



RAIL PASSENGERS
ASSOCIATION

RailNation:DC

Drawing the Political Map

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Rail Passengers Association



Developing Corridor Working Groups

The IIJA presents a tremendous opportunity for passenger rail expansion.

It also places an unprecedented funding and administrative burden on states and local entities.

How can Rail Passengers Association play a key role in developing political support at the local level to enable an equitable geographical distribution of IIJA grant funds?



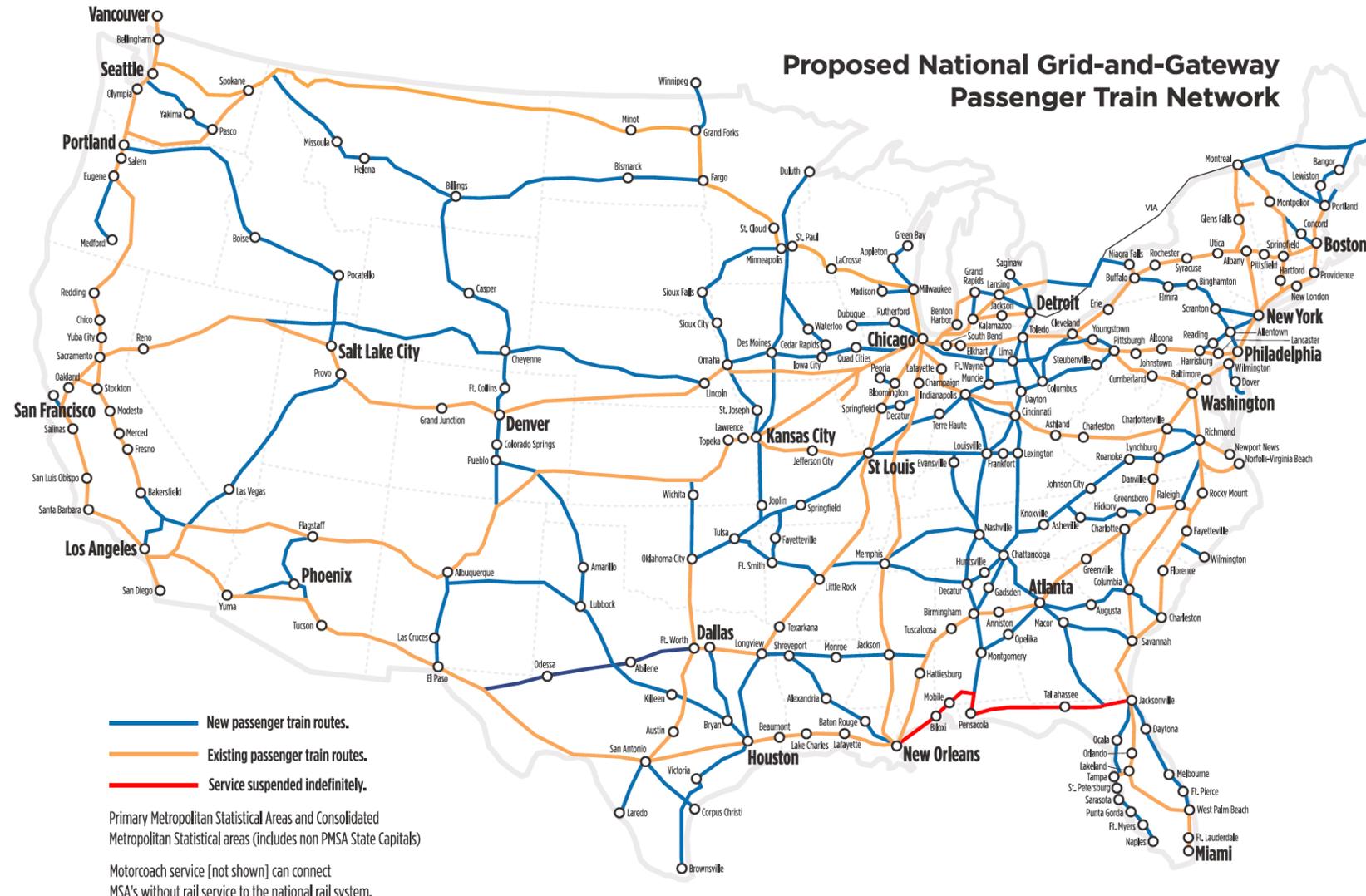
Workshop Agenda

As the first step in developing Corridor Working Groups, this workshop will ask participants to:

- **Step 1.** Identify Working Group Corridor(s)
- **Step 2.** Assess Corridor's Existing Foundation
- **Step 3.** Identify Key Players Along Corridor
- **Step 4.** Brainstorm Working Group Deliverables
- **Step 5.** Map Out a Calendar



1. ID Working Group Corridor(s)





2. Assess Existing Foundation

What documentation already exists?

- Corridor capacity study
- Environmental Impact Study
- EIS Record of Decision
- State/regional rail plan
- Amtrak Performance Improvement Plan
- Recently awarded grants

What are the strengths/weaknesses of existing planning work?

- Proposed levels of service
 - Frequencies
 - Speed
- Right-of-way alignment
- Station placement



3. ID Key Players

Who are the key political agents?

- Cities/towns
- Elected leadership
 - Governors
 - Mayors
 - Senators/Representatives
- Transportation authorities
- State ARPs
- Host RRs
- Amtrak

What is the current level of support?

- Rank support on a 1-10 scale
 - 10 = most supportive
- Provide notation, if possible



4. Deliverables

Brainstorm concrete, tangible products that your Corridor Working Group can deliver over the next six months.

- Coalition sign-on letter
- Elected officials sign-on letter
- IMPLAN assessment of economic benefits
- Op-ed campaign
- In-person event
- Speakers bureau
- Grant request for a study/project.
- Get creative!

Remember to address how Working Group should be structured.

Finally: Report Back

Be ready to
provide a
summation of
your discussion

Focus on likely
champions, key
deliverables, next
steps

It's OK to identify
known unknowns



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Thanks!

Questions?

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