



RAIL

MOVING AMERICA FORWARD

Corridor Identification and Development Program— Service Development Plans Preview

Wynne Davis, Office of Regional Outreach and Project Delivery



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

February 21, 2023

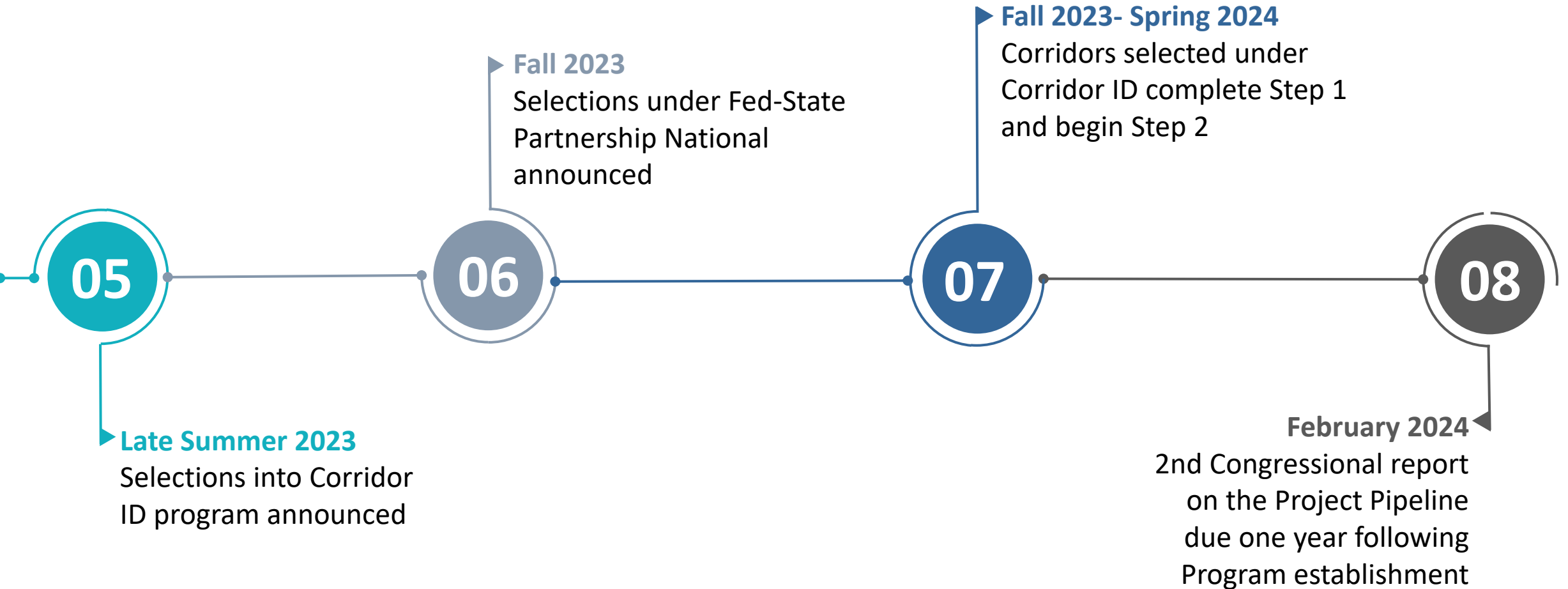
Presentation Overview

- **Timeline**
- **Corridor ID—What is it?**
- **Service Development Planning Overview**
- **Expressions of Interest**
- **Outreach**
- **Questions**

