NORTH DAKOTA STATE RAIL PLAN

WELCOME

Open House
Plan Purpose

- Describe the role of railroad transportation in the North Dakota
- Identify and address the issues facing the North Dakota’s passenger and freight railroad operations
- Serve as a road map for improving/expanding rail service
- Identify funding sources and alternatives
- Meet Congressional requirements for federal funding

Plan Elements

- Sets rail service goals and objectives
- Describes the role of passenger and freight rail in the North Dakota
- Describes rail network, services and facilities
- Assesses passenger rail connections with other transportation modes (transit, automobile)
- Assesses rail connections with other freight transportation modes such as trucking
- Describes rail impacts: economy, environment, energy consumption
- Evaluates passenger and freight services and infrastructure needs
- Provides a long range investment program: proposed projects and funding
WHAT IS COVERED BY THE RAIL PLAN?

FREIGHT RAIL

- Profiles freight and passenger rail traffic, infrastructure services
- Assesses the performance of rail lines

PASSENGER RAIL

Vision, Goals, Objectives

- Guides actions, programs, priorities

Issues and Opportunities

- Consultation with stakeholders
- Review of data, including performance data

Planning for the Future – Investment Program

- Improvements
- Prioritization
- Funding plan

WHAT ARE THE KEY STEPS?

Inventory

Vision, Goals, Objectives

Issues and Opportunities

Planning for the Future – Investment Program
Freight Railroads Operate 3,300 Miles in North Dakota

Class I: 2,180 miles
Class III: 1,150 miles
North Dakota Operation
Miles: 1,681
Originated Carloads: 541,822
Terminated Carloads: 138,522
Commodities: Grain, Energy
Pass Through Carloads: 927,690
Pass Through Containers: 510,781

North Dakota Operation
Miles: 530
Originated Carloads: 120,982
Terminated Carloads: 24,102
Commodities: Grain, Energy
Pass Through Carloads: NA
Pass Through Containers: 170,338
NORTH DAKOTA SHORT LINE RAILROADS

Miles: 389
Outbound Carloads: 30,970
Inbound Carloads: 5,463
Commodities: Grain, Energy

Miles: 49
Outbound Carloads: 4,711
Inbound Carloads: 985
Commodities: Wheat, Soybeans

Miles: 388
Outbound Carloads: 14,979
Inbound Carloads: 3,243
Commodities: Soybeans, Wheat

Miles: 725
Outbound Carloads: 46,315
Inbound Carloads: 17,006
Commodities: Grains, Beans
Role of Rail

Long distance heavy shipments favor rail transportation

One train can carry as much freight as several hundred trucks

Railroads annually remove 6.5 million trucks from North Dakota’s highways
## NORTH DAKOTA AMTRAK SERVICE

### North Dakota Amtrak Ridership

![Graph showing Amtrak Empire Builder route and ridership](image)

### North Dakota Amtrak Ridership

![Ridership data table](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ridership (000)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/27</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
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</table>

## Amtrak Empire Builder

![Diagram of Amtrak Empire Builder route](image)

### Train Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Train Number</th>
<th>Normal Days of Operation</th>
<th>On Board Service</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2013</td>
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</table>

### Ridership Data

- Devils Lake
- Fargo
- Grand Forks
- Minot
- Rugby
- Stanley
- Williston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ridership (000)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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</tbody>
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WSP PARSONS BRINCKERHOF

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
# North Dakota Passenger Rail Travel

## ND Quick Recap, 2014 (Arrivals and Departures)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Coach/Business</th>
<th>First/Sleeper</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers</td>
<td>116,166</td>
<td>14,615</td>
<td>130,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average trip</td>
<td>629 miles</td>
<td>830 miles</td>
<td>652 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average fare</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
<td>$237.00</td>
<td>$106.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average yield, per mi</td>
<td>14.3¢</td>
<td>28.6¢</td>
<td>16.3¢</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## ND Top City Pairs by Ridership, 2014

1. Minot, ND to St. Paul, MN 522 mi 10 h 5 min
2. Williston, ND to Spokane, WA 818 mi 16 h 33 min
3. Williston, ND to St. Paul, MN 643 mi 12 h 38 min
4. Williston, ND to Whitefish, MT 565 mi 10 h 52 min
5. Williston, ND to Chicago, IL 1061 mi 20 h 46 min
6. Fargo, ND to Chicago, IL 662 mi 13 h 42 min
7. Minot, ND to Chicago, IL 940 mi 18 h 13 min
8. Fargo, ND to St. Paul, MN 244 mi 5 h 34 min

## North Dakotans Near a Station

- Within 25 miles: 318,870 (24%)
- Within 50 miles: 424,622 (32%)

## Minnesotans Near a Station

- Within 25 miles: 3,227,550 (30%)
- Within 50 miles: 4,294,177 (40%)

## Montanans Near a Station

- Within 25 miles: 143,290 (7%)
- Within 50 miles: 219,050 (11%)

## Idahoans Near a Station

- Within 25 miles: 82,342 (3%)
- Within 50 miles: 194,879 (6%)
RAIL SAFETY

**ND RAIL ACCIDENTS**

- Train Accidents
- Highway-Rail Incidents
- Other Rail Accidents/Incidents
- Accidents per Million Tons of Freight

**ND HAZMAT ACCIDENTS**

- Hazmat Cars Damaged/Derailed
- Cars Releasing Hazmat
- Cars Carrying Hazmat
NORTH DAKOTA RAIL PRIORITIES

• Ensuring safe rail transportation
  – Crude oil and other hazmat transportation
  – Grade crossings
• Providing consistently reliable, service
  – Class I railroads – all commodities
  – Short line railroads – upgrading and preservation
  – Passenger rail
• Rail service expansion – economic development
  – Improved rail access
  – New transload facilities
  – Emerging industry capacity
• Funding future rail
• Understanding/defining role of the state of North Dakota
# STATE RAIL PLAN NEXT STEPS

## For the Project
- Meet with rail partners
- Obtain public and stakeholder input
- Finalize goals for rail in ND
- Determine rail needs
- Establish long-term plan
- Obtain public input on the draft plan
- Publish the draft rail plan – early fall
- Publish final plan – before year-end

## For You

### TONIGHT
- Offer us your comments
- Tell us about your rail system concerns
- Advise us on what the rail system needs

### STAY INVOLVED
- Complete our on-line survey
- Follow progress on our website
- Comment on the draft plan

https://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/planning/railplan/