



**MICHIGAN'S
FREIGHT
RAIL NETWORK
PROVIDING SAFE,
EFFICIENT &
ENVIRONMENTALLY
FRIENDLY
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICE**

S T A T E W I D E • N A T I O N W I D E • W O R L D W I D E

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FROM THE MRA PRESIDENT



Jon Cool, President
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The Michigan Railroads Association (MRA) would like to share updated rail marketing contacts for the rail carriers in your area. The purpose of this brochure is to help connect existing businesses – and potentially new business prospects – with the railroad that provides service in your region.

WHY CHOOSE RAIL?

Affordable and efficient freight transportation is critical to Michigan's economy. Freight rail is the engine that supports our economy, hauling just about everything that keeps Michigan, and our entire nation, moving.

CONNECT WITH YOUR RAILROAD

Contact the marketing experts contained in this brochure to get access to property acquisition, zoning assistance and other answers on how to put rail to work to grow your existing business. Or, review new projects with these experts. They're ready for your call!

We hope that you will find the information contained in this brochure useful. On behalf of the MRA membership, thank you for your interest in the freight railroad companies serving businesses across Michigan.

MICHIGAN RAIL ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Michigan Rail Enhancement Grant Program (M-REP) provides grants to improve, expand and rehabilitate freight rail corridors and facilities that will immediately result in quantifiable and non-speculative public benefits. Grants can cover up to seventy percent of eligible project costs. Eligible applicants include freight railroads and owners of multi-user transload facilities.

Eligible project costs include fixed assets such as track, ties, bridges, crossings, rail scales on mainline corridors and at rail yards, intermodal facilities and transload facilities. Movable equipment and/or rolling stock may be considered if plans are submitted that adequately address Michigan-specific use. Ineligible work items include design, engineering, permit fees and right-of-way acquisition.

Applicants must contribute at least thirty percent (30%) of the eligible project costs. Match commitments from private, local or federal sources that exceed the minimum will be viewed favorably. Applicants

may submit multiple applications, but total awards cannot exceed \$5 million total per applicant per project solicitation and/or MDOT fiscal year.

Freight railroads and owners of multi-use transload facilities are welcome to apply. Applicants must own or otherwise control the property on which the improvements are proposed. If the applicant is not a freight railroad, a letter of support from the serving railroad must be included with the application.

For more information, please visit the MDOT Office of Rail web site using this QR Code:



FREIGHT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM RAIL CUSTOMER INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE

The Michigan Department of Transportation's Freight Economic Development Program (FEDP) helps connect new or expanding businesses to Michigan's rail system. The Grant Program can cover up to 50% of costs associated with infrastructure to ship by rail, like rail spurs. Projects are evaluated based on the public benefits, like increased rail volumes and job creation, relative to costs. The Program's goal is to enhance the viability of Michigan's rail system by facilitating its use.

FEDP can cover up to 50% of material, labor and equipment associated with the installation

or rehabilitation of rail customer infrastructure up to a maximum of \$2M. Eligible costs include, but are not limited to, turnouts, track, ties, ballast, and related permanently affixed equipment, like unloading pits, specific to rail. Ineligible work items include engineering and car movers. A full list of eligible costs can be found on the following page. Not all eligible costs will necessarily be approved as part of the FEDP project.

Submit completed applications or any questions to Alex Nikoloff, Freight Economic Development Project Manager, at NikoloffA@Michigan.gov or (517) 290-9691.

MEMBER RAILROADS



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



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