

Roundtable on Freight Rail Investment

September 11, 2018 1-3 PM



The Build America Transportation Investment Center (BATIC) Institute: an AASHTO Center for Excellence is hosting a Roundtable on Freight Rail Investment on September 11, 2018, in conjunction with the Council on Rail Transportation meeting being held in Miami, Florida. This roundtable will provide a forum for state DOTs and other stakeholders to exchange ideas and best practices, and identify common challenges and opportunities in facilitating freight railroad investment for economic development. The roundtable will include participation by representatives of the Build America Bureau, who will be available to discuss federal resources available for advancing such projects.

AGENDA

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

(10 minutes)

Matt Dietrich, Executive Director,
Ohio Rail Development Commission

Leo Wetula, Project Development
Lead, USDOT Build America Bureau

1 Freight Rail Investment for Economic Development

(15 minutes introductory remarks, 15 minutes Q&A)

There is significant market demand for rail-served sites. What are the key characteristics of a desirable rail-served site? How can public agencies facilitate investment in this area in order to foster economic development?

Introductory Remarks

Larry Kahn, Director of Rail Advisory
Group, Cushman & Wakefield

2 Freight Rail Economic Development Challenges and Opportunities, a State Perspective

(15 minutes introductory remarks, 15 minutes Q&A)

True rail-served sites are a premium. Successful development requires bringing key stakeholders, including the rail provider, to the table to facilitate successful outcomes.

Introductory Remarks

Tonya Crist, Owner and Project
Manager, InSite

3 Tennessee Freight Investment Selection Process

(15 minutes introductory remarks, 15 minutes Q&A)

Tennessee's approach to freight investment is evolving toward a more collaborative approach between the state's Department of Economic Development and Department of Transportation.

Introductory Remarks

Liza Joffrion, Director of the
Multimodal Division, Tennessee
Department of Transportation

4 Available Funding and Financing Tools

(10 minutes introductory remarks, 10 minutes Q&A)

Overview of Bureau and DOT products relevant to passenger rail and transit oriented development projects

Introductory Remarks

Leo Wetula, Project Development
Lead, USDOT Build America Bureau