

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING WORKSHOP #41

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 – FAIRFIELD, OHIO



THE FUTURE OF PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE IN OHIO

JOHN ESTERLY



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**CHAIRMAN, OHIO STATE LEGISLATIVE BOARD
BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS
AND TRAINMEN**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALL ABOARD OHIO



CURRENT PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

LAKE SHORE LIMITED, CAPITOL LIMITED, CARDINAL LINE

OHIO AMTRAK SERVICE

**LAKE SHORE LIMITED:
TOLEDO 3:15AM/6:30AM
CLEVELAND 5:45AM/4:00AM**

**CAPITOL LIMITED:
TOLEDO 11:45PM/5:15AM
CLEVELAND 1:45AM/3:00AM**

**CARDINAL:
CINCINNATI 3:30AM/1:30AM
(SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY)**



CORRIDOR ID PROGRAM

STATE SPONSORED SHORT DISTANCE EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES

CORRIDOR ID PROGRAM

- **FUNDED VIA THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) / INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT (IIJA) ENACTED IN 2021**
- **THREE STEP METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH TO EVALUATING POTENTIAL STATE SPONSORED, SHORT DISTANCE (LESS THAN 750 MILES) PASSENGER RAIL ROUTES**
- **SHORT TERM IMPLEMENTATION – 5+ YEARS FROM PLAN TO OPERATIONS**

CID – SELECTION PROCESS

- **LOCAL SPONSORS SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION (FRA) DURING PERIODIC WINDOWS**
- **FRA MAKES DECISIONS BASED ON FACTORS, INCLUDING IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING NETWORK, SPONSOR COMMITMENT, AND PARTNER SUPPORT**
- **SELECTIONS ARE ANNOUNCED AND LOCAL SPONSORS RECEIVE MONEY FOR STEP 1**

CID – STEP 1: SCOPING

- **FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION: \$500,000; LOCAL MATCH: \$0**
- **OUTLINE PROCESS FOR STEPS 2 AND 3**
- **DELIVERABLE: ESTIMATE FOR STEP 2 COMPLETION**

CID – STEP 2: SERVICE DESIGN PLAN

- **FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION: 90%; LOCAL MATCH: 10%**
- **MOST OPERATIONAL DECISIONS ARE MADE IN STEP 2: ROUTE, INCLUDING NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS; STATION STOPS; FREQUENCY AND SCHEDULING**
- **DELIVERABLE: COMPLETE SERVICE DESIGN PLAN**

CID – STEP 3: ENGINEERING PLAN

- **FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION: 80%; LOCAL MATCH: 20%**
- **COMPLETE ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BASED ON SERVICE DESIGN PLAN**
- **DELIVERABLE: ESTIMATE OF CAPITAL AND OPERATIONAL EXPENSES**