Corridor ID Timeline



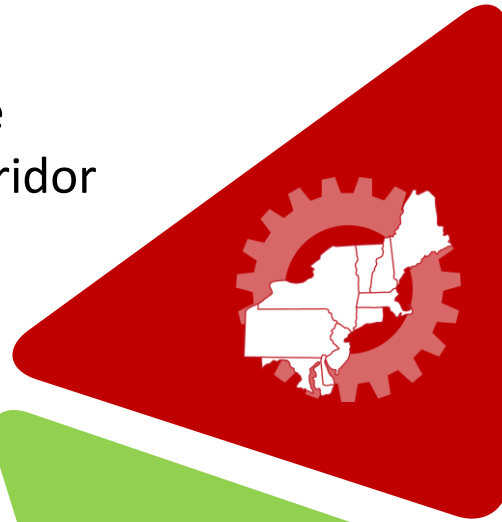
Corridor ID Timeline



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



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



Build the foundation for a
long-term rail program



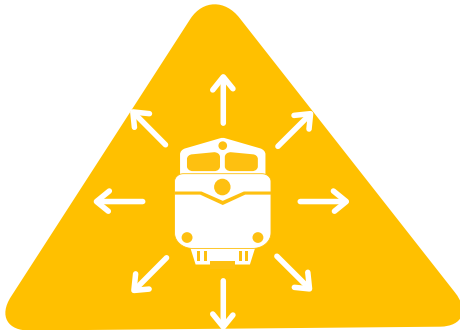
Corridor ID Program Overview

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



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)

Grow a safer, cleaner, more equitable rail system

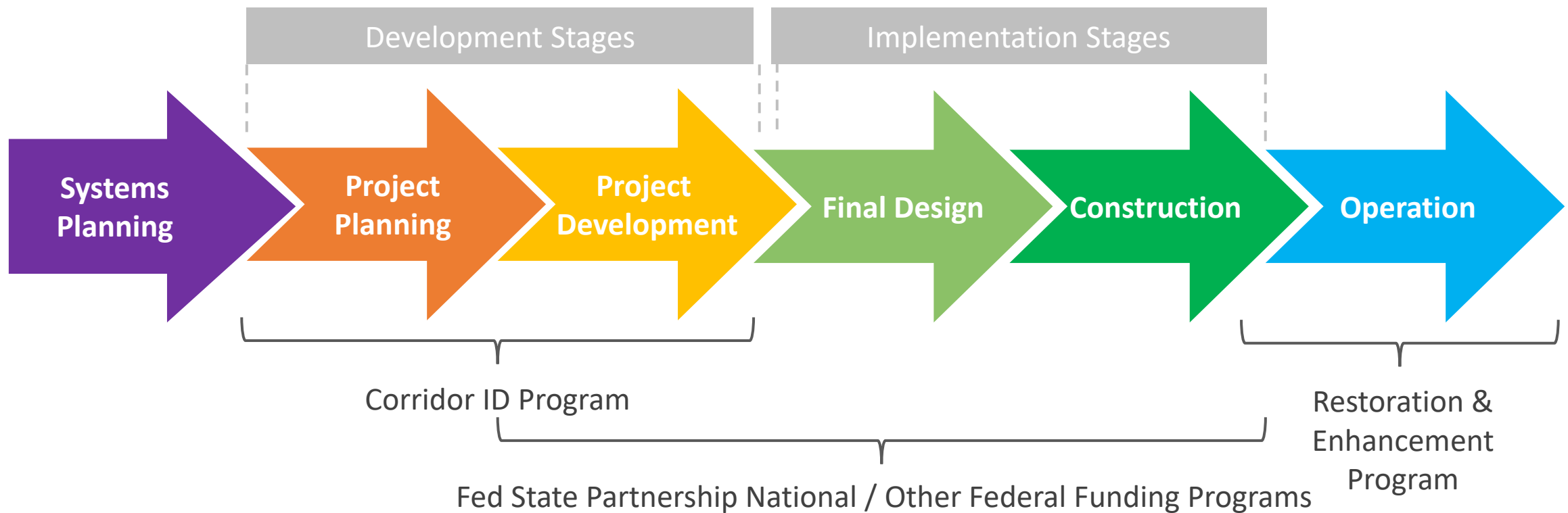


SDP includes a “corridor project inventory”

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

FRA Project Lifecycle Stages – Corresponding FRA Funding Programs



Establishing the Program – Significant Policy Positions



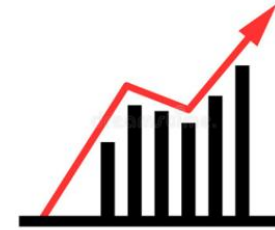
Corridor ID will be **the primary mechanism for developing off-Northeast Corridor intercity passenger rail corridors and projects** for subsequent implementation



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)

Nearly any public entity with a role in transportation...

