All Aboard Northwest

Presentation to Rail Passengers Association Northwest Division April 7, 2022

The Greater Northwest Region



The Real Needs

Yellow Lines - Existing Routes Blue Lines - Proposed New Routes Not all potential stops shown All routes shown are "long-distance" services.



Why is Rail Important? Our Vision

Thousands of rail advocates – even people like Jim Hamre and Zack Willhoite, who sacrificed their lives – believe in a vision of a national transportation network that

- Provides **seamless, door-to-door connectivity** to everyone in the region; and
- Offers economic, environmental and equity benefits to all, including *low-income, tribal, disability and rural communities*, locations where transportation alternatives are limited, and those who cannot drive

Needed To Achieve the Vision

- Identify champions in state capitols and local communities
- Accelerate passenger rail, active transportation, and public transit programs
- Establish **reliable funding sources** for alternative transportation modes
- **Support projects** that achieve our goals and realize our vision

Northwest Must Take Advantage of Opportunities

- Unprecedented federal funding available for transportation alternatives
- Growing **state and local interest in rail** and active transportation
- Climate, local economic development, and equity **pressures**
- Existing rail, road, and urban **infrastructure available**

What All Aboard Northwest Can Do

- All Aboard Northwest is a region-wide 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization.
- Supplement, not replace, existing rail advocacy organizations.

Build on the Work of National and State Organizations



Rail Passengers Association Recommendations

- Conceptualize projects and visions regionally
- Locate and coordinate existing organizations
- Develop achievable regional plans and goals



All Aboard Northwest Activities

- 1. **Engage** local communities
 - a. Lead community outreach meetings
 - b. Plan and execute **publicity events**
- 2. Educate local, state, and regional elected officials
 - a. Create connections
 - b. Solicit **letters of support**
- 3. **Unite** coalitions of stakeholders on a regional level
- 4. **Identify** funding and financing sources

1. Engage Local Communities

Outreach to local leaders, support letters, membership in regional entities



Engage Local Communities

- Conduct community meetings
- Solicit support letters
- Recruit membership in regional entities



All Aboard Washington Published by Charlie Hamilton @ · February 3 · (S)

Patrick and Charlie presented to 47 members of the Bainbridge Island Oatmeal Club at 8:00 this morning. A very lively discussion ended two and a half hours later! If people tell you that there is no interest in trains, don't believe them! Help us continue to spread the word! https://www.aawa.us/support/



Train Treks

- Region-wide series of meetings to share the benefits of rail
- Solicit local activists and donations





• Generate media coverage



Publicity Event: Billings Special Train

- Travel between west coast and Greater Northwest
 Passenger Rail Summit in August 2022
- Generate publicity and support similar to the Gulf Coast Inspection Train in 2016





2. Educate and Energize Elected Officials, Business & Local Leaders

Advocate for interactivity between rail and all other modes through engagement with

- Local communities
- State legislatures
- Regional groups
- Congress



All Aboard Washington Published by Charlie Hamilton **@** · February 16 at 4:27 PM · **@**

All Aboard Washington's Luis Moscoso discussed the need for increased rail funding on KING5 news. https://www.aawa.us /.../aawa-discusses-rail-funding-on.../



Whistle Stops

- Annual gathering of Legislative Rail Caucus members
- Olympia, WA and Salem, OR events planned for 2022



Northwest Rail Forum at Pacific Northwest Economic Region Summit

- 2021 event at Big Sky, MT
- 2022 event scheduled for Calgary, AB



Success:

Facilitated the Northwest Rail Forum

"Thank you for speaking at the PNWER 30th Annual Summit in Big Sky during the Pacific Northwest Passenger Rail Forum! Hundreds of participants from across the region joined us in Montana and online and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Events like the Summit are successful because of people like yourself sharing your knowledge and expertise. You played a major role in ensuring our work remains relevant, effective, and timely!"

