Final Agenda

Illinois Rep. Elaine Nekritz, MIPRC Chair, Presiding

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

5:30 to 7:00 p.m.  Reception at Union Station, sponsored by Amtrak (225 S. Canal Street, Track 26)

8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Dinner at Hotel (The Avenue Crowne Plaza, 160 E. Huron St.)

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

7:30 to 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 to 9:15 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Roundtable Discussion
Receive an overview of the status of passenger rail projects awarded through ARRA, hear about any new applications submitted for FY 2010, and engage in a roundtable discussion on passenger rail progress in the Midwestern states.

9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Establishing a Uniform Methodology for State Operating Costs
Section 209 of PRIIA requires Amtrak, states and the US DOT to develop and implement a single methodology for operating costs on corridor service. Learn what has been developed thus far, and provide feedback.
Presenter: Mr. Max Johnson, Lead Policy Analyst, Amtrak

10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Federal Outlook
Listen to an outlook on surface transportation reauthorization and other pending/possible legislation being considered by Congress. Then, discuss MIPRC’s federal priorities
Presenter: Mr. David Ewing, Transportation Consultant

11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Spotlight on MIPRC Partners
Hear about MIPRC’s new partners program and its founding partners: Mayo Clinic, Ramsey County (Minnesota) Regional Railroad Authority, United Transportation Union and US Railcar, LLC

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reports from MWRRI, Governors’ Steering Group

12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Working Lunch: Year in Review, Looking Ahead
Receive an overview of MIPRC’s work during FY 2010, including the development of the commission’s five year strategic plan and goals for 2010. Then, participate in an in-depth discussion to determine MIPRC’s direction and budget for FY 2011.

2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Commission Business, including:

 Approval of FY 2011 Budget
 Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Financial Officer)
 Next Meeting of the Commission

3:00 to 3:30 p.m. Presentation/Discussion on National Rail Plan
By September 15, 2010, the Federal Railroad Administration is required to deliver to Congress a long-range national rail plan. The FRA issued a preliminary plan last October, and held workshops this May/early June to receive input. Hear the latest on the National Rail Plan, including what the preliminary plan contained and a report-back on the Kansas City workshop held May 19.

3:30 to 4:00 p.m. Other Business

4:00 p.m. Adjourn