



SUMMARY
PUBLIC MEETING ON THE DESIGN ASPECTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT ON THE AMTRAK HIAWATHA SERVICE
BETWEEN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN AND CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
November 2, 2016

A Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, Nov. 2 2016 at Park Center, 2400 Chestnut, Glenview, IL from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. regarding detailed design aspects of the proposed improvement consisting of adding additional round trips to the Milwaukee to Chicago Amtrak Hiawatha Service and the associated railroad infrastructure improvements. The corridor includes Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha counties in Wisconsin, with the Wisconsin infrastructure improvements located in Milwaukee County. The corridor also includes Lake and Cook counties in Illinois, with infrastructure improvements in those counties.

The open-style Public Meeting featured the following activities:

- **Presentation** – An informal audio visual presentation on a continuous loop provided an overview of the Environmental Assessment.
- **Exhibit Boards** – Boards regarding the project history, the EA process, proposed routes and service alternatives, proposed infrastructure improvements, environmental impacts, land acquisition, capital and operating costs and the public involvement process.
- **Individual Discussions with WisDOT, IDOT and Team Members** – Throughout the Public Hearing, participants were provided the opportunity to speak with representatives.
- **Provision of Comment Forms** – Comment forms were available at the meeting for attendees to fill out and submit via the mail, in person, or online.
- **Copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment** were available for review

256 people signed in at the meeting while others did not wish to record their names. There were 225 **comments** received at the meeting.

While some attendees expressed support for the project, a majority of the comments submitted expressed opposition to the project, citing concerns about the purpose and need for the project, the accuracy of projected ridership for the proposed service plan, concerns about the accuracy of the Draft Environmental Analysis, concerns about the project producing additional freight rail traffic, increased idling of freight trains producing air pollution, and additional noise and vibrations to adjacent neighborhoods. Other concerns included the cost of the project, the source for funding, decreased safety for pedestrians, concerns about potential derailments, and the project's potential negative effects on adjacent property values.

The public was notified of the Public Meeting throughout September and October via postings on the Illinois Passenger Rail web site, electronic 3rd party announcements distributed to

stakeholders, letters to public officials and municipalities along the corridor, newspaper ads in Chicago Sun Times, Glenview Lantern and Northbrook Tower, email announcements and postcards.

Following is a list of third-party sources that publicized the meeting:

- Village of Glenview
- Village of Gurnee
- Village of Wadsworth
- Village of Northbrook

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