Norfolk Southern Railway Update: Post Epidemic Trends in Freight

Washington Council Of Governments Presentation

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### **TOPICS**

- Norfolk Southern Railway Presence in the Region
- Current Trends in Freight and supply side logistics
- Washington Discovers Infrastructure
- Regulation Lurks Below the Surface
- Passenger service & mergers
- Sustainability goals





### NS System

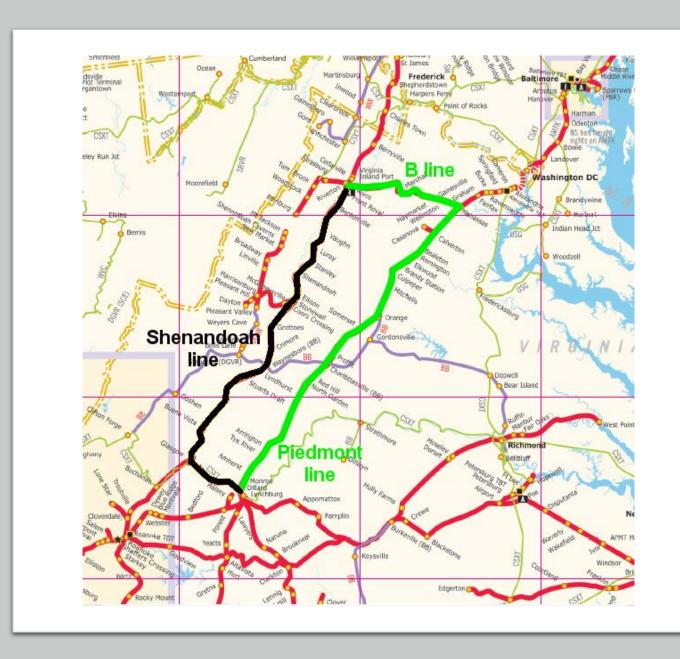
- 19,335 miles; 35,467 Track miles operated
- Largest Intermodal railroad in the East, serving 53 terminals, serve 27 auto assembly plants and 26 auto distribution centers
- Transport coal, steel, metals, chemicals, agricultural products, and other industrial products
- In 2020, 70 new industries located on NS, 16 customers expanded, for total investment of \$1.8 b., and creation of 2,960 jobs
- Ambitious Sustainability Program; dedicated program of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion





Serving the Metro Area



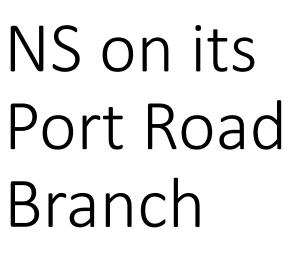


## INLAND PORT EXPANSION

- \$28 M. investment for Grade separation at Route 658 (Build overpass over the NS tracks)
- Capital investments to expand capacity for additional volumes
- Expand NS service to handle volumes











NS Transports US Made Products for Export

NS and Port of Baltimore Facilitate the increase in exports







### Supply Chain Pressures

- External Factors
- Chip shortage
- Warehouse productivity
- Port congestion
- Port of Savannah adding capacity
- Drayage challenges
- Supply constraints, but improving
- Urgent need for investment in the public infrastructure







### Rail Disruptions

#### **Blame Wall Street**

- Railroad service has suffered
- Service disruptions have several causes, but critics point to costcutting
- Shippers, unions and regulators blame management focus on Wall Street
- Critics point to Precision Scheduling Railroad as the culprit
- Re-regulate



### Changes in Economy is Challenge for all sectors

- Covid exposed weaknesses in US freight transportation infrastructure
- Culprit is worker shortage
- How to calibrate resources to just the right level of demand
- Demand is volatile, unpredictable
- Finding ways to compete for workers

## Pandemic Serves as a Wake-up Call

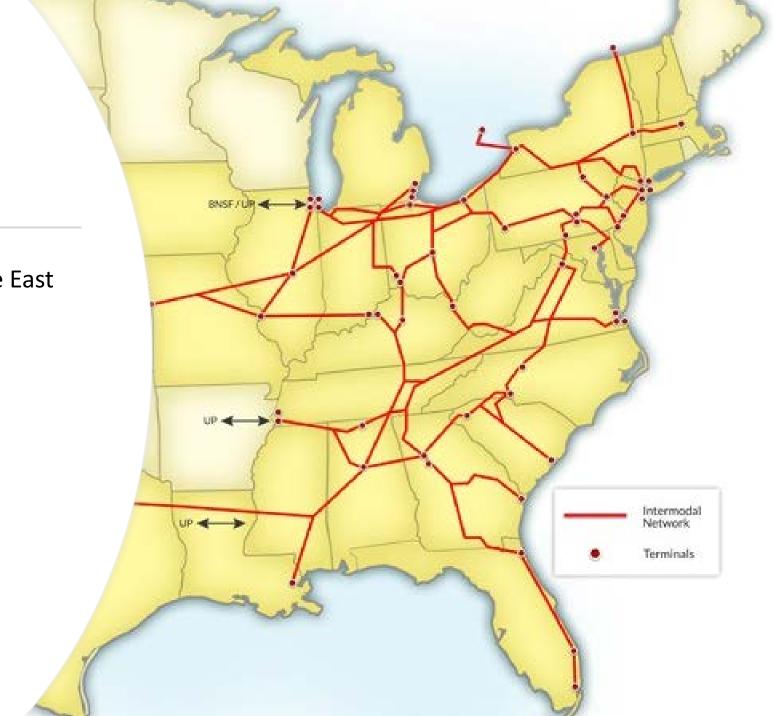
- Supply chain shifted
- E-commerce exploded
- Worker shortage
- Capacity needed
- New operating plan: more customer-centric; additional automation and resources





