



## **FAST FACTS: RAILROAD**

The east-west railroad located north of Greeley was built as part of the Denver-Pacific Railroad. The Denver-Pacific Railroad was built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century as a way to link Denver to the Transcontinental Railroad going through Cheyenne. Many political powers in Denver felt that if Denver was not able to connect to the Transcontinental Railroad, Denver would inevitably become a 'dead' city. The Denver- Pacific Railroad was constructed from Denver to Cheyenne, running through the Northern section of Greeley and Weld County, and was successful in 'saving' Denver.

For years the railroad ran as the main transportation route for transcontinental goods distribution. The railroad allowed the Denver and Greeley community to transport goods from and to the West and East Coasts fairly easily.

The Greeley spur of the railroad has become underutilized in recent history. There are many reasons for this, but one of the main reasons is that along the rail there are not many industries that rely on railroad to survive. The existence of this rail corridor supports and encourages different industries to come into the area and utilize the railroad. This possibility brings about an opportunity for greater economic development within the area.

The development of the rail corridor into an industrial area could help develop the economy of the area. By bringing new industries into the area, more primary jobs may be made available to support a growing economy.

### **QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**How do you think a more utilized and active rail corridor could affect the north Greeley area?**