

The American Passenger Rail Agreement

In order to ensure the safety, quality, reliability and efficiency of our country's vital transportation network and to preserve our national defense, America needs a balanced, integrated transportation system and the American people need diverse transportation choices. Passenger rail is a critical component of a modern, multi-modal transportation system, and needs to have financial support, unified policy development and oversight similar to that afforded to our air, highway and mass transit modes.

Therefore, we, the undersigned, do urge Congress and the President of the United States to fully institute the following passenger rail components, which are critical to the future of passenger rail in the United States, within the upcoming reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) and/or Amtrak Reauthorization legislation:

1. Establish a dedicated, multi-year federal capital-funding program for intercity passenger rail, patterned after the existing federal highway, airport and mass transit programs.
2. Establish, as federal policy, a preserved and improved national passenger rail system – a nationwide, interconnected passenger rail system that stimulates higher levels of efficiency, innovation and responsiveness. Direct the Federal Railroad Administration, or another agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation, to – with state and local input – develop, fund and oversee this federal policy.
3. Provide full federal funding of Amtrak to maintain the national network during the period that the new federal plans and policies are being developed. Then, fully fund implementation of the national passenger rail system – with its new efficiencies, innovation and responsiveness – in subsequent years.

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(signatories as of September 5, 2003)

Alliance (Ohio) Area Development Foundation	Coalition for Appropriate Transportation	Railroad Passenger Association of Alabama
Andrew Nemeth Properties, LLC	Colorado Rail Passenger Association	Railway Supply Institute
Alt-Trans Cleveland	Corporation of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia	Railway Systems Suppliers, Inc.
American Association of Private Railroad Car Owners, Inc.	Coston & Lichtman	Rail Users' Network
Association of Rail Travel in the U.S.	County of Johnson, Iowa	Rhode Island Association of Railroad Passengers
Arkansas Association of Railroad Passengers	County of Linn, Iowa	Schlosser and Schlosser, PC
Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates	Emeryville (California) Chamber of Commerce	Shelbyville County (Indiana) Chamber of Commerce
Bombardier Transportation	Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest	Sierra Club
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers / I.S.L.B.	Evansville, Indiana Urban Transportation Area	Shreiner Sole Company
Carolinas Association for Passenger Trains	Friends of the Earth	Siemens Transportation Systems
Center for Neighborhood Technology	Gary/Chicago Airport Authority	Smart Growth America
Citizens for Modern Transit	Greater Lafayette (Indiana) Chamber of Commerce	State of Illinois House of Representatives
City of Akron, Ohio	Hoosier Environmental Council	State of Illinois Senate
City of Alliance, Ohio	Illinois Rail	States for Passenger Rail Coalition
City of Aurora, Indiana	Indiana High Speed Rail Association	TALGO
City of Centralia, Washington	Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers	Tennessee Association of Railroad Passengers
City of Chicago, Illinois	Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce	Texas Association of Rail Passengers
City of Conrad, Montana	Kentucky Indiana Rail Advocates	Texas Rail Advocates
City of Devils Lake, North Dakota	Lackawanna Coalition	Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority
City of Emeryville, California	League of Michigan Bicyclists	Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments
City of Evansville, Indiana	Lorain (Ohio) Port Authority	The Council of State Governments
City of Fayetteville, North Carolina	Louisiana Association of Railroad Passengers	The Council of State Governments, Eastern Regional Conference
City of Fredricksburg, Virginia	Metro RTA, Akron, Ohio	The Council of State Governments, Midwestern Legislative Conference
City of Erie, Pennsylvania	Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers	The National Corridors Initiative
City of Fort Morgan, Colorado	Michigan Environmental Council	The Ward-Dennis Hodges Corporation
City of Gary, Indiana	Michigan Land Use Institute	Train Riders Association of California
City of Gilroy, California	Midwest High Speed Rail Coalition	TrainRiders/Northeast
City of Greensburg, Pennsylvania	Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission	TransDominion Express
City of Jackson, Michigan	Missouri-Kansas Rail Passenger Coalition	Transportation Riders United
City of Kannapolis, North Carolina	Montana-Wyoming Association of Railroad Passengers	Transystems
City of Kelso, Washington	National Association of Railroad Passengers	United Transportation Union
City of Lafayette, Indiana	National Conference of State Legislatures	U.S. Conference of Mayors
City of Macomb, Illinois	National League of Cities	Village of Essex Junction, Vermont
City of Niagara Falls, New York	Northwest Indiana Initiative	Village of Homewood, Illinois
City of Niles, Michigan	Ohio Association of Railroad Passengers	Virginia Association of Railway Patrons
City of Rockford, Illinois	Ohio Rail Development Commission	Virginians for High Speed Rail
City of Rochester, New York	Parsons Brinckerhoff	Washington Association of Railroad Passengers
City of Rugby, North Dakota	Passenger Rail Oklahoma	Wilbur Smith Associates
City of Santa Cruz, California	Portland Cement Association	Wisconsin Association of Railroad Passengers
City of Shelby, Montana	ProRail Nebraska	
City of Stamford, Connecticut	ProRail (WisARP)	
City of Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin		