VIRTUAL Midwest Rail Conference 2020
“Sustaining Midwest Rail”
August 11-12, 2020
Welcome

A Special Greeting from the Conference Co-Chairs

Welcome participants, speakers and sponsors to the 2nd Midwest Rail Conference (MRC). Although these unusual times have caused us to alter our original plan for the 2nd MRC, thanks to the help of our co-organizers, the Michigan Rail Conference Planning Committee, National University Rail Center (NURail), and the Freight Rail Transportation Committee (AR040) of the Transportation Research Board, we have been able to develop an interesting and timely virtual conference program. We are grateful to them for their help securing an excellent group of speakers. We also want to thank the sponsors for their support of the MRC in these challenging economic times.

When we determined our conference theme, Sustaining Midwest Rail, we did not anticipate how well it would fit the current conditions. Like many other businesses, both within and outside the US, the focus of rail transportation shifted almost overnight from “growth” to “sustaining” in this age of a new normal … whatever that may be! Our program reflects this disruption and the response of the rail sector to these unprecedented times. It brings together different stakeholders for a conversation about where we go next and how we need to reconsider our strategies for sustaining and developing rail transport in the Midwest, and nationwide. We hope that you will find the discussion informative and fruitful and that our new virtual environment enables effective knowledge transfer among the participants.

Thank you for your interest; we welcome all of you to the Virtual Midwest Rail Conference!!!

~ Pasi Lautala (TRB AR040), Chris Barkan (NURail), and Nick Little (Michigan Rail Conference Planning Committee)

Tues. Keynote

Joe McHugh
Vice President, State-Supported Services Business Development
Amtrak

Joe McHugh has been with Amtrak since July 1994 and prior to his current position served for 22 years in the Government Affairs group where he was responsible for initiating, developing and communicating Amtrak’s legislative and funding need to the U.S. Congress. In January 2017, Mr. McHugh was asked to take over the State Contracts and Business Development Line of Business. In this role, he is responsible for managing the company’s relationships with each of the 21 state partners.

Wed. Keynote

Mike McClellan
VP Strategic Planning
Norfolk Southern

McClellan joined Conrail’s general marketing and sales organization in 1985. In 1998, he was named assistant vice president performance planning for NorfolkSouthern, became vice president intermodal and automotive marketing in 2000, and vice president industrial products in 2013. He holds an MBA from the University of Cincinnati and a degree in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia.

Sessions are set up with 50 minutes for presentation and Q&A and then a 10 minute break before the session.
# MRC Technical Program | Tuesday, August 11th

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 AM</td>
<td>Zoom Conferencing Opens</td>
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<td>8:50 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Safety Briefing</td>
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<td><strong>Nick Little</strong>&lt;br&gt;Director - Railway Education&lt;br&gt;Michigan State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:50 AM</td>
<td>Plenary Session - Urban, Regional and Intercity Rail&lt;br&gt;in Era of Social Distancing</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Pasi Lautala, Michigan Tech</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hilary Konczal</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chief Safety and Environmental Officer&lt;br&gt;Metra</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:50 AM</td>
<td>Breakout Session #1A – Passenger Rail Opportunities&lt;br&gt;for Growth - Post Covid</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Larry Krieg, Rail Passengers Association Council</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Arun Rao</strong>&lt;br&gt;Passenger Rail Implementation Mgr&lt;br&gt;Wisconsin DOT</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:50 AM</td>
<td>Breakout Session #1B - Precision Scheduled Railroading&lt;br&gt;- Class I and Shortline Connection</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: David Clarke, TRB ARO40</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tyler Dick</strong>&lt;br&gt;Principal Railway Research Engineer&lt;br&gt;UIUC/NURail</td>
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<td>11:00 - 11:50 PM</td>
<td>Breakout Session #2A – Developments in Grade&lt;br&gt;Crossing and Trespasser Safety</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Reginald Souleyrette, NURail</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Rachel Maleh</strong>&lt;br&gt;Executive Director&lt;br&gt;OLI</td>
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<td>11:00 - 11:50 PM</td>
<td>Breakout Session #2B - LNG Transportation by Rail</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Chris Barkan, NURail</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mark Maday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Staff Director, Hazmat Team&lt;br&gt;Federal Railroad Administration</td>
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<td>12:00 - 12:50 PM</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Al Johnson, MDOT</strong></td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Wrap-Up and Closing Comments</td>
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| 8:50 AM      | Welcome and Safety Briefing                                            | **Nick Little**  
Director - Railway Education  
Michigan State University  