## POSITIONED FOR THE FUTURE

- Most robust Intermodal network in the East
- Diverse Merchandise portfolio
- No-surprises approach to PSR
- Innovative approach to new services
- Technology enhancement
- Shortline Partnership



#### NS Success with PPPs

- Simpson Intermodal Yard
- Portageville Bridge
- Heartland Corridor
- Crescent Corridor
- Rutherford Expansion
- Charlotte Airport
- Indiana Gateway
- Port of Savannah Partnership
- UPEX Greenville Inland Port





### New Money for Railroads: Incentive for PPPs

- Increase in discretionary grants
- Freight, passenger, safety
- Grade crossing
- CRISI: \$5.0B,
- Amtrak/NEC: \$6.0B
- Amtrak/NNG: \$16.0B
- Grade Crossing: \$3.0B
- Fed/State: \$36.0B
- Total: \$66 Billion





### Grade Crossing Safety; Section 130

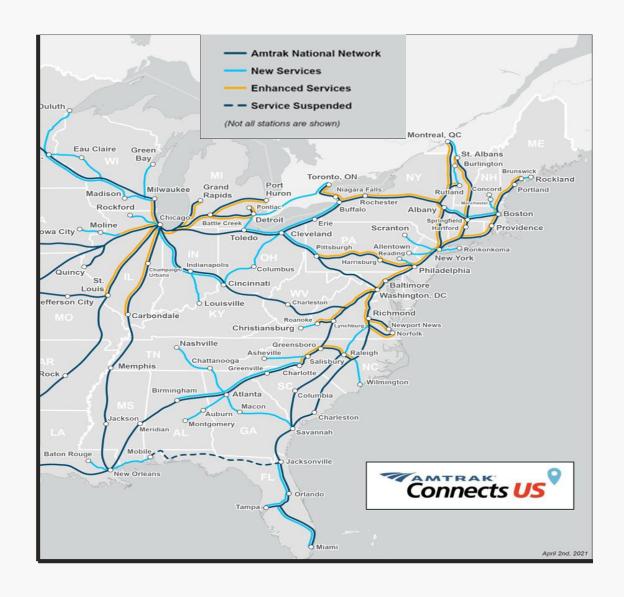
- Section 130 money \$245 million
- Increases federal share to 100%
- Replacement of obsolete warning devices now eligible
- \$100,000 incentive to close crossings
- Requires Comptroller General to study effectiveness of Sec. 130 as a set aside within HISP





### Investments for Amtrak on NS Host

- Chicago Gateway
  - Porter/Whiting Chicago
- Second Pennsylvanian
  - Pittsburgh Harrisburg
- Virginia
  - Christiansburg
- ATL to NOLA
  - Crescent Improvements





## Passenger Service on NS Lines

- Mutual agreement resulted in Amtrak Service to Lynchburg, Norfolk, and Roanoke
- Recently reached agreement to expand service between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh
- Thorough study of what is needed
- Hosts VRE service on Manassas Line
- Commonwealth brought sufficient investment to project
- Prioritize projects
- Amtrak's ambitious plans to expand its service must be scrutinized
- Any new passenger operation will require serious good faith negotiations







# The 2022 Railroad Mergers: CP+KCS

- CP won the battle for control of KCS with shareholders, now up to STB
- NS is part owner of Meridian Speedway between Shreveport and Meridian, MS
- Links NS served markets to Dallas, western US and Mexico
- NS has filed comments seeking to protect this investment





## 2022 Railroad Mergers: PAS

- NS is half owner of the Pan Am Southern
- PAS provides NS access to the New England Market
- NS investment in intermodal and auto yard in Albany, as well as tracks and upgrades
- NS has reached an agreement with CSX for trackage rights, allowing NS to transport double stack intermodal trains
- STB approved merger



### Sustainability Ambition

- Goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 42% by 2034
- NS customers have avoided 15 million tons of carbon by using rail instead of trucks
- Use of rail instead of truck lowers carbon emissions by 75% on average
- Implemented diesel electric hybrid overhead cranes in Intermodal terminals
- Replaced Tier 0 switcher locomotives with repowered eco locomotives and wayside
- Protect 12,488 acres at Brosnan Forest through an easement granted to LLT –



