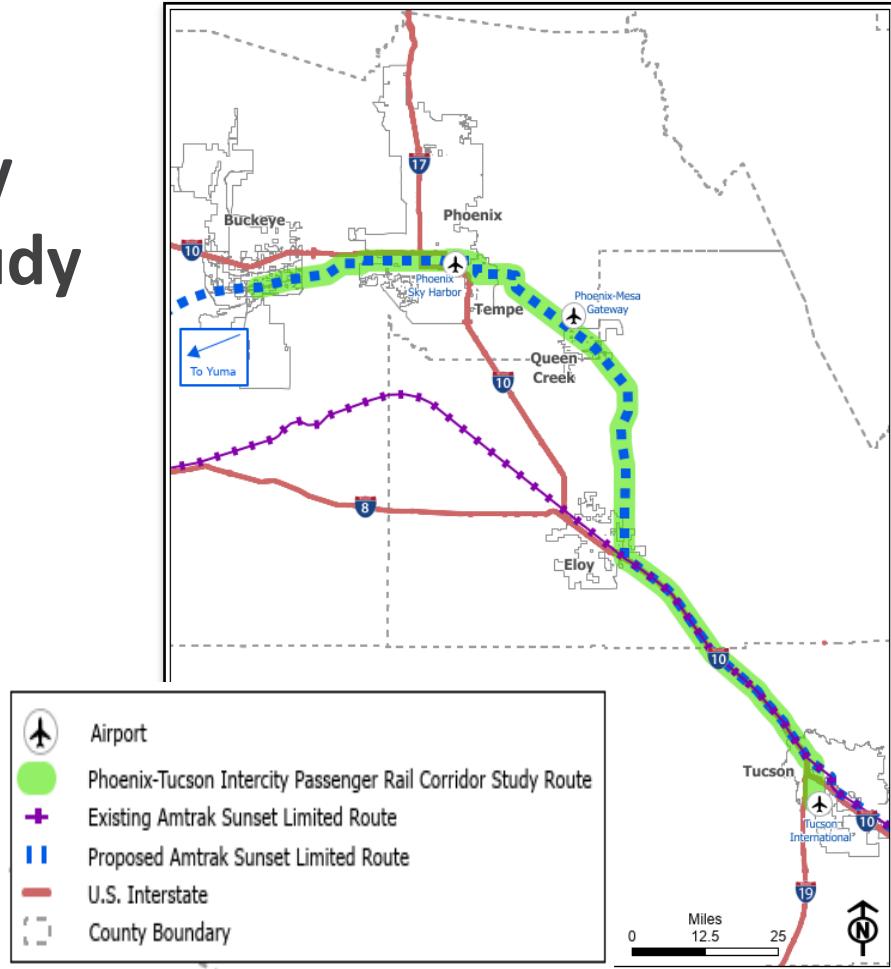
- The Federal Railroad Administration, in cooperation with ADOT, selected the proposed corridor alternative with both commuter and intercity station locations for further study
- The 2016 study recommendations were instrumental in ADOT entering the Corridor ID grant application
- *The Corridor ID project will build on the previous project, refine the selected corridor to a specific alignment (right-of-way), define travel time operations and station locations, and define an implementation strategy.*

Passenger Rail Corridor ID Program Development Stages

**If readiness criteria are met, capital projects identified in the SDP (Step 2) may be advanced into Step 3*



Phoenix to Tucson Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor Study Area

