





*Chair, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials – House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee*

**9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M. Learning from Florida**

Florida is undertaking significant initiatives in both freight and passenger rail. Florida rail officials will describe their efforts and draw from their experience lessons for other states.

**Moderator:** Stephanie Kopelousos  
*Secretary of Transportation  
Florida*

**Presenters:** Ed Lee  
*Rail Planning and Safety Administrator*

Nazih K. Haddad  
*Passenger Rail Development Manager*

**10:15 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. Public/Private Rail Financing Opportunities**

The expansion of state rail responsibilities and the increase in public rail funding creates new partnership opportunities for private investment in state rail projects. This session will describe these opportunities in general and provide best practices examples.

**Moderator:** Patrick Simmons  
*North Carolina DOT*

**Presenters:** Karen J. Hedlund  
*Chief Counsel  
Federal Railroad Administration*

Emerick J. Corsi  
*Executive Vice President of Development  
Forest City Commercial Group, Inc.*

Jim Richardson  
*Vice President  
Forest City Commercial Group, Inc.*

**11:00 A.M. – 11:15 A.M. *Break – Grand Ballroom Foyer***

**11:15 A.M. – Noon Stakeholder Agreements**

Where passenger rail service is provided on freight rail rights-of-way, agreements between the state and the freight rail company is necessary in order to receive Federal funding. State officials, freight rail representatives and members of the consulting field will discuss how to develop



successful and solid agreements that meet both passenger and freight needs, building on previous state/industry successes.

**Moderator:** Secretary Gene Conti  
*North Carolina*

**Presenters:** Stephen Gardner  
*Amtrak*

Kevin Page  
*Virginia Department of Rail and Public  
Transportation*

Jennifer Macdonald  
*Association of American Railroads – AAR*

**Noon – 1:15 P.M.**

**Lunch**

David Rohal  
*Senior Vice President – Strategic Relations  
Rail America*

**1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Federal Railroad Administration**

State DOT's and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) have assumed a greatly expanded role in carrying out President Obama's vision for high speed and intercity passenger rail. FRA officials will discuss what has been learned about successful partnering with the states and describe the path toward a long-term and successful collaborative effort. FRA will also address key funding opportunities, next steps, and the agency's freight rail agenda, including TIGER projects.

**Moderator:** Secretary Gene Conti  
*North Carolina*

**Presenters:** Karen Rae  
*Deputy Administrator*

Paul Nissenbaum  
*Director, Passenger and Freight Programs*

**3:30 P.M. – 4:15 P.M.**

**NEPA**

One of the challenges of implementing a new federal rail investment program is satisfying the environmental protection requirements. Federal and state officials will review the requirements applicable to rail projects, how to satisfy them, and discuss how to streamline process in the future drawing from both ARRA/PRIIA and TIGER experience.

explain  
the



**Moderator:** Tamara Nicholson  
*Iowa DOT*

**Presenter:** Wendy Messenger  
*Federal Railroad Administration*

**4:15 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.**

**Building the Equipment Supply Base**

Moving rail into the 21<sup>st</sup> century involves moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy as well. Industry and government representatives will discuss how to link the demand for equipment with the industry capacity. Addressing subjects such as a growing freight rail industry as well as efforts to develop a standard specification for high speed/intercity passenger rail through the 305 Committee and Buy America will be highlighted during this peer exchange session.

**Moderator:** Bill Bronte  
*Chief – Rail Division  
CalTrans*

**Presenters:** Nicole Brewin  
*Railway Supply Institute*

Kevin Kesler  
*Federal Railroad Administration*

**5:30 P.M.**

**Recess**

**6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**Reception – CSX Headquarters**

**Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

**8:30A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**Conference Registration/Information Office – Grand Ballroom Foyer**

**7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.**

**Breakfast**

**8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.**

**Research**

As states take on larger responsibilities for rail, both passenger and freight, they need to know more about rail management and operation. The newly created National Cooperative Rail Research program, along with existing academic and industry rail research programs will be reviewed for answers to the most important questions.

**Moderator:** Scott Witt  
*Washington State DOT*

**Presenters:** Chris Jenks  
*Transportation Research Board – TRB*



Kevin Kesler  
*Federal Railroad Administration*

John Gray  
*Association of American Railroads*

**9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. Amtrak**

Amtrak has become more strategic and more active in carrying out its mission. Amtrak officials will discuss how they are working with states on corridor development, the fleet plan, and the Section 305 (Next Generation Equipment Committee) and Section 209 (State Supported Corridors – Cost Accounting Methodology)

**Moderator:** Bill Bronte  
*CalTrans*

**Presenters:** Stephen Gardner  
*Vice President – Policy and Development*

Ken Uznanski  
*Principal Officer – Fleet Planning and Partnership Policies*

John C. Bennett, P.E.  
*Assistant Vice President, Policy, Standards and Business Integration*  
*Stations Development/ADA Program Director*

**10:30 A.M. – Noon**

**Rail Terminal Development**

Major intrastate freight rail projects were recently awarded TIGER grants to augment their completion. This session will provide a progress report on these projects and other freight terminal projects from the State and rail industry perspectives, as well as an outlook on what growth in the domestic container movements will mean for rail terminal expansions. Speakers will distill from their experience lessons for successful state/industry collaborations on terminal projects.

**Moderator:** Lou Jannazo  
*Ohio Rail Development Commission*

**Presenters:** Joe Bryan  
*Global Insight, Inc.*

Carl Warren  
*CSX*



Skip Kalb  
*BNSF*

**Noon – 1:15 P.M.**

**Lunch**

**Michael Ward**

*Chairman, President and CEO  
CSX Railroad*

**1:15 p.m. – 2:00 P.M.**

**Surface Transportation Board**

**Presenter:** Charles D. "Chip" Nottingham  
*STB Member*

**2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**Short Line Railroads**

In many states short line railroads are an essential link between local economies and the national transportation system. State rail officials and short line company executives will discuss successful efforts to maintain and strengthen short line railroads.

**Moderator:** John Rosacker  
*Kansas DOT*

**Presenter:** Keith Borman  
*American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association - ASLRRRA*

**3:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.**

**Break – Grand Ballroom Foyer**

**3:15 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**State Rail Plans & National Rail Plan**

Many states have recently prepared or are currently updating their state rail plans. Speakers will discuss how to develop and use a state rail plan to meet the freight and passenger rail needs of the state, how to integrate rail plans with state multimodal plans and how to achieve and maintain consistency between state rail plans and the national rail plan.

**Moderator:** Caitlin Rayman  
*Maryland DOT*

**Presenter:** Nicole Katsikides  
*Maryland DOT*

Randy Wade  
*HNTB*

**4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.**

**States/Industry Dialogue: Meeting the Workforce Needs of the Railroad Industry**

Presentations and open discussion on what states, the FRA, Amtrak, and the private railroad industry can do separately

