



**OneRail Coalition Commends USDOT on TIGER VII Selections,
Encourages Congress to Continue Robust Funding of Program**

October 29, 2015
Washington, DC

On 10/29/2015, the US DOT announced the award of \$500 million in TIGER VII discretionary grants to 39 transportation projects in 34 states. The recipients of these competitive, merit-based grants were States, local governments, port authorities, transit agencies, and metropolitan planning organizations.

18 rail-related projects sponsored by the aforementioned public agencies, including short line freight rail projects, port-owned freight rail projects, intercity passenger rail projects, commuter rail projects, and rail transit projects, received over \$245 million out of the \$500 million of available funding.

The OneRail Coalition commends the Administration’s recognition of rail’s inherent efficiency, safety, and environmental benefits in moving freight and passengers.

Investing in America’s rail infrastructure provides critical support for economic growth and improves the competitive position of the United States in the world economy. Rail enhances the mobility and safety of Americans, minimizes impacts on the environment, and reduces the nation’s dependence on imported oil. Rail investments play a crucial role in alleviating highway and aviation congestion and reducing the wear and tear on America’s highways and bridges. Investment in freight and passenger rail supports the expansion of U.S. exports, strengthens U.S. manufacturing capacity, and advances critical national security and environmental objectives.

Rail is a vital component of the nation’s surface transportation system, with freight rail hauling 40 percent of the nation’s ton-miles, rail transit riders taking 4.7 billion trips per year, and intercity passenger rail moving over 30 million passengers annually. Rail is the smart, sensible way to solve America’s 21st century transportation challenges.

Rail-related projects selected for funding in TIGER VII (in alphabetical order by state):

Application / Entity Receiving Award	Project	Description of Works	Grant Amount	Type
Arizona Department of Transportation	SR 247 Grade Separation Project	This TIGER grant will provide funding to create a Four-lane highway overpass on SR 347 over a double track rail line. This project will also relocate an existing Amtrak station creating safer loading and unloading sites for rail passengers	\$15,000,000	Grade Separation Project (Freight Rail and Passenger Rail)

Application / Entity Receiving Award	Project	Description of Works	Grant Amount	Type
Oxnard Harbor District (Port of Hueneme, CA)	Port of Hueneme Intermodal Improvement Project	This TIGER grant will provide funding to deepen berths 1 and 2, strengthen Wharf 1, and extend the on-dock rail at the Port of Hueneme.	\$12,300,000	Port and Freight Rail
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	Rail to Rail Transportation Corridor Connector Project	This project will convert a 6.4 mile section of unused railroad track into a pedestrian corridor linking three regionally significant north-south transit lines	\$15,000,000	Rail Transit Access
San Diego Unified Port District	Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal Modernization Project	This project will modernize the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal by removing obsolete transit sheds and constructing on-dock rail improvements	\$10,000,000	Port and Freight Rail
City of La Junta, CO	Southwest Chief Route Advancement and Improvement Project	This project adds 39 miles of new rail, and repairs over 20 miles of roadbed. This project will help sustain Amtrak's Southwest Chief Service.	\$15,210,143	Intercity Passenger Rail
Connecticut Department of Transportation	Barnum Station Project	This project will construct a new commuter rail station serving the Metro North Railroad on the east side of Bridgeport, Connecticut	\$10,000,000	Commuter Rail Station
Commuter Rail Division of the Regional Transportation Authority (Chicago Metra)	Milwaukee District - West Line Fox River Bridge Improvement Project	This project will replace the 134-year old rail bridge over the Fox River with a completely new structure. The new structure will accommodate an additional track and be controlled by a modern PTC compliant signaling system	\$14,000,000	Commuter Rail Bridge
Port of Indiana	Jeffersonville Truck-to-Rail and Rail-to-Water Improvements	This project will construct a double rail loop and rail-to-barge transfer facility with additional rail and turnouts. The project will also construct a mile-long siding extension allowing rail carriers to deliver 90-car unit trains to the port	\$10,000,000	Port and Freight Rail