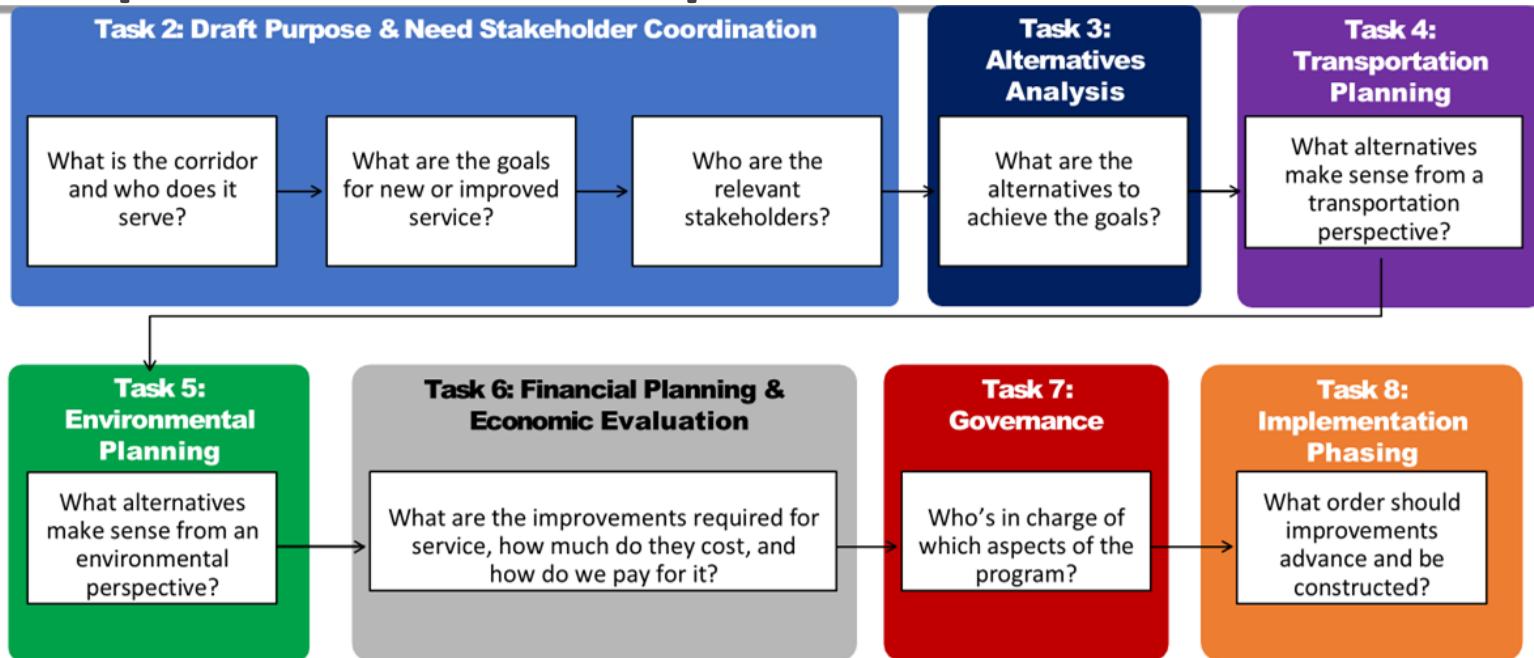


Amtrak *Daily Sunset CID*

- Amtrak has concurrent Corridor ID project
- 1,995-mile Amtrak long distance passenger service between Los Angeles and New Orleans
- Amtrak Corridor ID study to evaluate:
 - Rerouting through Phoenix
 - Increasing existing service from 3 times/week to daily



FRA Step 2 Service Development Plan Overview:



Agency Outreach Goals and Objectives

- Agency Coordination
 - Agency workshops before decision milestones; 1:1 meetings as needed
 - Station area planning and service options
 - Tribal Consultation and Outreach
- Governance and funding discussions
 - Focusing on participant stakeholders
 - Executive Leadership Team



Public Outreach Strategies

- Robust public engagement program
- Public awareness and sentiment
- Various tools and techniques for involvement
 - Public meetings
 - Surveys
 - Presentations to community groups
 - Participation at community events
 - Website and virtual tools
 - Social media
 - Documenting and analyzing input



Next Steps: FRA Step 2 Grant Approval Process

June 2025: FRA approved the ADOT Step 1 workplan (scope, schedule and budget)

FRA expected to issue “Project Directed NOFO”

ADOT and FRA to develop grant agreement (10% state match)

Kickoff the Step 2 Service Development Plan





Thank you!

Thank you for your partnership in the Phoenix to Tucson
Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor Study!

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