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RIVER ROUTE MEMBERS:

Dakota County
Regional Rail Authority

Goodhue County
Regional Rail Authority

Ramsey County
Regional Rail Authority

Wabasha County
Regional Rail Authority

Winona County
Regional Rail Authority

Cottage Grove

Goodview

Hastings

La Crosse Area
Planning Committee

Lake City

Prairie Island Indian Community

Red Wing

St. Charles

St. Paul

St. Paul Park

Utica

Wabasha

Winona

ABOUT THE MINNESOTA HIGH-SPEED RAIL COMMISSION

About the Commission

The Minnesota High-Speed Rail Commission is one of the leading authoritative voices on high-speed rail in Minnesota. Comprised of officials from 17 local and regional governments from Saint Paul to La Crosse, the commission advocates for the development of Minnesota's first high-speed rail line within the federally designated high-speed rail corridor that connects the Twin Cities to Milwaukee and Chicago. The commission is a strong proponent of bringing high-speed rail to the Midwest through the scenic upper Mississippi River valley.

Commission Goals

- To increase transportation alternatives by expanding passenger rail service between the Twin Cities and Chicago
- To increase freight rail capacity along the same corridor
- To bolster economic development in the state of Minnesota, especially in the Minnesota portion of the corridor between the Twin Cities and La Crescent
- To increase safety for rail and highway users

Commission Role

The Commission seeks to accomplish its goals through:

- Actively supporting project development as a financial partner
- Coordinating with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and other entities responsible for project development to ensure accountability
- Advocating for the project with local, state and federal governments
- Implementing a Strategic Communications Plan to raise awareness with River Route stakeholders

Milestones

- July 2016 — MnDOT kicks off the Twin Cities-Milwaukee-Chicago Intercity Passenger Rail Service Study (Phase 1), and La Crosse Area Planning Committee joins the MN High-Speed Rail Commission.
- July 2015 — Amtrak Feasibility Study of adding a second daily round trip is completed finding that additional service between Saint Paul and Chicago shows promise.
- November 2011 — Alternatives Selection Report completed leading to selection by the Federal Railroad Administration and Mn/DOT of the River Route as the preferred route for high-speed rail between the Twin Cities and Chicago.
- June 2009 — Minnesota High Speed Rail Commission formed.

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