In an environment of rising oil prices, MWRRS will offer an energy-efficient and cost-effective alternative to air and automobile travel that will connect businesses and individuals with cities and towns across the Midwest.

For more information, please contact:
Nebraska Department of Roads
Rail and Public Transportation Division
1400 Nebraska Highway 2
P. O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509
(402) 479-3797
www.dor.state.ne.us

Benefiting Nebraska’s Economy

The Midwest Regional Rail System is a transportation network for the 21st Century.
- 3,000-mile rail network connecting Nebraska with 8 other Midwest states
- Significantly reduced travel times
- Increase in train frequencies
- Improved on-time performance

All economic figures sourced to: Transportation Economics and Management Systems, Inc.
Introduction

The Midwest Regional Rail System (MWRRS) will significantly improve the level and quality of passenger rail service in Nebraska. The system will contribute to economic growth and strengthen the state’s manufacturing, service, and tourism industries.

User Benefits

MWRRS will generate a $200-$500 million user benefit for Nebraska; this represents the overall savings to users of the state’s transportation network derived from the system. Sources that produce this benefit are:

- The reduction in travel times that users of MWRRS receive (shown below)
- The reduction in travel times and costs that users of other transportation modes receive as a result of lower congestion levels
- Reductions in emissions as a result of travelers being diverted from air, bus and auto to MWRRS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City Pairs</th>
<th>Current Service</th>
<th>MWRRS (EXPRESS)</th>
<th>Auto Drive Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Omaha</td>
<td>8hr 29min</td>
<td>7hr 02min</td>
<td>7hr 32min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha-Des Moines</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>1hr 58min</td>
<td>2hr 24min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Benefits

MWRRS will improve access between Omaha and other Midwestern communities. This access supports existing industries, and fosters the growth of new small businesses and the distribution of large business operations in Nebraska.

Station Development Benefits

Increased train operations from MWRRS will lead to rising property values and significant joint (public-private) development opportunities near the station. The multimodal station will bring together many modes of travel at a single location.

Environmental Benefits

MWRRS provides a good alternative to auto and air travel that promotes environmental benefits, including reduced air pollutant emissions, less land use, and fewer habitat and water resource impacts compared to expanding existing highways and airports.