



# Wisconsin Rail Plan 2050

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Inter-Tribal Task Force  
(held virtually)

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## Update to Wisconsin Rail Plan 2030

- First Wisconsin Rail Plan was adopted in 2014
  - Project listing tables within the plan were updated in 2020
- Covers all rail modes:
  - Railroad crossings
  - Freight rail
  - Wisconsin's state-owned rail system,
  - Long distance passenger rail, intercity rail, and commuter rail



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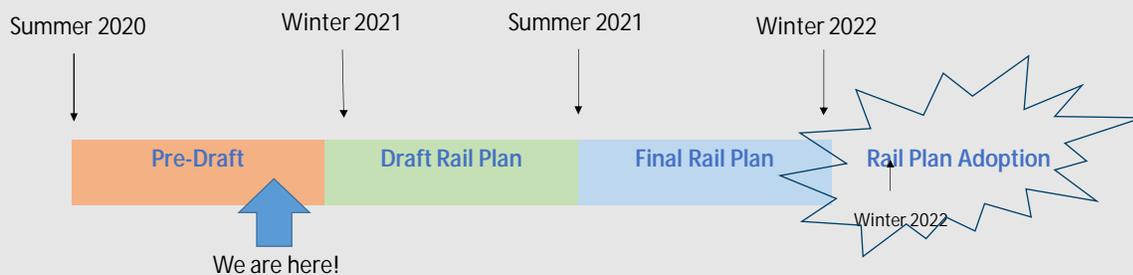
# Making the Plan Current

- Need to refresh the Plan with
  - Freight commodity flow statistics
  - Rail data trends
  - Existing and possible future service levels
  - Rail system conditions
  - Future rail-related improvements or plans (project listing tables)
  - Inclusions from FRA state rail plan guidance from late 2013



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# Plan is now in pre-draft stage



Conducting stakeholder outreach and consultation with Tribal Nations to help initial identification of trends, issues and opportunities.



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## Expected Plan Policy Discussion - Freight Rail and Crossing Safety

1. Changes since last rail plan in the movements of frac sand, oil, and coal
2. Intermodal rail-truck facilities, like at the Port of Milwaukee or a regional intermodal facility in SE WI somewhere
3. Prioritizing rail-crossing safety improvements
4. Safety of all users at rail-crossings



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## Expected Plan Policy Discussion – Amtrak; Hiawatha service; commuter rail

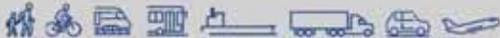
1. Amtrak passenger rail, Hiawatha and commuter rail's role in non-driver mobility
2. Demand forecast model of long-range passenger rail service
3. Access to stations by walking, bicycling, and transit



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## System-level Environmental Analysis

- Identify governmental resource agency plans
- Develop a state-wide high-level qualitative review of potential impacts if the plan's recommendations are implemented on:
  - sensitive land and water resources
  - air quality impacts
  - energy consumption
  - on land use and transportation demand
  - traffic congestion
  - economic development



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## System Level Equity Analysis

### Environmental Justice & Title VI Communities +

- EJ demographic groups (minority and low income)
- Title VI demographic groups (race, color, national origin)
- Also, seniors, youth, people with disabilities, and people without cars



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## System Level Equity Analysis

### Why it matters where people live and work

- Where are communities living relative to rail infrastructure like freight rail lines and train stations?
- What potential negative impacts are possible for those living near active rail lines? Example: air quality issues near a rail yard
- What potential positive opportunities are possible, such as easy access to stations?



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## How can WisDOT involve you in developing the plan during this issue identification stage?

- Survey of the rail related business interests on future issues. Shared with freight shippers, rail owners & operators; and passenger rail providers during the January 2021 Freight Advisory Committee meeting
- An upcoming virtual meeting with state and federal environmental resource agencies
- Individual meetings available



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## How can WisDOT involve you in developing the plan in the next steps

- Now: Some presentations and meetings. Webinars focused on certain topics. Signup for notifications on plan updates.
- Late spring/early summer – draft plan released publicly for at least 30 days. Some presentations and meetings. Webinars focused on certain topics. Signup for notifications on plan updates.
- Late 2021: final formal review of the draft final plan. At least 30-day comment period; public hearing



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[Wisconsindot.gov/railplan2050](https://wisconsindot.gov/railplan2050)

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