

Amtrak Southwest Chief TIGER 9 Grant Application Summary

The local communities have pledged \$135,500 and are:
(still expect another to come in as of Friday, October 13)

Association of Private Rail Car Owners

ColoRail

Santa Fe County

San Miguel County

City of La Junta

City of Trinidad

Prowers County

Bent County

Otero County

Pueblo County

Colfax County (Applicant)

Cimarron, NM

City of Maxell

County of Mora

City of Raton

City of Hutchinson

Garden City

The synopsis:

The Amtrak Southwest Chief Route Stabilization Project continues the work done on the route of the Southwest Chief beginning with the TIGER grant award in 2014. The project will rehabilitate the right of way along the La Junta Subdivision between Hutchinson, KS and Las Animas Junction in Colorado. New rail from American steel mills will replace rail installed in the 1950s resulting in 42 miles of rehabilitated track, switches, and grade crossings. After the project is done, only 28 miles of older rail will remain out of the 178 miles present when the first TIGER project began.

Along the route in New Mexico, the project will address right-of-way issues including drainage and rock slides. Earlier TIGER work is complete and the associated speed restrictions have been lifted on the line north and east of Albuquerque. This Route Stabilization Project will continue the improvement of the line in this area, replacing 17 miles of ancient signals, restoring passing sidings and culverts, and addressing rock slide issues at Devils Throne. In the 200 miles between Lamy, NM and Trinidad, CO the project will install 24,000 new ties to preserve the integrity of the line and keep train speeds at their current level.

Colfax County, NM is the applicant in this project. The application is requesting \$18.3M in TIGER funds to be matched with \$9.3M of non-Federal funds including \$1M each from the states of New Mexico, Colorado, and Kansas. Local communities all up and down the line are pledging support and providing funds as is the BNSF Railway and Amtrak.

BNSF Railway and Amtrak are each pledging \$3 million in matching funds.