MIDWEST CONNECT

Why Invest in Midwest Connect

The vision for Midwest Connect is to provide **safe, efficient and reliable** intercity passenger rail service for Chicago, Fort Wayne, Columbus and Pittsburgh and stations in between.

With its combination of frequency, speed and reliability, the Midwest Connect route would serve as the **preferred passenger rail route from Chicago to the east coast** of the U.S.

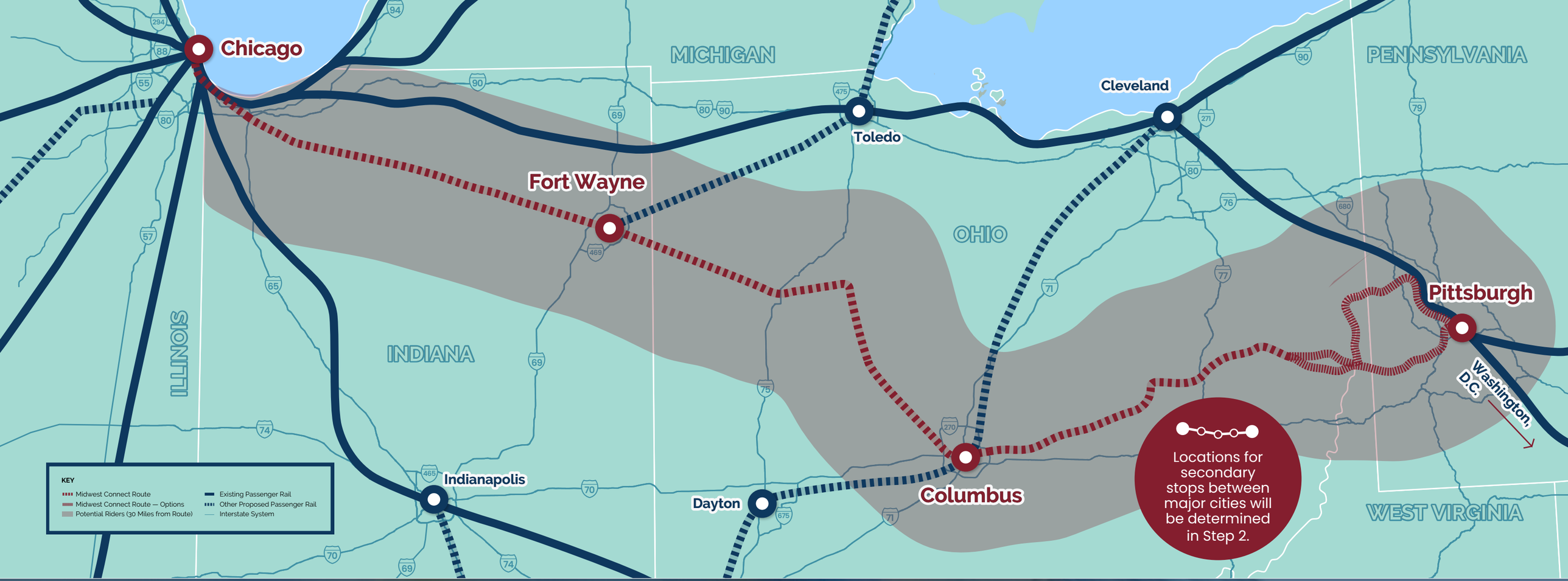
545 MILES

5 STATES

14.7M PEOPLE

The FRA Corridor ID Opportunity

The project is in the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Corridor ID program, which pairs federal funding with local funding to move forward passenger rail projects. Conversations about funding Step 2 of the program are happening now in Indiana and Ohio. Key decisions Step 2 will answer include route, station cities, service details, capital cost, phasing, funding and governance.



3 million
more people living along the route by 2040.[1]

1 million
new jobs along the route by 2040.[1]

A BIG project with BIG benefits

The Midwest Connect corridor is noted for a growing population, large industries, access to jobs, centrality as an economic hub in the Midwest and ability to connect America's Midwest and Eastern regions – all which generate a strong market for passenger rail.

REAL-WORLD RESULTS

An example of real-world success is the 283-mile Missouri River Runner Amtrak service linking Kansas City and St. Louis, which began in 2008. Today, the passenger rail service brings in $22 million in annual tax revenue and generates $208 million in annual economic activity.[3]

WITH MIDWEST CONNECT...

- **Connect a growing population to 1 million new jobs** by 2040.
- **Help businesses find employees** needed for growth.
- **Support economic growth** for small and mid-sized cities by making connections to larger markets.
- **Get students to 30+ universities and colleges** where people can invest in their education.
- **Relieve congestion** in the Chicago, Columbus and Pittsburgh regions.

[1] Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). (2019). *Rapid Speed Transportation Initiative Existing Conditions & Market Analysis.*
[2] American Public Transportation Association (APTA). (2020). *Economic Impact of Public Transportation Investment – 2020 Update.*
[3] Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). (2022). *Economic Impact of the Missouri River Runner Passenger Rail Service.*



WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"We support regional rail network investment that connects our community to thriving Midwest markets and **puts our community's economic assets in reach** of more people."

– John Urbahns, President and CEO, Greater Fort Wayne Inc.

"It is essential that we **attract and retain world-class talent** in Northeast Indiana. High-quality passenger rail service will increase access to the talent we need, improve travel connections to global markets, and stimulate the community development that ensures we **continue to lead the region in economic growth**."

- Chuck Surack, Founder and Chairman of Sweetwater and Founder of Surack Enterprises

"Wonderful project and very much needed by Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois and West Virginia. **Great plus for transportation and economic development!**"

- Community Member, submitted at www.midwestconnectrail.com

Get Involved

Visit www.midwestconnectrail.com to **sign up** to receive the latest project updates and **download materials** to host a community conversation.

CORRIDOR ID CONTACTS

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