

Alaska State Rail Plan

Welcome to the Alaska State Rail Plan Open House!

Please sign in.



Alaska State Rail Plan

Tonight's Purpose

We want to hear from you!

- » What are your thoughts on the draft Vision?
- » What do you think the future of freight and passenger rail service should include?
- » Where are there opportunities to change or improve service?
- » What other information do we need to include in the plan?



Alaska State Rail Plan

What IS a Rail Plan?

- » **A plan for Alaska's railroads**
 - Rail plans set the state's Vision for rail's role in freight and passenger (including commuter) transportation
 - Rail plans develop state policy
- » **A federal requirement**
 - Rail plans are required by the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) of 2008
 - The ASRP must be formally approved by the Federal Railroad Administration, US Department of Transportation
- » **An opportunity for support**
 - Rail plans are the basis for federal and state rail investments



Alaska State Rail Plan

Rail Plan elements include...

- » An inventory of the existing railroads
- » An assessment of safety, freight rail, passenger rail needs, and transportation economics
- » Potential investment opportunities
- » A long-range service and capital investment program
- » A Vision for the future of Rail in Alaska



Alaska State Rail Plan

Alaska's Railroads



The Alaska Railroad Corporation is a freight and passenger service; the White Pass & Yukon Route is an excursion service.

Passenger service includes passenger, commuter, and excursion service.

- » **Passenger:** traveling from one point to another by rail, often from one city to another, often over long distance
- » **Commuter:** traveling from home to work and return by rail, usually in an urban/suburban setting
- » **Excursion:** traveling by rail for the experience, usually roundtrip



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Rail works best if...

- » **Economics**

<p>Roads and trucks are better for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carrying a little bit of this and that - short distances - relatively small volumes - short-term development providing general public access to new corridor 	<p>Rail is an excellent choice for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large quantities - over long distances - over a long period of time - limiting access to new corridor
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Rail has a high labor efficiency—a two person crew can pilot 100 rail cars. And, with recent energy costs, rail has increased cost advantages. For many kinds of freight, costs are lower for rail transportation.



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Rail is challenged by...

- » **Geography**
 - Relatively easy grades needed - 2% or less in loaded direction
 - Large radius curves ideal
 - Gentle grades and easy curves mean typically higher construction costs than needed for a road




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Resources and Rail in Alaska and the Yukon




Alaska State Rail Plan

A key element in the Alaska State Rail Plan is a Vision Statement. This statement will guide the future of freight and passenger rail in our state.

Draft Vision Statement

"The pioneering ambition that built Alaska was both practical and visionary; using roads, waterways and rail to haul resources to market and connect communities to each other and the world. Future rail development in Alaska will follow the same route: fostering growth, building prosperity, supporting communities, and providing efficient freight and passenger services coordinated with other transportation modes."

What is YOUR Vision for the future of rail in Alaska?



Alaska State Rail Plan

Our Goal

The plan will develop specific goals for Alaska, which may include promoting efficient movement of passengers and freight, enhancing economic development, fostering connectivity, or supporting safe railroad operations.

What are YOUR goals for the plan?

For rail in Alaska?



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What are your ideas for a vision and goals?

Your thoughts here





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Given the location of known resources, geographic constraints, and land ownership, where are there opportunities for...

- » **Passenger/commuter rail?**
- » **Freight rail?**
- » **Intermodal connectivity** (*freight, ports, trucking, etc.*)?



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Transportation Needs

What are transportation needs?



Where are new potential connections in Alaska?



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Project Schedule

SPRING	JAN FEB MAR APR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Planning Process Begins ▶ i ↓ Planning: Initial Tasks ▶ i 	<p>January 2013--planning process begins</p>
SUMMER	MAY JUNE JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Public Open House ↓ On-line Open House 	<p>May-June 2013--public open houses</p> <p>Summer 2013--on-line open house</p>
FALL	AUG SEPT OCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Development of Final Plan ↓ Final Plan Complete 	<p>Fall 2013--on-line open house</p> <p>December 2013--final plan complete</p>
WINTER	NOV DEC		



Alaska State Rail Plan

Contact Us

For more information, to submit a comment, or to sign up for electronic updates, visit our website at www.dot.alaska.gov/railplan

PLEASE NOTE: All future meetings will be held ON-LINE!
Sign up for e-mail announcements tonight or at www.dot.alaska.gov/railplan