- Amtrak
- States
- Groups of States
- Entities implementing interstate compacts
- Regional passenger rail authorities
- Regional planning organizations
- Political subdivisions of a State
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes

Corridor Eligibility

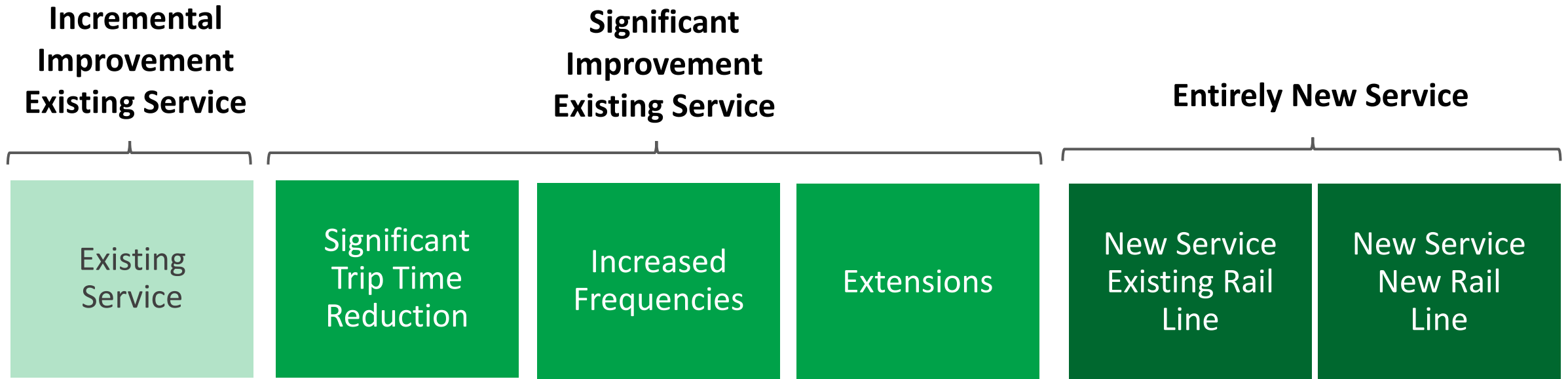
Eligible Corridors

- Short-distance (<750 miles) IPR services
- Restoring service over any route formerly operated by Amtrak
- Increasing frequencies of long-distance service (will be analyzed as part of the FRA-led Long-Distance Study)

