

2014 AASHTO Standing Committee on Rail Transportation Annual Meeting



DENVER
RAIL



SCORT 2014 Annual Meeting, September 7-10, Denver, CO

Agenda

Sunday, September 7

9:00–Noon

Registration. *Magnolia Lobby*

1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

States for Passenger Rail Coalition Meeting. *Larimer Room. Members and Invited Guests Only.*

The open session of the States for Passenger Rail Coalition (SPRC) meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and include a report of recent Coalition activities; updates regarding PRIIA Sections 209, 212 and 305; an overview of projects being undertaken by the National Cooperative Rail Research Program (NCRRP); and a report from OneRail. This session will be followed by a Business Meeting, open to Members only, beginning at approximately 2:15 p.m.

2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Freight States Meeting. *Champa Room. Members and Invited Guests Only.*

Freight States is a working group of SCORT members investigating the policy, economic, and regulatory issues involving State governments' role in the delivery of freight rail programs and systems. The meeting is open to interested SCORT members and invited guests.

4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Denver Union Station Tours

Tour Denver's Multi-Modal facility before the reception. Tours leave from 17th and Chestnut Place (by the 16th Street Mall Shuttle drop off/end of line platform). Look for tour guides in light blue conference shirts. Be sure to wear your lanyard to help volunteers spot you. Walk from the hotel or ride the mall shuttle. Map/directions in your conference packet.

5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Welcome Reception. *Union Station, 1707 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202 Transportation is on your own; however, the 16th Street Mall Shuttle to Union Station is free.*

Sponsored by: HNTB

Come tour Denver's 120-year-old Union Station which has just undergone a \$54 million transformation into a bustling mixed-use, transit-oriented hub. The

reception will be set in a section of the Great Hall. Guests will be offered tours of the outdoor train platforms, plazas, light-rail station and underground bus facility/concourse.

Monday, September 8

7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Registration.

7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.

Continental Buffet. *Magnolia Hotel Lower Level Lounge*

8:30 a.m.–9:00 a.m.

Welcome Session & Opening Address. *Magnolia Ballroom*

Speaker: Joe Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration

9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

General Session: US DOT–FRA Update. *Magnolia B.*

The U.S. DOT and the Federal Railroad Administration will provide an update of its ongoing efforts in passenger and freight rail programmatic delivery, and regulatory activities.

Speakers: Mitchell Behm, Assistant Inspector General, U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Corey Hill, Director, Passenger and Freight Programs, FRA

"Program Update/FY2014 Funding"

Scott Greene, Chief, Freight Division, FRA

"Summary of Class II and Class III Railroad Capital Needs and Funding Sources"

Kyle Gradinger, Regional Planner, FRA

"Southwest Study"

David Valenstein, Chief, Environmental Systems and Planning Division, FRA

"Call for Ideas—Multi-State Planning"

11:00 a.m.–Noon

General Session: Colorado Update. *Magnolia Ballroom*

Upstart to Start-up: Colorado's High Speed and Intercity Transit Vision & State Rail Plan; a discussion of passenger and freight rail planning in a state with scarce resources, and keeping the vision alive.

Moderator: *Mark Imhoff*, Director, CDOT Division of Transit & Rail

Speaker: *David Krutsinger*, Rail & Special Projects Manager

Noon–1:30 p.m.

Luncheon & Keynote Speaker. Magnolia Ballroom

Presentation on the history and partnerships that led to the creation of the Denver Union Station (DUS) multi-modal hub and DUS redevelopment. Highlights on the complex funding and financing program, including both the RRIF and TIFIA loans.

Speaker: *Bill Mosher*, Senior Managing Director, Trammell Crow Company; Owner's Representative, Denver Union Station Project Authority (DUSPA)

Sponsored by: *HDR, Inc.*

1:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

General Session: Amtrak. Magnolia Ballroom

Amtrak has organized its transportation divisions into business lines—the Northeast Corridor, the state supported corridors, and long-distance trains. Discuss with Amtrak representatives what's happening in the states with PRIIA implementation, ongoing plans for service improvements and a Congressional outlook for intercity passenger rail development.

Speakers: *Joe McHugh*, Vice President Government Affairs and Corporate Communications and Northeast Corridor Commission Member
Mark Murphy, General Manager, Long Distance Business Line
Suzanne Fike, Amtrak Business Controller – State Supported Corridors

3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Networking Break. Magnolia Ballroom Foyer

Sponsored by: *Quandel Consultants*

3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

General Session: Freight. Magnolia Ballroom

This session will examine the current economic and industry issues related to the challenges shippers and rail users face in regard to freight rail capacity.

Moderator: *Matthew Dietrich*, Executive Director, Ohio Rail Development Commission

Speakers: *Darrell Hanavan*, Executive Director, Colorado Association of Wheat Growers

Terry Whiteside, Chairman, Alliance for Rail Competition

David Simpson, Principal, David P. Simpson Consultants, LLC

5:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Dinner & Event. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York Street, Denver, CO 80206 Transportation provided. Buses will pick up guests on 17th Avenue by the hotel.

