



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2017

State of Colorado

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates two National Network trains through Colorado:

- The *California Zephyr* (daily Chicago-Denver- Emeryville/Bay Area)
- The *Southwest Chief* (daily Chicago-Kansas City-La Junta-Trinidad-Albuquerque-Los Angeles)

During FY17 Amtrak served the following Colorado locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Denver	154,706
Fort Morgan	3,448
Glenwood Springs	46,079
Granby	4,950
Grand Junction	30,896
La Junta	7,009
Lamar	1,673
Trinidad	5,415
Winter Park-Fraser	8,845
Winter Park Resort (seasonal)	16,568
Total Colorado Station Usage:	279,589

(up 11.5% from FY16)

Procurement

Amtrak spent \$11,877,356 on goods and services in Colorado in FY17. Most of this was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Denver	\$ 2,125,300
Grand Junction	\$ 1,016,026
Lakewood	\$ 6,845,504

Employment

At the end of FY17, Amtrak employed 61 Colorado residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Colorado were \$5,358,207 during FY17.

New Service

Amtrak began new, seasonal service between Denver and Winter Park Resort in January 2017. The partnership with the Winter Park Resort has resulted in the Amtrak Winter Park Express. This seasonal, weekend service marks the return of the “Ski Train” to Colorado and provides a car-free transportation alternative to this world-class ski resort. For the first year (2017), weekend and holiday train service ran from January through March, for a total of 26 round trips.

Station Improvements

Denver: Union Station underwent a \$500-million redevelopment into a regional, intermodal transportation center. Amtrak moved into the redeveloped terminal on February 28, 2014, as the overall station remodeling and hotel construction drew to a close. Union Station was built in 1894, significantly rebuilt in 1914, and purchased by the Regional Transportation District in 2002.

Winter Park Resort: With a funding partnership between Winter Park Resort/Interwest, Inc., the City of Denver, the City of Winter Park, and with a \$1.5-million grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Winter Park Resort completed a 940-foot, heated, ADA-compliant platform at the resort location just beyond the west portal of the Moffatt Tunnel. The \$4-million station project includes the heated platform, walkways to/from the resort, lighting and signage. The Winter Park Ski resort is the only ski destination with its own direct train service and platform in North America. This facility is used for the seasonal Winter Park Express service between Denver and the Winter Park Resort