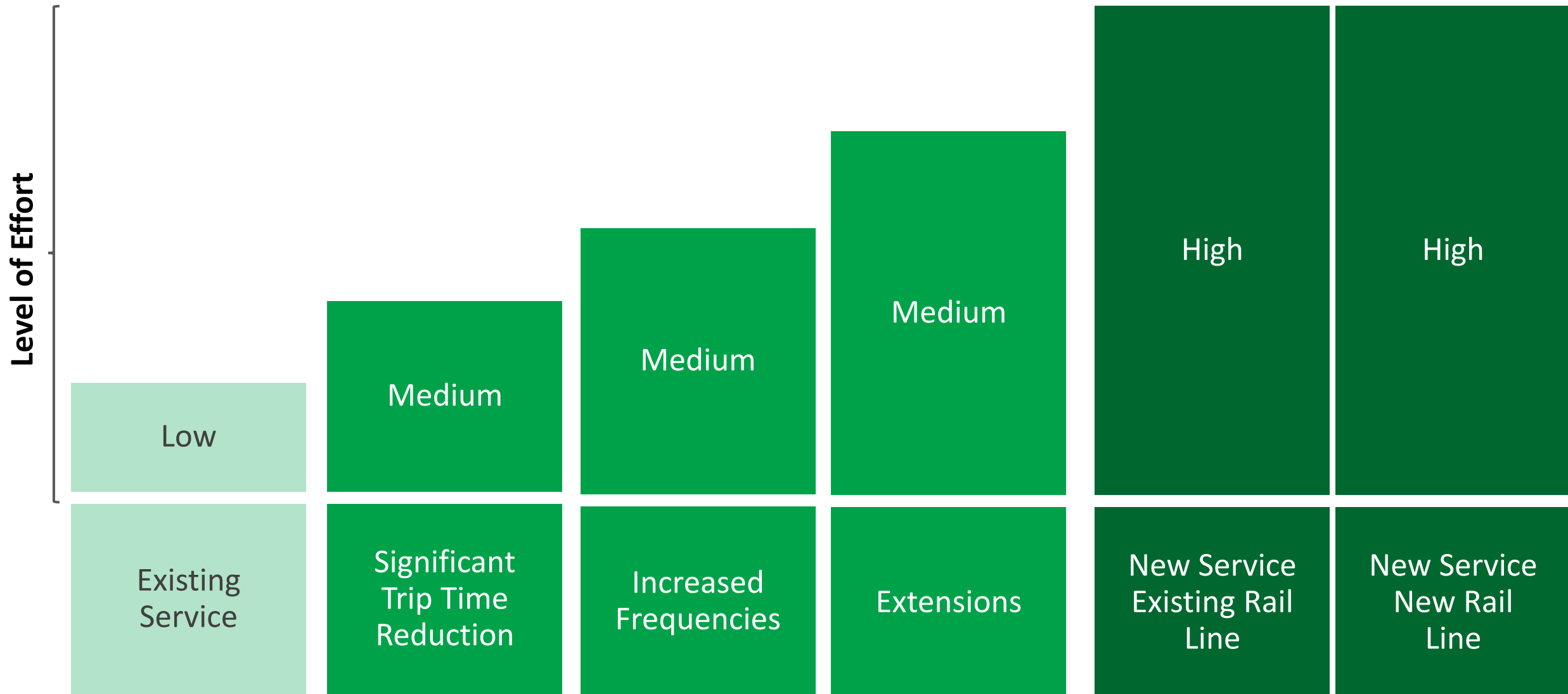
Ineligible Corridors

- Commuter rail
- Increments of an IPR corridor that if advanced alone, would not meet the definition of a stand-alone IPR corridor
- Technology that is under development but not yet proven

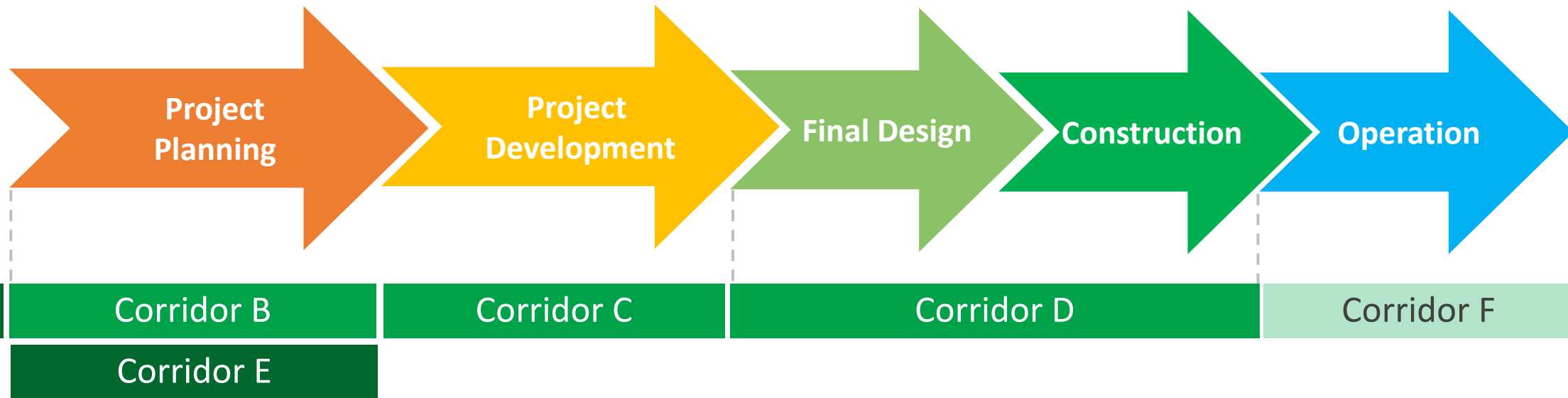
What does this mean for the different types of corridors?



What does this mean for the different types of corridors?



