

Field Trip Schedule | August 27th

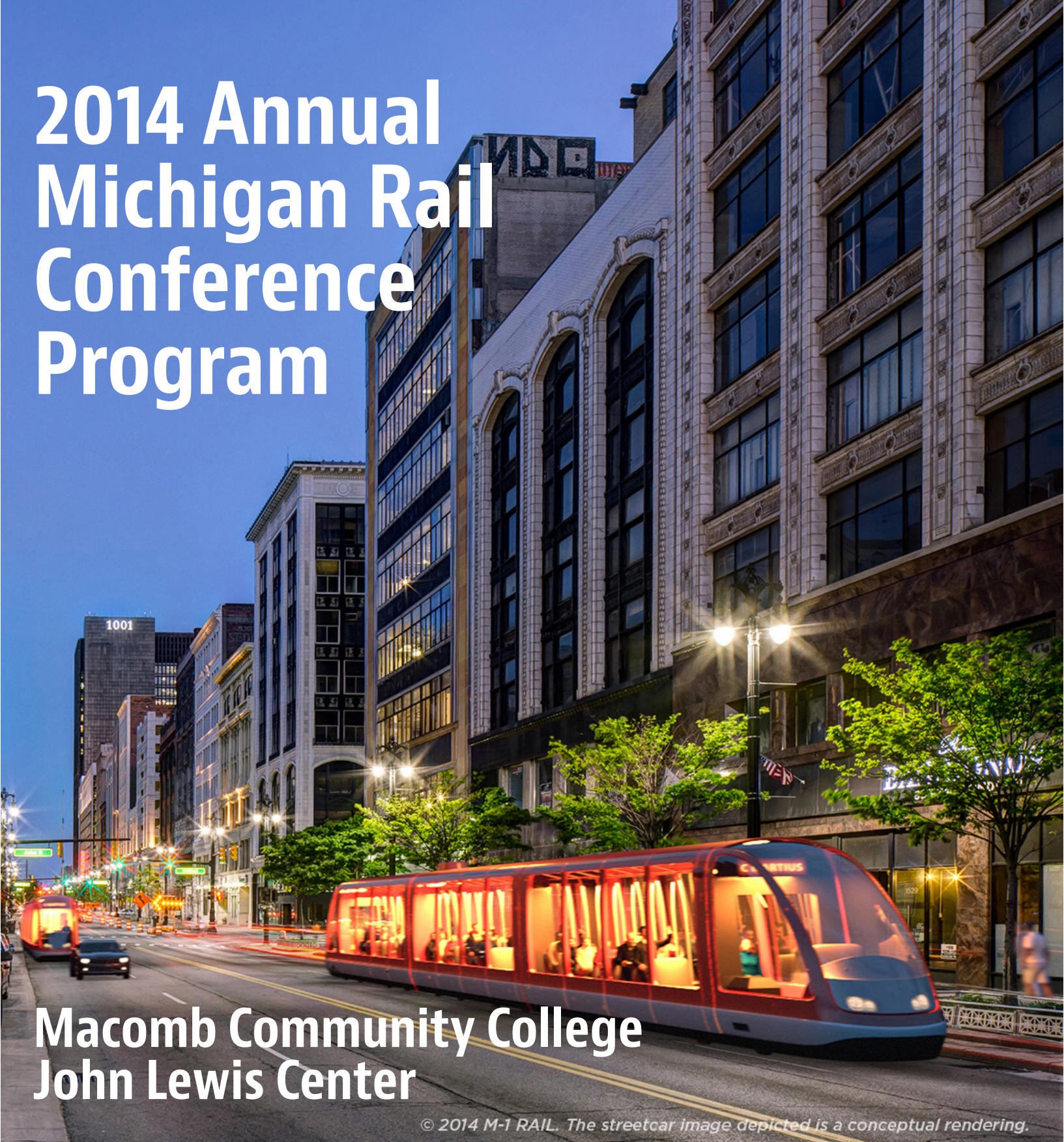
7:30 AM Depart Macomb Community College
8:00 – 8:30 AM M-1 Streetcar Project
8:45 – 9:15 AM Livernois Rail yard and Intermodal Ops visit
9:35 – 10:05 AM Tour Station
10:05 – 10:15 AM Break
10:30 – 11:00 AM Observe/Discuss Autorack ops.
11:10 – 11:30 AM Allen Road Yard visit/discussion
9:15 – 9:35 AM Travel to new Dearborn Amtrak Station
11:30 – Noon Return to Macomb Community College

Map



We can certify up to 6.5 hours of contact time to use towards professional development. Check at conference registration as you leave the conference to get a certificate.

2014 Annual Michigan Rail Conference Program



Macomb Community College John Lewis Center

© 2014 M-1 RAIL. The streetcar image depicted is a conceptual rendering.



Content Advisory Committee:

Jon Cool,
Michigan Railroads Association

Nikkie Johnson,
MDOT

Dan Sommerville,
Michigan Environmental Council

Nicholas Little,
Michigan State University

Pasi Lautala,
Michigan Tech Rail Transportation Program

Ron DeCook,
DeCook Governmental Policy & Strategies

2014 Annual Michigan Rail Conference Organizers:



August 26 - 27th, 2014

Welcome

A special greeting from conference co-chairs:

The Michigan Rail Conference is the first step in a collaborative effort to bring stakeholders together to discuss issues related to passenger and freight rail transportation development in the State of Michigan. Rail transportation is drawing notable attention in the United States and the State of Michigan is no exception. A glance at the program demonstrates how vast and widespread the issues related to rail transportation are and we hope that today will initiate meaningful discussions among stakeholders that continue well beyond the conference. A single day is not sufficient to address every topic of interest, so we used a stakeholder survey to identify the topics in greatest demand. We have been able to recruit a remarkable group of nationally recognized speakers who are eager to share their expertise toward the development of rail in Michigan.

