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:
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Railroads and Harbors Section
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 701
P. O. Box 7914
Madison, WI 53707-7914
(608) 266-9498
www.dot.wisconsin.gov/modes/rail.htm

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

Benefiting Wisconsin’s Economy

The Midwest Regional Rail System is a transportation network for the 21st Century.
- 3,000-mile rail network connecting Wisconsin with 8 other Midwest states
- Speeds up to 110-mph, resulting in significantly reduced travel times
- Increase in train frequencies
- Improved on-time performance
**Introduction**

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

**User benefits**

Over the 40-year life of the project, MWRRS will generate a $3.5-$4.6 billion user benefit for Wisconsin; 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

**EXAMPLE TRAIN TRAVEL TIMES FOR WISCONSIN ROUTES**

<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>Milwaukee-Chicago</td>
<td>1hr 29min</td>
<td>1hr 04min</td>
<td>1hr 30min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee-Madison</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>1hr 06min</td>
<td>1hr 18min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison-La Crosse</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>1hr 31min</td>
<td>2hr 18min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Crosse-St. Paul</td>
<td>3hr 17min</td>
<td>2hr 02min</td>
<td>2hr 29min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay-Chicago</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>2hr 58min</td>
<td>3hr 35min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison-St. Paul</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>3hr 35min</td>
<td>4hr 09min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison-Chicago</td>
<td>(no service)</td>
<td>2hr 15min</td>
<td>2hr 46min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Crosse-Chicago</td>
<td>4hr 59min</td>
<td>3hr 47min</td>
<td>4hr 40min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community benefits**

MWRRS will improve access between Wisconsin communities. This access supports existing industries, fosters the growth of new small businesses and encourages large businesses to distribute their operations more widely throughout Wisconsin.

**Station development benefits**

Increased train operations from MWRRS will lead to rising property values and significant joint (public-private) development opportunities near stations. These multimodal stations 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.