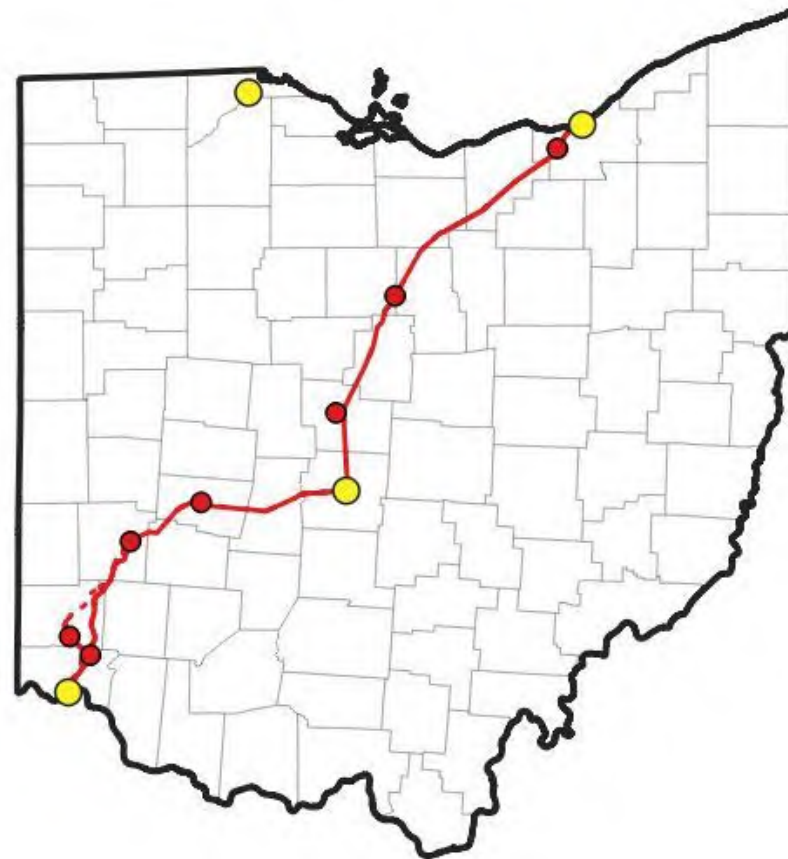
CORRIDOR ID IN OHIO

THREE ROUTES SELECTED FOR FURTHER STUDY – AND A FOURTH!

3C & D

**CLEVELAND TO CINCINNATI WITH MAJOR
STOPS IN COLUMBUS AND DAYTON**

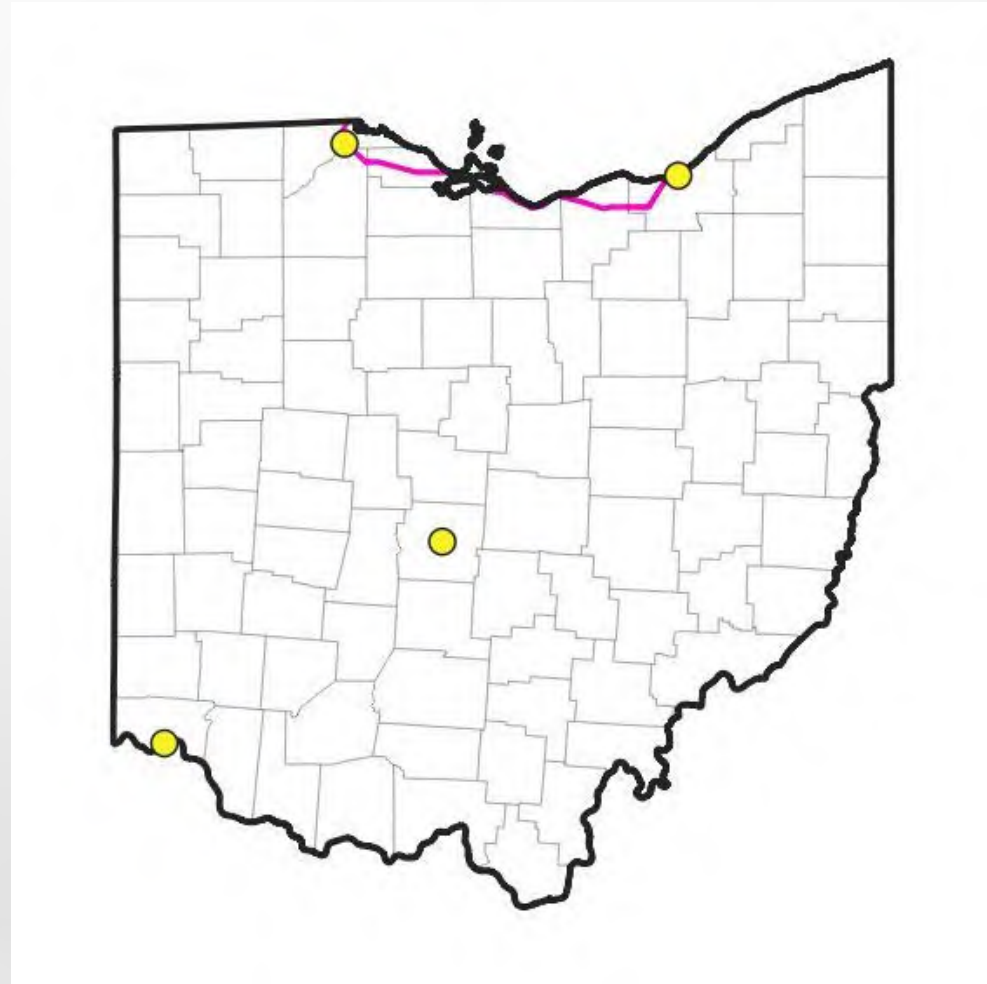
**SPONSORED BY THE STATE OF OHIO
VIA OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**