**Pasi Lautala**  
Director, Rail Transportation Program  
Michigan Tech  

**Chris Barkan**  
Executive Director, RailTEC  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign                                                                 |
| 9:00 - 9:50 AM | Plenary Session - Rail Industry Policy Issues                           | **Moderator: Libby Ogard, Prime Focus LLC**  
**Ian Jefferies**  
President & CEO  
Assoc of American Railroads  

**Patrick Fuchs**  
Board Member  
Surface Transportation Board  

**Chuck Baker**  
President  
American Short Line & Regional Railroad Assoc                                                                 |
| 10:00 - 10:50 AM | Breakout Session #1A – Freight Rail Transportation Complications During COVID-19 | **Moderator: Nick Little, MSU**  
**David Woodruff**  
Asst. VP & Head of US Govt Affairs  
CN  

**Brad Peot**  
Commercial Manager  
WATCO/Wisconsin Southern  

**Fred Schlemmer & Mike McIntosh**  
Chief Financial Officer/ VP  
SteelPro                                                                 |
| 10:00 - 10:50 AM | Breakout Session #1B - Passenger Rail Experience Improvements         | **Moderator: Ray Lang, Amtrak**  
**Josh Hamilton**  
Lansing Station Volunteer Coord.  

**Larry Chestler**  
VP Long Dist Services Business Dev.  
Amtrak  

**Bob Guy**  
Chair  
Midwest Interstate Pass Rail Commission                                                                 |
| 11:00 - 11:50 AM | Breakout Session #2A – Impacts and Opportunities from USMCA            | **Moderator: Jon Cool, MRA**  
**Bill Anderson**  
Director, Cross Border Institute  
University of Windsor  

**Dan Ujzco**  
Practice Group Chair - Intl & Reg. Practices  
Dickinson-Wright  

**Andrea Waldock Niethold**  
Government Affairs, US  
CN                                                                 |
| 11:00 - 11:50 AM | Breakout Session #2B - Climate Impacts and Infrastructure Resilience  | **Moderator: Sean Pengelly, Lake State Railroad**  
**Chase Armstrong**  
VP of Commercial Development  
RJ Corman  

**Tim Grose**  
Climate and Resiliency Advisory Svcs  
WSP  

**Porie Saikia-Eapen**  
Dir, Environ Sustainability and Compliance  
MTA                                                                 |
| 12:00 - 12:50 PM | Keynote Presentation                                                   | **Moderator: Al Johnson, MDOT**  
**Mike McClellan**  
VP Strategic Planning  
Norfolk Southern                                                                 |
| 1:00 PM        | Wrap-Up and Closing Comments                                           |                                                                                        |
Conference Planning Committee

In addition to the moderators and co-chairs listed above, we’d like to thank: Larry Lloyd - CN Railroad; Shasta Duffey and Mike Hnatiuk – Lake State Railway Company; Michael Gaynor - GoRail; Jon Cool – Michigan Railroads Association; Andreas Hoffrichter, and Sue Lonier – Michigan State University; Amanda (Kerttu) Codere – Michigan Tech; Forrest VanSchwartz- TRB AR040; Tyler Dick - NURail; Adam Robillard - Watco; Bryan Schlake - Penn State University; Craig Foster - Univ of Illinois, Chicago; Derrick James - Amtrak; Bob Pokorski - Copper Harbor

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