FRA will Consider Work Undertaken to Date



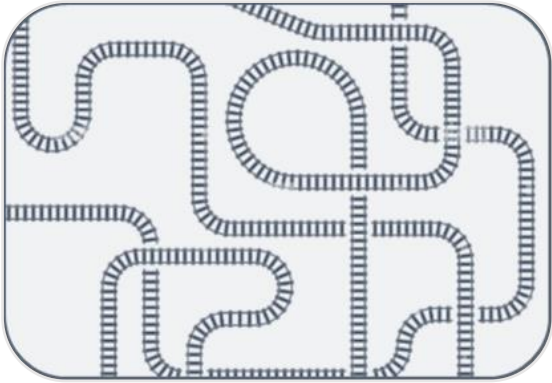
- A Corridor may have little to no development work completed
- B Corridor may have on-going FRA funded development efforts
- C May have completed FRA-funded efforts / environmental review
- D & E May have development efforts independent from FRA
- F Existing corridors are already under operation

*FRA will meet you
where you are in
the project
development
lifecycle*

Corridor ID Funding—Development Stages

		Development Stages			
	Expression of Interest	Submission of Corridor Proposal	Project Planning Step 1: SDP Scoping & Program Initiation	Project Planning Step 2: Service Development Planning	Project Development Step 3
Key Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit expression of interest to docket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit corridor proposal in response to upcoming solicitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor creates the capacity necessary to undertake the service planning effort Sponsor develops scope, schedule, and budget for planning effort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor, in collaboration with FRA, prepares service development plan for corridor 	<i>For a Phase of Implementing Corridor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor completes environmental review Sponsor completes PE
Prerequisites	None	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection of Corridor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Step 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Step 2 Phase likely to be implemented Phase likely to benefit IPR Service
Binding Commitment	None	None	Delivery of scope and cost estimate for SDP	Completion of SDP, approved by FRA	Completion of PE / NEPA for phase
Funding	None	None	~\$500k “seed money,” 0% match <i>(Unspent funds carry forward)</i>	\$XX determined through scoping effort, 10% match	\$XX determined through SDP, 20% match

2022 Selections—A Baseline Year for Corridor ID



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

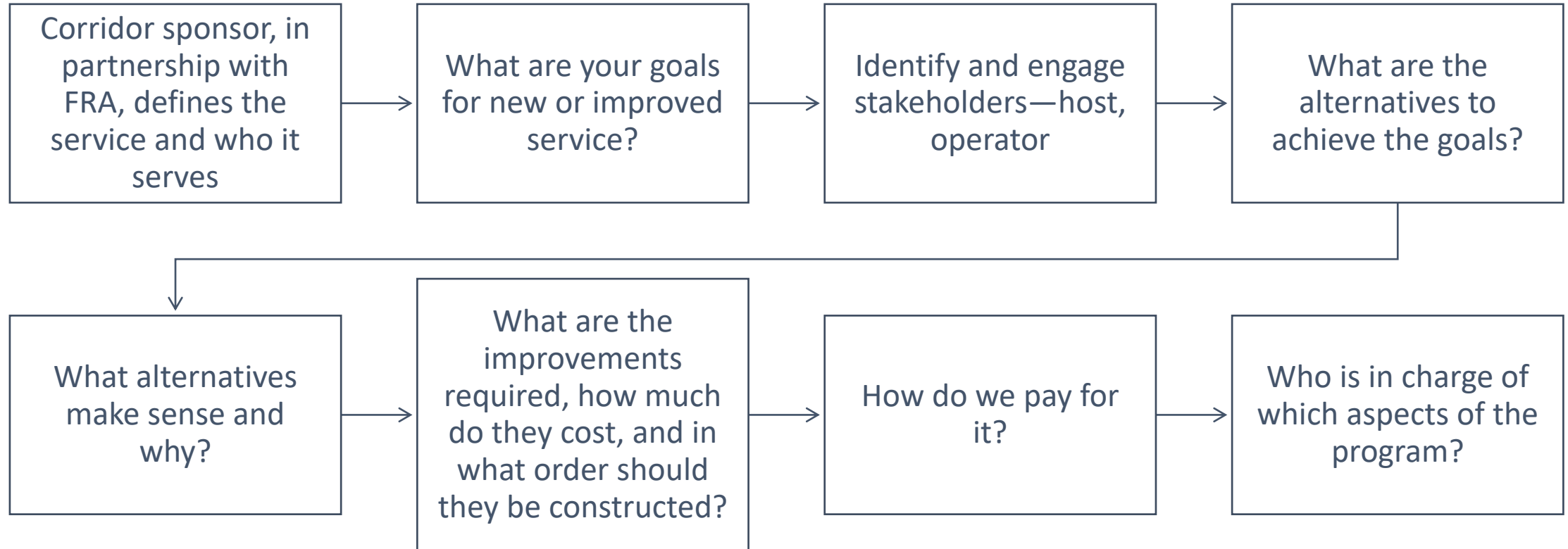


FRA’s goal is to align the two programs—Corridor ID produces the Project Pipeline for FSP-N