MERCURY

**CLEVELAND TO DETROIT WITH MAJOR STOP IN
TOLEDO**

**SPONSORED BY THE STATE OF OHIO
VIA OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**



MIDWEST CONNECT

**PITTSBURGH TO CHICAGO WITH MAJOR
STOPS IN COLUMBUS, LIMA, AND FT. WAYNE**

**SPONSORED BY CITY OF FT. WAYNE
AND MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION (MORPC)**



DAILY CARDINAL

**RETURN TO DAILY SERVICE BETWEEN
CHICAGO AND WASHINGTON, DC**

SPONSORED BY AMTRAK



FRA LONG DISTANCE STUDY

FEDERALLY SPONSORED EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES

FRA LONG DISTANCE STUDY

- **FUNDED VIA THE BIL/IIJA**
- **STUDY OF MULTI-STATE CROSS REGIONAL ROUTES OF 750 MILES OR MORE**
- **MID TO LONG TERM IMPLEMENTATION – 10-15+ YEARS FROM PLAN TO OPERATIONS**

FRA LDS IN OHIO

- **DETROIT TO NEW ORLEANS (MAJOR STOPS IN TOLEDO, COLUMBUS, DAYTON, AND CINCINNATI)**
- **DALLAS TO NEW YORK CITY (MAJOR STOPS IN CINCINNATI, DAYTON, COLUMBUS, AND CLEVELAND)**

PASSENGER RAIL EXPANSION IN OHIO



THE NEXT STEPS

POLICY MAKERS AND ADVOCATES

POLICY MAKERS

- **STATION PLANNING AND PROPOSALS (STEP 2)**
- **ZONING (STEP 2/3)**
- **LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSIT (STEP 2/3)**
- **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES (STEP 2/3)**

ADVOCATES

- **CONTACT LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS (ALL STEPS)**
- **TARGETED ADVOCACY WHEN TIMELY (STEP 2/3)**
- **FOLLOW ADVOCACY GROUPS (ALL ABOARD OHIO, ETC) (ALL STEPS)**
- **SUPPORT PUBLIC TRANSIT INITIATIVES AT ALL LEVELS (ALL STEPS)**

FINAL CALL TO ACTION

FIRST STEPS TO PASSENGER RAIL DEVELOPMENT IN OHIO

MIDWEST INTERSTATE PASSENGER RAIL COMMISSION (MIPRC)

- **MIPRC IS THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE BODY FOR THE FRA MIDWEST REGIONAL RAIL PLAN**
- **EACH PARTICIPATING STATE HAS FOUR COMMISSIONERS AND A ROLE IN REGIONAL PLANNING**
- **OHIO IS NOT A MEMBER – THIS IS A CRITICAL FIRST STEP IN PASSENGER RAIL DEVELOPMENT**
- **HOUSE BILL 488 (GHANBARI/SKINDELL) WITH SENATE COMPANION COMING SOON**

THANK YOU!

CONTACT:

JOHN.S.ESTERLY@GMAIL.COM

FOLLOW:

@REALJOHNTERLY ON TWITTER