



August 13, 2015

### *OneRail Coalition Panel Highlights State Transportation and Rail Public-Private Partnerships*

The OneRail Coalition's efforts to raise the visibility of passenger and freight rail partnerships continued with a successful panel at the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) meeting in Kansas City, KS on August 12, 2015. Panelists from BNSF Railway, Kansas DOT, the City of Edgerton, KS, Northpoint Development and SmartWarehouse spoke about the ingredients for the successful launch of BNSF's Logistics Park in Edgerton, located on the BNSF main line running in between Los Angeles/Long Beach and Chicago.

Logistics Park Kansas City (LPKC) is part of the BNSF's overall investment strategy in response to market demands for smarter shipping of consumer goods, grain and other products. The intermodal facility encompasses over 440 acres, 64,000 feet of strip tracks, and 4,300 parking spots for containers. Electrically powered wide-span cranes lessen congestion and eliminate emissions, and the automated gate technology maximizes efficiency and security. Current capacity is 500,000 lifts per year and expansion plans are underway.

To ensure good access to local partners Johnson Edgerton provided nearly and federal funding for including a new direct access to I-35, other grade separation.

This panel at MAASTO organized by OneRail at meetings, including SASHTO. Common success that had emerged repeated on this panel, of early communication the parties, building a understanding each other's learned from the panel importance of committed funding, clearly understanding the public benefits to be achieved, and the private sector's need for an acceptable return on investment.



the Park, KSDOT and County and the City of \$80 million in local, state, roadway infrastructure, interchange providing connecting roads, and a

followed similar panels other AASHTO regional NASTO, WASHTO, and themes of the keys to from previous panels were including the importance and coordination between working relationship, and needs. Other lessons sessions include the

As a growing number of companies are looking to locate in communities with efficient rail access and service, both freight and passenger, it is in states' economic interest to have the ability to partner with private rail operators to provide the necessary rail infrastructure and roadway connections to the rail network.

OneRail believes these partnerships are win-wins for the state DOTs and their partner railroads - leveraging public funds for public benefits, improving the flow of freight, improving the rail network - adding up to better rail service for shippers, new opportunities to secure good paying jobs, safer freight movements, lower roadway maintenance costs, and reduced emissions.

OneRail's final panel of the year will be at the Council of State Government's Eastern Regional Conference on August 18 in Wilmington, DE, focusing on the rail supply industry and the many good paying jobs this sector of the rail industry provides.

###



The OneRail Coalition is a diverse group of rail stakeholders representing all facets of the rail industry. The Coalition works to expand the awareness of the value and benefits of a strong freight and passenger rail system. Our members include:

- public transportation and passenger rail organizations: American Public Transportation Association (APTA), Amtrak, States for Passenger Rail Coalition (SPRC);
- freight rail associations: American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRA), Association of American Railroads (AAR);
- rail supplier and contractor associations: National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRCMA), Railway Supply Institute (RSI);
- rail labor: Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS), the Rail Conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (BLET/BMWE), Transportation Communications International Union/International Association of Machinists (TCU/IAM), United Transportation Union (UTU);
- rail advocacy and transportation reform organizations: National Association of Railroad Passengers (NARP), Surface Transportation Policy Project (STTP);
- environmental organizations: National Resources Defense Council (NRDC); and
- rail engineering and supply companies: AECOM, Alstom, Caterpillar, General Electric, HNTB, Parsons, Parsons Brinckerhoff and Siemens