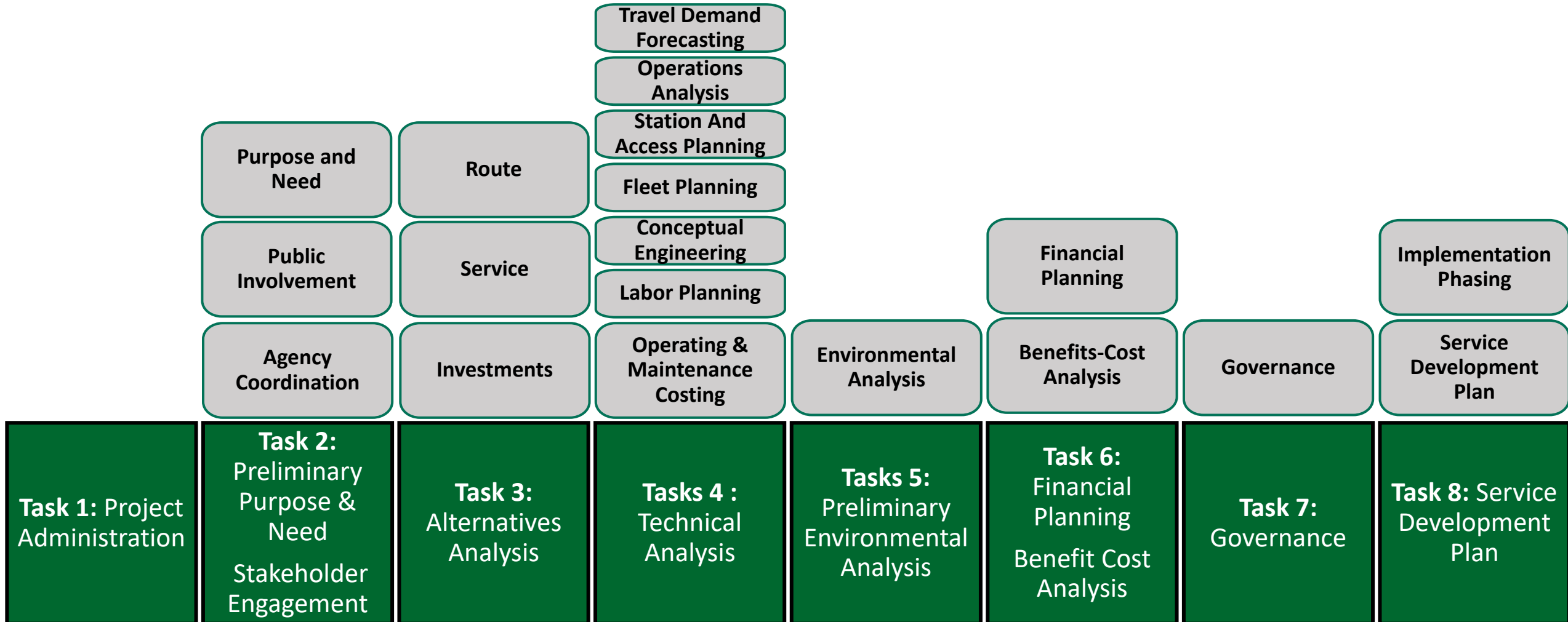


In future funding cycles, projects included in the Project Pipeline will receive priority funding under FSP-N

Service Development Plans—What Are They?

