PARTICIPANT’S WORKSHEET - Workshop #1

March 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Illinois Department of Transportation
69 W. Washington Street, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL

Small Group Assignments: Attendees will be pre-assigned to each of two small group breakout sessions. Participant’s name badges will have two (2) colored dots applied to their badge. The dot in the upper left corner when facing the badge is the group assignment for the morning breakout session. The dot in the upper right corner is the group assignment for the afternoon session.

Breakout #1: Defining Common Network Planning Goals for Passenger Service in the Midwest 11:30 – 12:00 (30 minutes)

Shared Network Planning Goals

1) Improve regional and intercity rail connections between small/mid-sized cities and Chicago; and among mid-sized cities within the Midwest.
2) Maximize the utility of capital investment across the full range of potential markets and passenger types;
3) Minimize the friction of passenger transfers;
4) Avoid capital investment in the short term that is inconsistent with the long-term network vision.
5) Regional and Intercity rail connections to Major airports within the region are important.
6) Build toward the maximum viable service tier for corridors in network.
Q 1: This morning we’ve heard colleagues from states across the Midwest provide brief updates, and you’ve also heard members of the project team provide some background on the approach and methodology that will be used for the technical analysis of the study. From everything you heard this morning, what are the one or two items that really caught your attention? Anything that raised a pressing question? Why?

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Q2: During the presentation, you were presented with a list of six goals that the study team has identified related to services and service tiers – these six goals are also listed here on the board. From your perspective, do these goals cover everything you hoped the technical elements of the service network planning would accomplish? If not, what goals should be added; considered.

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Q3: Each of you has a set of three dots of the same color attached to your participants guide. Before going to lunch – Please indicate the three goals you believe are the most important by placing a dot next to the goal statement.

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Breakout #2: Review of Key Network Elements in the Midwest

2:15 – 2:45: Small Group Discussion (30 minutes)
2:45 – 3:00: Re-assemble large group and report out small group key discussion points.

Q4: Was there anything from the afternoon presentation that you questioned or that you believe should be re-examined? E.g. population growth forecasts, etc. Why?

Q5: As you might expect, planning future passenger rail services are highly dependent on anticipated population growth, as well as, upgrades and investments in competing services such as highway systems and air transport services. Are you aware of any major initiatives or planned service improvements that should be brought to our attention? Why?
Q6: Here on the easel is a map of the existing corridors that have been identified at this very early stage of the project. You have also been provided the same map as part of your participant’s package. Are there any hub, any corridors, or other connections that you believe should be added to this map?

Thank You for your time and participation!
Please leave your participant worksheet with a facilitator.