

MICHIGAN'S NORTH-SOUTH PASSENGER RAIL



groundwork
CENTER FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

ABOUT

The proposed passenger rail service would run along a 240-mile, state-owned, active rail line to connect the southeast region of Michigan—including Detroit and Ann Arbor—to the lower northwestern region of Michigan.

Currently there are limited convenient options to northern Michigan other than driving, and extending passenger rail would provide a reliable way to connect a larger part of Michigan to Amtrak's national network.

The project has a significant amount of public support, and it has the potential to increase transportation equity, reduce barriers to opportunity, boost travel safety, increase economic development, and improve Michigan's infrastructure.

FUTURE OF RAIL

The Northern Michigan Passenger Rail project has been included in the Michigan Mobility 2045 plan and the State's Rail Plan, showing broad community support.

Recently the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 allocated \$66 billion over five years to fund passenger rail projects. With this historic investment, now is the time for Michigan to advance our state's rail system.

Rail is a vital part of Michigan's clean mobility future. Together, with state leadership, we can ensure that trains play a major role in strengthening Michigan's economy.

NEXT STEPS

With an initial Ridership Feasibility and Cost Estimate Study completed in 2018, the corridor is ready to move into the next phase of planning.

In 2022, the project was awarded a U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant, which will support the next phase of federally required studies and planning for the new passenger service.

Currently, the project partners are working toward issuing a request for proposal for a follow-up study that will interrogate the specifics of rail operation and provide a framework for the creation of a service development plan.



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