STATEWIDE RAIL SYSTEM

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OVERVIEW

• Louisiana Rail System
• Priority Rail Projects
• Next Steps
LOUISIANA FREIGHT RAIL SYSTEM

- 2,750 route miles of track
- 6 Class-1 Railroads
- 11 Short Line Railroads
- 2,912 Employees
- $300 Million in wages
- Major Freight Categories
  - Chemicals, Coal, and Petroleum Products
  - Paper, Wood, and Farm Products
  - Concrete/Stone

Source: Association of American Railroads
LOUISIANA PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

• Three long distance trains operate in Louisiana
  • Sunset Limited
  • City of New Orleans
  • Crescent

• Two of the routes are in the Gulf Coast High Speed Rail Corridor

• Seven (7) rail stations

• 245,500 Louisiana passengers in 2011

• Amtrak operates on Class-1 railroad tracks
• Addressed only Short Line Railroad needs
• Identified projects totaling $102.5 Million
• Rail Plan update is currently underway
STATEWIDE RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

- Class-1: $496.8 million
- Short Line: $526.5 million
- Passenger: $8.9 million
CLASS-1 PROJECT

New Orleans Rail Gateway Project
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

- Connects 6 Class-1 railroads
- 21+ Highway-Rail Crossings
- 13 Yards, including 6 Intermodal (rail-truck)
- 10 Interlocking junctions
- Two major bridges – one movable
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

Back Belt Alternative
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

Middle Belt Alternative
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

Front Belt Alternative
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

Couplet Alternative
NEW ORLEANS RAIL GATEWAY

• Feasibility Study completed in 2007
• Environmental Study to be completed by end of 2014
• Construction to begin when funding is secured
UPGRADE TRACK FOR 286,000 LB RAILCARS

Purpose: Upgrade track and bridge capacity to safely operate the new industry standard for railcars weighing 286,000 pounds on six Short Line Railroads

Includes six short line railroads serving 18 parishes and more than 100 companies
UPGRADE TRACK FOR 286,000 LB RAILCARS

- Benefits: Increase freight capacity, reduce shipping costs, stimulate economic growth, improve safe transport of Hazmat
SHORT LINE PROJECT

LA 23 Rail Relocation

- Relocate railroad track from LA 23 to Peters Road
- Will remove trains from major roads
- Environmental Study beginning
• ADA Upgrades to Three Passenger Stations
  – Schriever, New Iberia, and Lake Charles
  – Stations are City Owned
NEXT STEPS

• New Orleans Rail Gateway Program
  – Complete EIS in 2014
  – Secure funding for construction

• Seek funding for Short Line improvements

• Assist with the LA-23 Rail Relocation where appropriate

• Partner with cities to upgrade Train Station
QUESTIONS?