 Betz Mayer, Program Manager, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

Success: Connections with Local Leaders

- "Our community fair is Labor Day weekend when I typically see our local representatives at our local parade and Fair. I can use that opportunity to give them more information about [your organization] too."
 - Eastern Washington City Treasurer
- "We are looking forward to your visit on the 21st. The following are confirmed....County Commissioner; CEO, Chamber of Commerce; Executive Director, Business Development Organization...I plan on extending an invite to the City Council."
 - Central Washington City Mayor
- "This is a great story on your recent release of a rail vision. Can you send us the map and any other materials you guys have on this?...[We are considering] including a recommendation on advancing such service, the map image and information will be helpful."
 - State Agency Executive Director

Success: Connections with Local Leaders

- "What you are working on is pretty amazing to think about. It is hard to believe that there is such an enormous gap in rail service and that such a large population is unserved. Town Council will...forward a letter of support to you...Thanks again."
 - Northern Wyoming City Manager
- "I enjoyed our visit. I plan to share this with our Council and think they'll be supportive as well. This is exciting."
 - Central Wyoming City Administrator
- "'PEOPLE LIVE HERE...' That sums it up for me, Dan! I love what you're working on here... I'd love to be involved in this at any level. This is the sort of economic development initiative that could be a real boon to [This City] as we continue to grow; we are served here by United Airlines, but there's a major difference between 100 passengers in/out a day versus the scale of economy that rail service could provide."
 - Northern Wyoming City Visitor Bureau Director

Success:

Support Letters from Local Leaders

- Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority, MT
- City of Ritzville, WA
- DRYVE/TRANS-action, Yakima County, WA
- Yakima Valley (WA) Conference of Governments
- Sweetwater County, WY
- Grant County [SD] Economic Development
- Pennington County, SD

3.

Unite Stakeholders on a Regional Level

Enhance coalitions by educating and coordinating activities among a broad group of stakeholder groups

- Environment
- Economic Development
- Equity
- Labor
- Health
- Rail, port, transit and other transportation modes



INDIVISIBLE **SUNRISE** Puget Sound PDX Advocates for Retirement Action Taking Action for Democracy "The Rank - and - Filesin Action"



Planned Regional Rail Advocacy Activities 2022

Outreach for IIJA
22214 Studies of
Pioneer, North
Coast Hiawatha



Planned Regional Rail Advocacy Activities 2022

- Columbia River Bridge Replacement Outreach
- Collegiate, *Cascades* Corridor Train Treks
- *Cascades* Service Development Plan Outreach
- Billings Special Train
- Rail Forum at PNWER Summit, Calgary, AB
- Whistle Stops, Olympia, WA and Salem, OR

The Final Challenge: Identify Funding

- Can you sponsor or donate to us?
- May we send information about AANW to your mailing lists?
- All Aboard Northwest is a region-wide 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization
- This organization supplements, not replaces, existing rail advocacy organizations

Be a Founding Sponsor

Benefits

- Help us share economic, environmental and equity benefits with underserved communities
- Your logo featured in advertising, email promotion, website, and virtual platforms
- You will be recognized in our online and in-person events
- Complimentary registrations to events and virtual programming

2022 Sponsorship Opportunities

AANW is looking for sponsorships for these projects.

Project	Budget
Cascades Service Development Plan Community Outreach	\$20,000
North Coast Hiawatha BIL 22214 Study Community Outreach	\$36,000
Pioneer BIL 22214 Study Community Outreach	\$32,000
2022 Collegiate Train Trek	\$16,000
2022 North-South Train Trek	\$9,000
Billings Special Train	\$85,000
PNWER Summit, Calgary, AB	\$75,000
Whistle Stop, Olympia, WA	\$4,000
Whistle Stop, Salem, OR	\$6,000
	\$283,000



https://allaboardnw.org/support/

(206) 222-3735

Dan Bilka

dan@allaboardnw.org

Patrick Carnahan

patrick@allaboardnw.org

Charlie Hamilton

charlie@allaboardnw.org