

MOUNTAIN PASSENGER TRANSPORT SYSTEM FEASIBILITY AND LOCATION STUDY

GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO (COMPLETED)

Charlier Associates led a team of consultants in the evaluation of alternative passenger transport systems to connect the Town of Crested Butte with the Town of Mount Crested Butte and Crested Butte Mountain Resort. Currently, two-lane Gothic Road is the only transportation link between the two communities. Growing congestion on this roadway is limiting the level of bus transit service that may be provided, a condition that will worsen over the next twenty years.

Topography and community values discourage the use of roadway improvements to satisfy anticipated travel demand. The mountain passenger transport study involved a location analysis for a number of alternative transportation systems, including wire rope (i.e., gondola, tram), funicular (surface and elevated), surface rail and bus. The recommended alternative(s) have been described in terms of transport technology; station location, configuration and layout; route alignment; system performance; costs (capital and operations and maintenance); environmental impacts; financial feasibility; and other elements.

The public process supporting the project included a project oversight committee, study sessions and meetings with elected boards, project roundtable discussions (with identified key persons) and public workshops.

Client: Gunnison County
Contact: John DeVore, County Manager (970) 641-0248

