Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission

Meeting Agenda

Federal City Room, Phoenix Park Hotel
520 North Capitol NW, Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, June 22, 2004  ❖  5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Sen. Joan Bray, Chair, Presiding

5:00 – 5:15 p.m.        Welcome, Introductions

5:15 – 6:00 p.m.        Update on the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, other State Updates
                        Randy Wade, Wisconsin DOT
                        Receive highlights of the soon-to-be-released updated report of the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, a nine-state DOT-lead plan to bring faster, more frequent passenger rail service to the Midwest. Also hear and participate in a discussion of what individual Midwestern states are undertaking.

6:00 – 6:30 p.m.        Presentation on CREATE
                        Kevin Brubaker, Environmental Law & Policy Center
                        The Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Project ("CREATE") is a partnership between Chicago, the state of Illinois and all major railroads to reduce freight congestion in Chicago. In doing so, it would significantly reduce delays on most passenger routes into Chicago. Learn about the CREATE proposal, possible funding options and benefits that it would bring to intercity passenger rail travel in the Midwest.

6:30 – 7:00 p.m.        Break, Dinner Buffet

7:00 – 7:30 p.m.        Review, Update on Bills Before Congress
                        Don Itzkoff, Foley & Lardner and Nicole Brewin, Railway Supply Institute
                        Prepare for your meetings with Members of Congress tomorrow through this succinct update on current federal legislation that could affect passenger rail policy and funding.

7:30 – 8:15 p.m.        Discussion of Strategy for Wednesday’s Meetings, Review of Appointments with Members of Congress

8:15 – 9:15 p.m.        Commission Business, Including:
                        ❖  Approval of FY ’05 Budget
                        ❖  MIPRC Insignia Design
                        ❖  Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Financial Officer)

9:15 – 9:30 p.m.        Next Meeting, Other Business

9:30 p.m.                Adjourn
Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission
Draft Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, June 23, 2004 ❖ 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

7:45 a.m. Depart lobby of Phoenix Park Hotel to walk over to Union Station for breakfast (MIPRC commissioners only) (sponsored by Amtrak)

9:00 a.m. Depart Union Station for appointments with Members of Congress (remainder of day)