Southwest Chief route

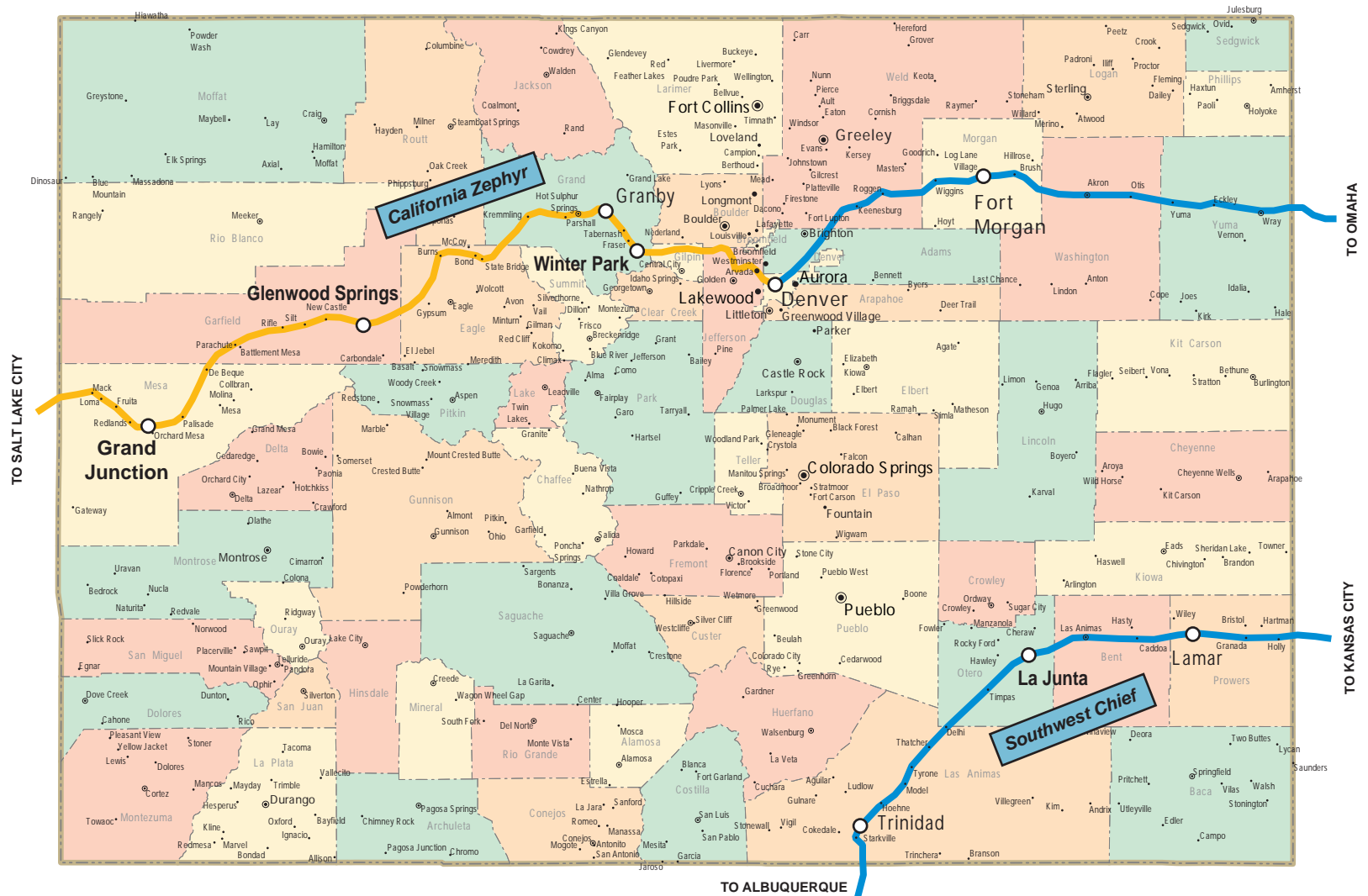
The present route of the *Southwest Chief*, via Trinidad, La Junta, and Lamar, could be altered if sufficient capital funding is not found to modernize the line. Amtrak has been working with the states and communities that would be affected and has informed them of the situation, which results from changing freight traffic patterns, and that effort has produced significant results so far.

In September 2014, through the TIGER VI program, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded \$12.5 million to the Kansas Department of Transportation to begin the process of modernizing the BNSF La Junta Subdivision, used by the *Southwest Chief*. Combined with matching funds from Amtrak (\$4 million), BNSF Railway (\$3 million), Kansas DOT (\$2 million), and the cities and counties of southeastern Colorado (\$250,000), almost \$22 million was allocated towards the requisite rail infrastructure upgrades in Kansas. The sum represented a significant down payment on this project and will be part of a sustained effort by all stakeholders to keep the *Southwest Chief* on its current route.

In 2015, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded an additional \$15.2-million TIGER grant to the City of La Junta, Colorado, to continue the rehabilitation of the *Southwest Chief* line. The funding was used to add approximately 39 miles of new rail and repair over 20 miles of roadbed on segments between

Waldo, New Mexico, and Garden City, Kansas. Combined with matching funds from Amtrak (\$4 million), BNSF (\$2 million), and the states of Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico (\$1 million, each), over \$24 million was allocated to upgrades and repairs in this round of funding.

The Colorado Legislature passed a bill in 2014 to create a commission to oversee the state's efforts to preserve and expand service on the *Southwest Chief* through Colorado. That commission is spearheading the effort to secure future state and federal funds to make additional track improvements in Colorado. In 2017, the Legislature renewed the commission existing authority, and augmented its role to explore the possibility of Front Range rail service—addressing a critical transportation issue along the I-25 corridor.



AMTRAK ROUTES IN COLORADO

TRACK OWNERSHIP	
Amtrak	NS
UP	CP
BNSF	CN
CSX	Other