

MIPRC Partners Agenda

Beth McCluskey, Illinois, MIPRC Chair, Presiding

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Meet in the Founders Room at Chicago Union Station by noon for lunch, presentations on plans for Chicago Union Station and the *Hiawatha* service, and a tour of Chicago Union Station. Then, travel on Amtrak's *Hiawatha* from Chicago to Milwaukee. Train departs at 3:15 p.m., and is scheduled to arrive at 4:45 p.m. Check in upon arrival at Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Milwaukee Downtown (611 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI).

If you reserved a ticket for the **Milwaukee Bucks-Chicago Bulls preseason game** at the new Fiserv Forum (tickets are \$40, which includes \$15 in food/beverage), **meet in the lobby of the hotel at 6:30 p.m.** to receive your ticket and walk over to the Forum together (less than a 15-minute walk). Contact Laura Kliewer if you need to get your ticket another way.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

(Breakfast on your own)

7:30 and 7:45 a.m. Hotel shuttles available between the hotel and the Milwaukee Intermodal Station (the walk is about 8 minutes)

8 a.m. **Convene MIPRC 2018 Annual Meeting**
(*Milwaukee Intermodal Station, 433 W St. Paul Ave., 3rd Floor, Empire Builder room*)

8 to 8:30 a.m. **Welcome from the Chair, Introductions**

8:30 to 8:40 a.m. **Greetings from Host State**
Dave Simon, Director, Transit, Local Roads, Railroads & Harbors, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

8:40 to 8:50 a.m. **MIPRC Year in Review**
Laura Kliewer, Director, MIPRC

8:50 to 10 a.m. **Status of Passenger Rail Improvements in the Region and Plans for the Future**
DOT representatives from MIPRC states will discuss the status of passenger rail projects and planning in their states.

10 to 10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:15 to 11 a.m. **Legislative and Partner Passenger Rail-Related Activity in Our States**
MIPRC commissioners and partners will update the group on legislative and other passenger rail-related activities in their states.

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. **FRA Update**
Hear from the Federal Railroad Administration's Midwest Regional Manager about the FRA's priorities, funding opportunities and initiatives, including an update on the FRA-led Midwest Regional Rail Planning Study.
Melissa Hatcher, Midwest Regional Manager, Federal Railroad Administration

12 to 12:45 p.m. **Lunch**

12:45 to 1:30 p.m. **Tour of Milwaukee's Streetcar (The Hop) Maintenance Facility**

1:30 to 2:30 p.m. **Federal Update and Review of MIPRC Federal Delegation Visit in May/Discussion of 2018 Visit and Preliminary Discussion of MIPRC 2019 Priorities**
Led by participants in MIPRC's May federal delegation

MIPRC Partners Agenda (cont.)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 (CONT.)

- 2:30 to 2:45 p.m. **Break**
- 2:45 to 3:15 p.m. **Update on the Next Generation Equipment Committee**
Bryan Ross, Railroad Operations Manager, Missouri Department of Transportation
- 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. **Amtrak Update**
Receive an update on Amtrak's vision and priorities for the future, including an overview of policy changes since MIPRC's 2017 Annual Meeting, ideas for making the national network stronger, and the role of the states in developing and implementing new services.
Derrick James, Midwest Senior Manager, Amtrak
- 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. **Presentation on/Tour of Milwaukee Intermodal Station**
Hear about the recent renovation of the Milwaukee Intermodal Station, then receive a tour of the station, including a look at the *Caritas*, the most widely travelled private car in the U.S.
Crystal DuPont, Project and Marketing Manager/Passenger Rail Management, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- 5:45 pm **A hotel shuttle will be available for transport back to the hotel**
- 6:45 to 9 p.m. **Special Evening Event for MIPRC Commissioners and Partners: Milwaukee River Cruise and Dinner**
Tonight we'll be enjoying a private cruise and dinner, cruising downtown via the Milwaukee River and onto Lake Michigan on *Edelweiss' Lake Spirit*.
Cruise departs from Pier 106 Seafood Tavern, located at 106 W. Wells St. Meet at Pier 106 Seafood Tavern by 7:15 p.m. (tell host/hostess you are there for the MIPRC cruise). Cruise will depart promptly at 7:30 p.m.
If you would like to walk over together from the hotel, please meet in the lobby by 6:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

- (Breakfast on your own)
- 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. Hotel shuttles available between the hotel and the Milwaukee Intermodal Station (the walk is about 8 minutes).
- 9 a.m. **Reconvene at Milwaukee Intermodal Station (433 W. St. Paul Ave. 3rd Floor, Empire Builder room)**
- 9 to 10 a.m. **Continued Discussion of MIPRC 2019 Priorities**
- 10 to 11 a.m. **Spotlight on Passenger Rail Progress Outside the Region: Brightline**
Learn how the U.S.'s only privately owned, operated and maintained passenger rail system – Florida's *Brightline* service – came to be, and what lessons our states can take from its development to improve passenger rail in our region.
Russell (Rusty) Roberts, Vice President, Government Affairs, Brightline
- 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. **Commission Business**, including finalization of MIPRC priorities for fiscal year, FY 2019 Budget, Election of Officers for FY 2019 (Chair, Vice Chair and Financial Officer) and Next Meeting of the Commission
- 12 p.m. **Adjourn (box lunches to go)**