



Briefing Notice

The Next Era of Transportation and Infrastructure Like Trains? Then Choo- Choose to Learn About Federal Rail Policy

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 • 2:00 - 3:00 PM EDT

Rayburn House Office Building Gold Room (Room 2168)

45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515

Please RSVP @ eesi.org/052825trains

Live webcast will be streamed at eesi.org/livecast

Railways play a key role in American transportation and commerce, moving **28%** of U.S. goods and tens of thousands of people across the country every day. The United States **boasts** 140,000 miles of freight rail lines underpinning an \$80 billion industry that employs roughly 167,000 people. Meanwhile, Amtrak, the primary provider of U.S. passenger rail connecting people across rural and urban America, **reported record ridership** in fiscal year 2024 with 32.8 million passengers. From the crucial Northeast passenger rail corridor to the nation's largest freight hub in Chicago, rail has the potential to play a key role in a decarbonized transportation sector by displacing emissions from cars, trucks, and planes.

This Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) briefing will explore the past, current, and future role of rail in the U.S. transportation sector and highlight key rail programs under the surface transportation bill. Speakers will also describe opportunities to modernize railways through electrification, faster trains, track expansion, and safety improvements.

Speakers to be announced.

This briefing is part of a series focused on the role of federal transportation and infrastructure investments in strengthening communities, increasing economic opportunity, building resilience, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the lead up to the next surface transportation reauthorization bill. View the full briefing series at eesi.org.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Daniel O'Brien at dobrien@eesi.org or (202) 662-1880.

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