

MIPRC Commissioners & Partners Agenda

Hotel at Old Town (830 E 1st St N, Wichita, KS)

(Note: Meals will be held in Keen Kutter D and presentations/discussions will be in Keen Kutter BC.)

Tim Hoeffner, Michigan, MIPRC Chair, Presiding

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

- Morning **Travel/arrive in Wichita**
- 12:30 to 2 pm **Lunch**
- 2 p.m. **Convene MIPRC 2017 Annual Meeting; Welcome from the Chair, Introductions**
- 2:30 to 3 p.m. **Welcome from the Host State, Host City**
- 3 to 4:15 p.m. **The Status of Passenger Rail Improvements in the Region and Plans for the Future**
DOT representatives from MIPRC states will discuss the status of passenger rail projects and planning in their states.
- 4:15 to 5 p.m. **Legislative and Partner Passenger Rail-Related Activity in MIPRC States**
MIPRC commissioners and partners will update the group on legislative and other passenger rail-related activities in their states.
- 6 to 7:15 p.m. **Evening Event: Hors D'oeuvres and Tour of Wichita's Union Station**
Enjoy hors d'oeuvres at The Rail from 6 to 6:45 pm, then tour Wichita's Union Station from 6:45 to 7:15 (hosted by Occidental Management).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 7 to 8:30 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**
- 8:30 to 9 a.m. **MIPRC Year in Review**
Laura Kliewer, Director, MIPRC
- 9 to 10 a.m. **Passenger Rail at the Federal Level - Update and Outlook**
A representative from Amtrak's federal office will provide an overall update and outlook on passenger rail legislation and funding at the federal level, followed by a presentation by the Federal Railroad Administration on the FRA's new grant programs and funding.
Caroline Decker, Vice President, Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, Amtrak;
Will Dyer, Division Chief, National Rail Planning, FRA
- 10 to 10:45 a.m. **Review of MIPRC Federal Delegation Visit in May/Discussion of 2018 Visit**
Led by participants in MIPRC's May federal delegation
- 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. **Update on the FRA-Led Midwest Regional Rail Planning Study**
The Federal Railroad Administration is leading an effort to develop a 40-year passenger rail vision for Midwest, informed by the states and other stakeholders. Hear about the overall goals and the three Stakeholder Planning Group workshops held thus far to receive input on both the technical and governance elements necessary to articulate the 40-year vision.
Peter Schwartz, Project Manager and Senior Planner, FRA; Stakeholder Planning Group members attending the meeting

MIPRC thanks this year's meeting sponsors:



MIPRC Commissioners & Partners Agenda

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 (CONT.)

- 11:45 a.m.
to 12:30 p.m. **The Next Generation Equipment Committee, and Status of Midwest Next Generation Procurement/Operation**
Eric Curtit, Administrator of Railroads, Missouri DOT, and chair of the Next Generation Corridor Equipment Pool Committee; Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT and MIPRC Chair
- 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15 to 2 p.m. **MIPRC Partners Program**
The MIPRC Partners Committee was created at the MIPRC 2016 Annual Meeting, and tasked with reviewing MIPRC's partnership program and suggesting ways to improve it. Hear from the committee about their work and how you can help.
MIPRC Partners Committee
- 2 to 3 p.m. **Limitations of States in Multistate Passenger Rail Development**
Presentation and discussion on areas in which MIPRC states may be limited by statute in developing passenger rail. Which states have some kind of dedicated funding for passenger rail? Can your state own and operate equipment? Can your state enter into agreements with other states? Does your state have limitations on expending funds in other states?
Jon Davis, Policy Analyst, MIPRC
- 3 to 4:15 p.m. **MIPRC FY 18 Priorities**
Initial discussion of MIPRC's areas of focus for the coming year.
- 5:15 to 8:30 p.m. **Evening Event for MIPRC Commissioners, Partners and Meeting Sponsors: Dinner at Sen. Carolyn McGinn's Farm**
Change into casual clothes and meet in the hotel lobby by 5:15 p.m. We'll travel to Sen. McGinn's farm (transportation courtesy of the City of Wichita), where we'll be treated to a tour of the farm and a delicious country dinner.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

- 7 to 8:30 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**
- 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. **Spotlight on Kansas: Plans for Extension of the Heartland Flyer**
Last year, Wichita got back on Amtrak's national map for the first time since 1979, thanks to new bus connections with Newton (*Southwest Chief*) and Oklahoma City (*Heartland Flyer*). At the time, Amtrak officials said it could be a first step toward eventual restoration of passenger rail service. Hear about the history of this effort and its status.
Barth Hague, Mayor, City of Newton, Kansas; Pete Meitzner, MIPRC Commissioner and Wichita City Council Member
- 9:15 to 10 a.m. **Long Distance Passenger Rail Service in the Midwest**
Receive an update on Amtrak's long-distance passenger rail service, with an emphasis on routes that serve the Midwest.
Ray Lang, Senior Director - National State Relations, Amtrak
- 10 a.m. to noon **Commission Business**, including final approval of FY 2018 Budget, Election of Officers for FY 2018 (Chair, Vice Chair and Financial Officer), finalization of MIPRC priorities for fiscal year, and Next Meeting of the Commission
- 12 p.m. **Adjourn, travel home (box lunches to go)**
-