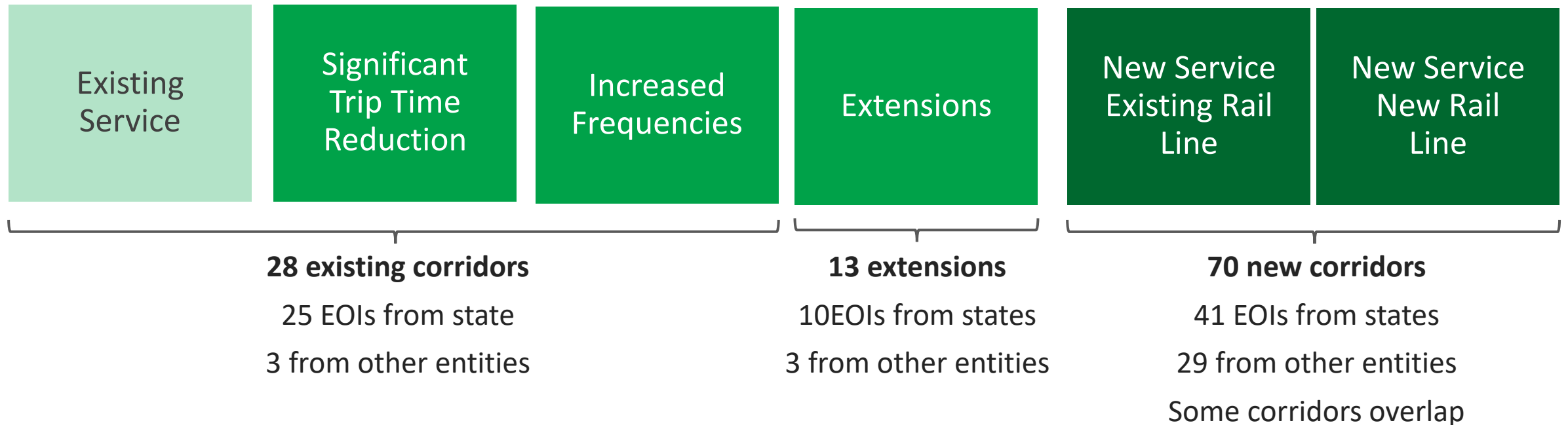


Corridor ID “Step 2” Statement of Work – SDP Preparation/Updating



Expressions of Interest by Types of Corridors

On May 13 FRA published a notice for expressions of interest in the Federal Register, 100 corridors different represented



