

High-Speed Rail Forum

Getting to the Tipping Point for High-Speed Rail in the U.S. – The Role of Federal Government in High-Speed and Intercity Rail Development

Hosted by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA)

Wednesday, December 2

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the APTA offices at

1300 I Street, NW, Suite 1200 East, Washington, D.C.

Please RSVP to Cynthia Owens at cowens@apta.com

8 - 8:30 a.m. Registration/Coffee

8:30 - 9 a.m. Welcome and Introduction

- **Michael P. Melaniphy**, President & CEO, American Public Transportation Association, Washington, DC

- **Valarie J. McCall**, 2015-2016 Chair, APTA; Member, Board of Trustees, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cleveland, OH

APTA High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Committee Activities and Highlight

- **Peter Gertler**, Chair, High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Committee, APTA; and Vice President, Global Strategic Consulting, HDR, San Francisco, CA

"Tipping Point" Background and Context:

- **Al Engel**, Vice-Chair, High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Committee, APTA; and Principal, Al Engel Consulting, Telford, PA

9 - 10:15 a.m. Session I

Planning and Environmental Clearance

Moderator - Dominic Spaethling, Chair, High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Programs Subcommittee, APTA; and Vice President/Senior Project Manager, HNTB Corp, San Francisco, CA

Panelists:

- **David Valenstein**, Chief, Environment and Systems Planning Division; Federal Railroad Administration, Washington, DC

- **Shaun McCabe**, Vice President, Engineering, Texas Central Partnership, Dallas, TX

- **David Carol**, Market Leader, High Speed Rail & Freight Rail; WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff; Charlotte, NC

- **Peter A. Peyser, Jr**, Principal, Peyser Associates, Washington, DC

10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Session II

Funding and Finance of Intercity and High-Speed Rail Systems

Moderator - Sharon Greene, Co-chair, Intercity and High-Speed Rail Finance Subcommittee, APTA and Senior Vice-President, Director, Finance

Market Sector, HDR/Sharon Greene + Associates, Irvine, CA

Panelists:

- **Melissa L. Porter**, Office of General Counsel; U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC

- **Marc-Andre Roy**, Vice President North America; CPCS, Ottawa, ON, Canada

- **Jodie Misiak**, Director, Project Development; Build America Transportation Investment Center; U.S. Department of Transportation

- **Laurene Mahon**, Managing Director / Global Head of Infrastructure Finance; Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; Toronto, ON, Canada

11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lunch (Provided by APTA)

Speaker: The Honorable Earl Blumenauer, U.S. House of Representatives (D-OR), Washington, DC

12 - 1:15 p.m. Session III

Leadership and Governance

Moderator - Al Engel, Vice-Chair, High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Committee, APTA; and Principal, Al Engel Consulting, Telford, PA

Panelists:

- **Stephen Gardner**, Amtrak Executive Vice-President, and Chief – Northeast Corridor Business Development; Philadelphia, PA

- **Darrell Johnson**, Chair, APTA Regional Corridors Subcommittee, APTA; and CEO, Orange County Transportation Authority, Orange, CA

- **Matt Kelly**, Professional Staff Member, Surface Transportation Committee; Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation

- **Emily Stock**, Manager of Rail Planning; Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation; Richmond, VA

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Session IV

Top Priorities and Next Steps

Discussion facilitator - Eric Peterson

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. Wrap-up