

# ECO Transit Employment Linkage Study

## Final Report

Prepared for:

Eagle County Regional Transportation Authority  
3289 Cooley Mesa Road  
Gypsum, CO 81637  
(970) 328-3524

Prepared by:

LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc.  
516 North Tejon Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
(719) 633-2868

LSC #085100

May 11, 2009

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Title	Page
I	INTRODUCTION .....	I-1
	Study Background .....	I-1
	Organization of This Report .....	I-1
II	TRANSIT DEMAND ASSESSMENT .....	II-1
	Introduction .....	II-1
	Residential Growth .....	II-1
	Employment Growth .....	II-3
	Demand Estimates .....	II-6
	Ridership History .....	II-6
	Projected Demand .....	II-8
	Methodology .....	II-8
	Results .....	II-11
	Conclusion .....	II-11
III	SERVICE OPTIONS .....	III-1
	Introduction .....	III-1
	Service Adjustments .....	III-1
	Growth Analysis .....	III-1
	Route 6 (Winter) Service Improvement .....	III-5
	Route 6 (Summer) Service Improvement .....	III-6
	Route 1 (Winter) Service Improvement .....	III-6
	Route 1 (Summer) Service Improvement .....	III-6
	Route 2 (Winter) Service Improvement .....	III-6
	Circulator Service .....	III-7
	New Services .....	III-10
	Commuter Service from Glenwood Springs to Eagle .....	III-10
	Commuter Service from Frisco to Vail .....	III-12
	Facility Impact .....	III-14
	Transit Stations .....	III-14
	Future Level of Service .....	III-17
	Summary .....	III-17
IV	FINANCIAL IMPACTS .....	IV-1
	Introduction .....	IV-1
	Operational Budget Impact .....	IV-1
	Capital Budget Impact .....	IV-3
	Annual Financial Impact .....	IV-3
V	FUNDING ALTERNATIVES .....	V-1
	Introduction .....	V-1
	Capital Funding .....	V-1
	Operations and Maintenance Funding .....	V-2
	Overall Service Considerations .....	V-3
	Potential Local and Regional Funding Sources .....	V-3
	General Fund Appropriations .....	V-3

	SB1 Strategic Transit Program . . . . .	V-4
	Voluntary Assessments . . . . .	V-4
	Private Support . . . . .	V-4
	Transportation Impact Fees . . . . .	V-4
	Hotel Bed Tax . . . . .	V-5
	Dedicated Sales Tax . . . . .	V-6
	Regional Transportation Authority . . . . .	V-6
	Federal Transit Funding Sources . . . . .	V-7
	FTA Section 5309 - Capital Improvement Grants . . . . .	V-7
	FTA Section 5310 - Capital for Elderly and Disabled Transportation . .	V-7
	FTA Section 5311 - Public Transportation for Rural Areas . . . . .	V-8
	FTA Section 5312 - Research, Development, Demonstration, and Training Projects . . . . .	V-8
	FTA Section 5317 - New Freedom Program . . . . .	V-8
	FTA Section 5319 - Bicycle Facilities . . . . .	V-8
	Job Access and Reverse Commute Program . . . . .	V-9
	Transportation and Community System Preservation Program . . . . .	V-9
	Other Federal Funds . . . . .	V-9
	Funding Summary . . . . .	V-10
VI	INSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVES . . . . .	VI-1
	Introduction . . . . .	VI-1
	Institutional Approaches . . . . .	VI-1
	Criteria for Institutional Structures . . . . .	VI-1
	Institutional Structures . . . . .	VI-2
	County Transit Service . . . . .	VI-2
	Intergovernmental Transit Agency . . . . .	VI-3
	Regional Transportation Authority . . . . .	VI-5
	Institutional Case Studies . . . . .	VI-7
	Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee . . . . .	VI-7
	Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) . . . . .	VI-7
	Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA) . . . . .	VI-8
	Summary of Institutional Alternatives . . . . .	VI-9

APPENDIX A: Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority

## LIST OF TABULATIONS

Table	Title	Page
II-1	Historic Ridership Statistics . . . . .	II-6
II-2	Predicted Route Ridership Growth . . . . .	II-11
III-1	Service Levels by Route . . . . .	III-3
III-2	Passenger Load LOS . . . . .	III-5
III-3	2014 Service Levels by Route After Service Improvements . . . . .	III-18
IV-1	2014 Operational and Capital Impact . . . . .	IV-2
IV-2	Estimated Financial Plan . . . . .	IV-4
VI-1	Summary of Institutional Alternatives . . . . .	VI-10

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure	Title	Page
II-1	Eagle County Population . . . . .	II-2
II-2	Job Growth in Eagle County . . . . .	II-5
II-3	Ridership History . . . . .	II-7
II-4	Residential and Employment Growth by 2013 . . . . .	II-10
III-1	Proposed Circulator Service . . . . .	III-9
III-2	Proposed Glenwood Springs to Eagle Commuter Route . . . . .	III-11
III-3	Proposed Frisco to Vail Commuter Route . . . . .	III-13