Enjoy a wonderful reception and dinner in the heart of the Denver Botanic Gardens. Set on 23 acres just minutes from downtown this urban oasis features lush, manicured grounds. The gardens have an exhibition by world-renowned artist Dale Chihuly whose glass sculptures will inspire and entertain guests. See the Monday Night Dinner handout in your conference material for maps and information on transportation to and from the Botanic Gardens.
Sponsored by: *Parsons Brinckerhoff and CH2MHill*

Tuesday, September 9

7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Registration

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.

Breakfast Buffet. Magnolia Hotel Lower Level Lounge

9:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

General Session: Safety. Magnolia Ballroom

This session will address rail safety education and advocacy efforts, and recent proposed FRA rules regarding rail safety, its impact on the rail industry, and State response to rail and other emergencies.

Moderator: *Paul Worley*, Rail Division Director, N. Carolina DOT
Speakers: *Steven Neubauer*, Manager of Safety, BNSF Railway Company

Mike Martino, Senior Director Operations, Association of American Railroads

10:15 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

General Session: State Rail Partnerships. Magnolia Ballroom

This session examines the critical partnerships between freight and passenger railroad interests and the States, including model passenger rail agreements, freight rail strategic planning and investment, and current national and state policy issues.

Moderator: *Bruce Roberts*, PE, Rail Division Chief, CalTrans

Speakers: *Steven Neubauer*, Manager of Safety, BNSF Railway

Jennifer Macdonald, Vice President Government Relations,
Association of American Railroads (AAR)

Ronnie Dickey, Railroad Program Manager, Colorado DOT

Anne Canby, Director, OneRail Coalition and Member, National
Freight Advisory Committee (NFAC)

Art Guzzetti, Vice President – Policy, American Public Transportation
Association (APTA)

11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

General Session: Rail Research. Magnolia Ballroom

This session examines recently released rail
research products, as well as future challenges and
opportunities to develop critical passenger and
freight rail research needs.

Moderator: Eric Glick, State Aviation, Rail & Freight Program
Manager, Nevada DOT

Speakers: Larry Goldstein, Senior Program Officer, Transportation
Research Board

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**General Session: Short Line Railroads. Magnolia
Ballroom**

Moderator: Tammy Nicholson, Director, Office of Rail
Transportation, Iowa DOT

Speakers: Avery Grimes, EVP, Chief Commercial and Strategy
Officer, Patriot Rail

Mike Ogborn, Ogborn Consulting Group

Jerry Vest, Senior Vice President, Government & Industry Affairs
Genesee & Wyoming Railroad

12:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m.

Luncheon. Lower Level Lounge

Moderator: John Rosacker, Transport. Manager, Oklahoma DOT

Speaker: Peter Touesnard, Chief Commercial Officer, OmniTRAX,
Inc.

**Sponsored by: Felsburg, Holt & Ulevig and
Steer Davies Gleave**

1:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

General Session: Passenger Rail. Magnolia Ballroom

Institutional Challenges and Opportunities for
Competitive Contracting in Intercity Passenger Rail.

Moderator: Erik Steavens, Texas Department of Transportation

Speakers: Gregg Baxter, Keolis; General Manager, Virginia
Railway Express

Ron Hartman, President, Veolia Rail

Tim Buxton, First Group, International Business

John Heffner, Attorney, Strasburger & Price

3:00 p.m.–3:15 p.m.

Networking Break

Sponsored by: Jacobs

3:15 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

**General Session: State Roundtable Wrap-Up.
Magnolia Ballroom**

Moderator: Paul Worley, Rail Division Director, North Carolina
DOT

Evening

On Your Own

Wednesday, September 10

7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Tour to Pueblo Train Testing Facility. Transportation
Technology Center, Inc.**

Please remember to bring steel-toed boots.

Guests will assemble for bus loading at 6:45 a.m.
outside the hotel on the 17th Street side. Buses will
depart promptly at 7 a.m. for a 2 hour, 15 minute
drive to the Transportation Technology Center.
Lunch will be provided in addition to the tour. Our
estimated arrival back in Denver will be between 4
and 5 p.m.



*The Standing Committee on Rail Transportation
would like to thank our Sponsors for their support*

P R E M I E R L E V E L



L O C A L S P O N S O R S



SCORT Committee Leadership

Paul C. Worley, Vice-Chair
Rail Division Director NCDOT



Paul Worley is Rail Division Director at NCDOT and leads a multi-faceted modal division that is key to North Carolina's transportation, economic development and job creation needs through providing customer services, building infrastructure, and improving safety. Duties of the Rail Division include state-supported passenger service operations and facilities, rail freight and passenger planning and project development, administration of rail freight and industrial access programs, rail-highway at-grade crossing safety improvements, safety oversight programs, and the design and construction of rail freight and passenger track projects to improve speed, capacity, and efficiency.

Serving on numerous national transportation and rail committees, Paul is a graduate of Campbell University and has over 25 years of experience with NCDOT.



SAVE THE DATE!

Charlotte's got a lot.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING
November 20–November 24, Charlotte, NC

