



**Northwest Ohio Passenger Rail Association
and
TMACOG Public Transit & Passenger Rail Committee**



Passenger Rail Forum

Monday, October 17, 2011

11:30 a.m.

The Toledo Club

Agenda

- 11:00 Registration, view **displays and handouts***, buffet luncheon**
- 11:40 Welcome, introductions** – **Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Lucas County Commissioner**
- 11:45 Remarks** – **Ralph Lange, Co-Chairman, NOPRA**
- 11:50 Stand Up for Trains Update** – **Rick Harnish, Executive Director, Midwest High Speed Rail Association**
– **Presentation of Local Resolutions**
(City of Toledo; Lucas County)
(Toledo City Councilman Joe McNamara; Lucas County Commissioner Carol Contrada)
- 12:00 Michigan: On Board for High Speed Rail** – **Tim Hoeffner, Administrator, Office of Rail, Michigan Department of Transportation****
Click to view slides
- 12:25 Ann Arbor: Rail, Transit, and Progress** – **Michael Benham, Special Assistant for Strategic Planning, Ann Arbor Transit Authority****
Click to view slides
- 12:45 Audience questions and discussion**
- 1:10 Closing comments** – **Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Lucas County Commissioner**

*** Displays and handouts: see page 2**

**** Speaker Biographies: see page 2**

Northwest Ohio Passenger Rail Association (NOPRA)

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DISPLAYS & HANDOUTS

Travel by Rail vs Auto:

Displays: 1) Travel by Auto; 2) Travel by Rail

Handout: Travel by Rail / Auto

State-Amtrak Partnerships – Examples of Corridors: (Amtrak System Map)

Displays: 1) Introduction/Map; 2) Pacific Coast; 3) Midwest; 4) Eastern U.S.

Handouts: Comparisons of state-supported passenger rail service in the following corridors:

-Key to Corridor Information Sheets

-*Pacific Coast:* Pacific Northwest; Capitol; Pacific Surfliner

-*Midwest:* Wolverine; Lincoln; Hiawatha

-*Eastern U.S.:* Carolina; Downeaster; Empire

-*Ohio:* Proposed 3C Corridor

Midwest High Speed Rail Association:

Handouts: Sample resolution of support; sample letter

More information at www.midwesthsr.org and www.StandUpForTrains.org

Northwest Ohio Passenger Rail Association (NOPRA):

Handouts: Fact sheet

Miscellaneous:

Handout: Major “Megapolitan” areas and their Rail Service

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Timothy H. Hoeffner

Timothy H. Hoeffner is the administrator of the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT's) newly created Office of Rail. He reports to MDOT's Director while overseeing a staff team of experts in rail management. He and his staff are responsible for promoting and developing the infrastructure needed to support freight rail, accelerated intercity passenger rail, commuter rail, and rail rapid transit services.

Mr. Hoeffner is also Governor Snyder's representative to the Midwest Intercity Passenger Rail Commission, where he serves as vice chair.

Michael R. Benham

Michael Benham is Special Assistant for Strategic Planning at the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority. He has more than 30 years of experience in project management, strategic planning, and performance analysis in the transportation and facilities industries. Michael has a bachelor's degree in Economics and is a Certified Six-Sigma Greenbelt.

He began his career in Chicago as a city planner and moved on to serve as an environmental specialist with that city's Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and later as assistant director of planning for Metra, the commuter rail operator in the Chicago area. At Metra, Michael led a wide range of projects including the planning of new rail lines, stations and commuter parking. Michael then worked for Spectrum Strategies, a Michigan project management, consulting and strategic planning firm, where his clients included both public sector and private organizations.

Michael joined the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority in 2009 as the project manager responsible for developing WALLY Commuter Rail service. In his current position, he has responsibility for developing the Transit Master Plan for Washtenaw County.