

# Passenger Rail In Ohio

*Status Report to OTEC Conference Oct. 29, 2000*



# Passenger Rail In Ohio: *Two-Track Strategy*

## Short Term

- ▣ Amtrak “Start-up” / 79mph conventional service
- ▣ 3-C Corridor

## Long Term

- ▣ Ohio Hub / 110 mph high-performance service in 7 Ohio /& regional corridors



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# Great Plan But... "Show Me The Money"

Legislation Changes the Dynamic



# New \$\$\$ for Passenger Rail

- **HR-2095** passed & signed
- Mandates Positive Train Control by 2015
- Funds Amtrak on 5-year cycle
- Establishes **80% / 20%** federal /state match for passenger rail



# HR-2095: What It Means

## Positive Train Control (PTC)

- ▣ Prevents collisions
- ▣ Must be installed on main lines by 2015
- ▣ Grant assistance to Railroads
- ▣ Can enhance both speed & capacity



# HR-2095: What It Means

- ▣ Contains **Passenger Rail Investment & Improvement Act** Language
- ▣ 5-year Funding Cycle for Amtrak
- ▣ \$12.9 Billion Overall
- ▣ \$5.3 Billion in Capital Grants
- ▣ Puts rail on equal funding footing with other modes



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# HR-2095: What It Means to Ohio



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- ▣ \$1.9-billion a year for state grants
- ▣ 80-20 % Match (Fed/State)
- ▣ Creates funding program for Ohio Hub, MW Regional Rail & others
- ▣ Eligible state project \$ could include stations, track & signals, equipment

# Mileposts & Challenges

- ▣ **Must get rail corridors into environmental study**
- ▣ **PTC: adds \$\$\$ costs but also more capacity**
- ▣ **Identify & buy / lease equipment in a tight market**
- ▣ **HR-2095 still needs appropriations**



# Questions ???



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