Application / Entity Receiving Award	Project	Description of Works	Grant Amount	Type
Maine Department of Transportation	Maine Regional Railways Project	This project will rehabilitate 380 miles of track throughout Maine removing long-standing bottle necks and creating faster and more reliable freight service	\$20,000,000	Freight Rail
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Willmar Rail Connector and Industrial Access	This project will construct a direct connection between the Marshall and Morris Subdivisions of the BNSF rail network, eliminating the need for 7 to 10 daily trains to pull into the railyard in downtown Willmar	\$10,000,000	Freight Rail
City of Kalispell, MT	Glacier Rail Park/Kalispell Core Area Development and Trail Project	This project will relocate train routes to allow for better access to downtown Kalispell.	\$10,000,000	Freight Rail Relocation
City of Charlotte, North Carolina DOT	Charlotte Gateway Station Track and Safety Improvements	This project will support the completion of Charlotte Terminal by removing unneeded track infrastructure and by installing bridges, retaining structures, tracks, and signaling devices	\$25,000,000	Intercity Passenger Rail Station
City of Buffalo, NY	Main Street Multi-Modal Access and Revitalization	This part of a larger revitalization project will replace dated track bed and rails, and modify a crossover location near main street in downtown Buffalo	\$18,000,000	Rail Transit
The New Jersey Transit Corporation	NEC Portal Bridge Replacement Acceleration Project	This grant will fund five early-action construction activities that need to be in place prior to the full replacement of the century-old Portal Bridge. The Portal Bridge connects New York Penn Station with Trenton, New Jersey on the Northeast Corridor	\$16,000,000	Rail Transit and Intercity Passenger Rail

Application / Entity Receiving Award	Project	Description of Works	Grant Amount	Type
South Dakota Department of Transportation	South Dakota Freight Capacity Expansion Project	This project will increase rail capacity for South Dakota agricultural shippers by upgrading 10 miles of rail to handle faster speed traffic, and also create a new siding to a 160 mile stretch of single track.	\$6,000,000	Freight Rail
Vermont Agency of Transportation	Western Vermont Freight-Passenger Rail Project	This project will replace 11 miles of track with new rail, ballast and ties and a new siding. The project will also install new passenger platforms which will enable extension of Amtrak's Ethan Allen Express service from Rutland to Burlington.	\$10,000,000	Intercity Passenger Rail and Freight Rail
The City of Tacoma, WA	Tacoma LINK Expansion	This project will double the existing 1.6 mile streetcar line and construct several additional stations	\$15,000,000	Streetcar
City of Milwaukee, WI	Milwaukee Streetcar - Lakefront Line	This project will construct a .77 mile spur extension to planned streetcar project. The TIGRE grant will also provide funding for the purchase of a streetcar, track, and related maintenance equipment	\$14,200,000	Streetcar

For a full description of the project awards, click here:

https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/TIGER%202015%20Project%20Fact%20Sheets_0.pdf

The OneRail Coalition encourages the United States Congress to continue robust funding of this effective program.

For further information, contact:

Anne Canby, Director

OneRail Coalition

acanby@oneraill.org

202-466-2641

www.oneraill.org

About the OneRail Coalition:

OneRail is a diverse group of rail stakeholders who have come together to educate America about the benefits of a strong freight and passenger rail system. Our members include the American Association of Private Railroad Car Owners (**AAPRCO**), American Public Transportation Association (**APTA**), American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (**ASLRRRA**), **Amtrak**, Association of American Railroads (**AAR**), Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (**BLET**), Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees (**BMWE**), Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (**BRS**), International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers – United Transportation Union (**SMART-UTU**), National Association of Railroad Passengers (**NARP**), National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (**NRC**), Railway Supply Institute (**RSI**), States for Passenger Rail Coalition (**S4PRC**), Surface Transportation Policy Partnership (**STPP**), Sheet Metal Workers International Association (**SMWIA**), and the Transportation Communications International Union/International Association of Machinists (**TCU/IAM**).

Our Associate Supporters include **AECOM, Alstom, Caterpillar, General Electric, HNTB, Parsons, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and Siemens**. These global companies represent the engineering and manufacturing sectors that are an essential component of private sector job creation in the transportation industry in the United States.