We are deeply indebted to our speakers for volunteering their time, to our conference content committee who selected the final topics and presenters, and to our conference organizing team from Michigan Department of Transportation and Michigan Technological University, who handled all coordination under tight time lines. We also want to acknowledge the financial support from the Michigan Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation through the National University Rail Center (NURail), and Michigan Technological University in making this first conference a reality. We are excited to see so many stakeholders participate in the conference, either in person or via our live web conference and we hope that today turns into an annual event to support the development of the rail transportation system in Michigan.

Welcome to the conference!

- Nikkie Johnson and Pasi Lautala

Michigan Rail Conference Technical Program | August 26th

7:30 - 8:00 AM | Breakfast

8:00 - 8:15 AM | Welcome & Safety Briefing

8:15 - 8:30 AM | Welcomes from Visiting Dignitaries

8:30 – 10: 00 AM | Plenary Session – Rail Education & Work Force Development In Michigan

Pasi Lautala -

Assistant Professor and Director, Rail Transportation Program, Michigan Technological University
"University Railroad Engineering Programs"

Frank Dunbar -

District Provost, Regional Program Planning, Wayne County Community College District
"Community College Programs for Rail Transit Technicians"

Nicholas Little -

Managing Director, Railway Management Program, Michigan State University
"University Railroad Management Programs"

David Peterson -

Program Director, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Engineering and Professional Development
"TRB Rail Workforce Development Study and UW-M Continuing Education Program"

10:00 – 10:15 AM | Break

10:15 –11:30 AM | Plenary Panel Discussion – Opportunities for Building Collaborative Partnerships

John Varda -

Managing Partner/CEO, Ross and Stevens, S.C
"Shipper's Perspective (WI Central Group)"

Derrick James

Director, Government Affairs (Midwest), AMTRAK
"Passenger Perspective"

Pete Fontana

Industrial Dev. Mgr., Norfolk Southern Railroad
"Freight Perspective"

Tim Hoeffner

Director, Office of Rail, MDOT
"State DOT Perspective"

Libby Ogard

President, Prime Focus, LLC.
"Consultant Perspective"

11:30 AM –12:30 PM | Networking Lunch

12:30 – 2:00 PM | Breakout Sessions* #1 – Railroads as part of Supply Chains

Peter Anastor

Managing Director, Logistics, Supply Chain and Manufacturing, MEDC
"How Supply Chain Collaboration can Reduce Cost, Time and Risk"

John Taylor

Chair, Dept. of Marketing and Global Supply Chain Mgmt, Wayne State University

Rick Chapla

VP, Business Development, The Right Place, Inc.
"Grand Rapids Intermodal Terminal Development"

Roger Huff

Ford Manager, Global Customs, Material Export Operations and Logistics, Ford
"Railroads as Part of Automotive Supply Chain"

Breakout Sessions* #2 – Rail Transit, Commuter Rail, & other Passenger Rail Development

Tim Fischer

Chief Administrative Officer, M-1 Street Car
"M1 Progress and Start Plan"

James Bruckbauer

Transportation Policy Specialist, Michigan Land Use Institute
"Getting Back on Track: Uncovering the Potential for Trains in Traverse City"

Kristian Foondle

Rail Project Manager, MDOT
"WALLY Feasibility Study"

Phil Pasterak

Senior VP/Transit & Rail Manager, Parsons Brinckenhoff
"Commuter Rail Development Experiences from Other States"

2:00 – 2:15 PM | Break

2:15 – 3:30 PM | Breakout Sessions* #3 – Transloads & Rural Development

Shasta Duffey

VP Sales and Marketing, Grand Elk RR
"Local Railroads Perspective"

Nikkie Johnson

Freight Rail Economic Development & Operations Program Manager, MDOT
"Northern Michigan Freight Rail Needs Analysis"

Pasi Lautala

Assistant Professor and Director, Rail Transportation Program, Michigan Technological University
"The Upper Peninsula of Michigan Freight Rail Study"

Frederick Schlemmer

CFO, SteelPro
"Rail Transportation – Transload Operator Perspective"

Breakout Sessions* #4 – Passenger Rail, Economic Development & the Brain Drain

Ben Sperry

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineer, Ohio University
"Michigan Amtrak Services: Passenger Characteristics and Economic Impacts"

Kevin Brubaker

Deputy Director Environmental Law & Policy Center, Chicago
"Michigan manufacturing capacity for High Performance Train Parts"

Richard Murphy

Program Coordinator, Michigan Municipal League
"Rails Role in Placemaking and Talent Attraction"

Derrick James

Director, Government Affairs (Midwest), AMTRAK
"Economic Development from Rail Operations in Michigan"

3:30 – 3:45 PM | Break

3:45-4:30 PM | Closing Session

Libby Ogard

"An Overview of Rail Funding Programs and Practices"

Wrap up by Conference Chair

Conference Feedback and Next Conference Discussion

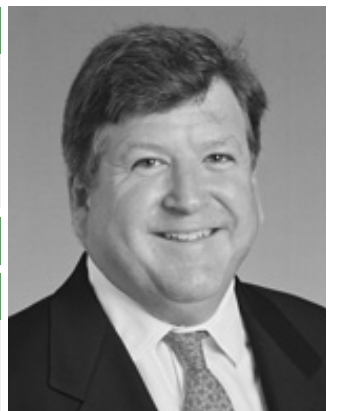
4:30 – 5:30 PM | Business Break and Networking

5:30 – 7:00 PM | Dinner & Keynote Speaker

Tony Hatch

CEO, ABH Consulting

"Railroad Renaissance in the New Energy World"



* brief presentations followed by panel discussion*