Expressions of Interest

28 existing corridors

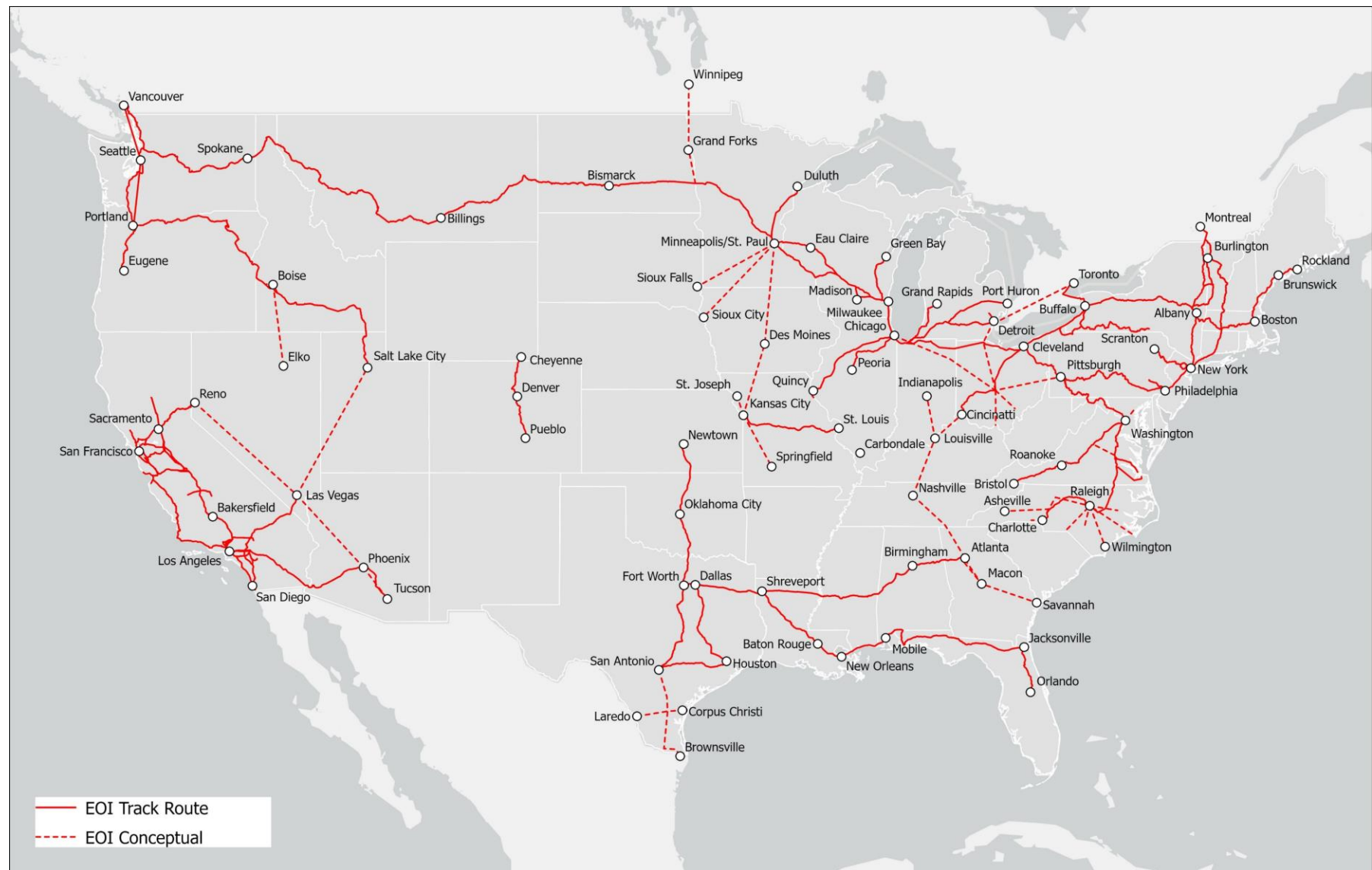
25 EOs from state
3 from other entities

13 extensions

10 EOs from states
3 from other entities

70 new corridors

41 EOs from states
29 from other entities



Corridor ID Outreach

Outreach to Date

Conducted 41 virtual outreach sessions, 33 States, 8 other eligible entities

California

Colorado

Connecticut

Florida

Georgia

Idaho

Idaho

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Kansas

Louisiana

Maine

Maryland

MassDOT

Michigan

Minnesota

Missouri

Nevada

New York

North
Carolina

Ohio

Oklahoma

Oregon

PennDOT

Tennessee

Texas

Utah

Vermont

Virginia

Washington

Wisconsin

Wyoming

Southern
Rail
Commission

California
High Speed
Rail

Big Sky Rail

High Desert
JPA

Pima
Association
of Govts

City of
Peoria, IL

MORPC &
NOACA

Corridor ID Outreach—What We Heard

- A lot of enthusiasm for Corridor ID across states, regions, and municipalities
- Existing corridor programs—what's the benefit
- Level of commitment for new corridor programs
- When and how to engage host railroads and Amtrak



Class I Outreach

- FRA will meet with each Class I railroad February—March 2023
- Overview of FRA rail development programs with a focus on new and amended programs
- Class I perspective—how are FRA programs impacting them?
- Discuss opportunities to improve rail operations for both freight and passenger corridors
- Review Class I priority projects
- Discuss status, challenges, and successes of passenger rail programs hosted (or potentially hosted) by Class Is



Outreach—Amtrak

- Corridor ID is operator agnostic
- However, Amtrak is the partner for existing passenger rail services and will likely be the partner for several proposed future services
- Outreach regularly with Amtrak to understand efforts that align with Corridor ID and other FRA funding programs



Shortline Railroad Outreach

- Working closely with ASLRRA to provide forums for information and feedback
- Several sessions to date: environmental, project and grant management, Buy America and other issues
- Will meet with largest holding companies and short lines in March / April
- Will present at ASLRRA conference in April
- Goal is to create forum for information and feedback that results in better projects, faster obligation and continued success of the CRISI program



Consultant Community Outreach

- Guidance on Service Development Planning required under Corridor ID will be released late Spring 2023
- FRA will engage consultant community through webinars and other forums to gather feedback and provide direction
- Our goal is to clearly communicate our expectations for work performed under FRA funded programs so consultants hired by our grantees can accurately scope and perform the work



Contact Us

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



Connect with us [USDOTFRA](#)

Wynne Davis

Deputy Director for Regional
Outreach

*Office of Regional Outreach &
Project Delivery*

PaxRailDev@dot.gov

