SHRP2 Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)

Peer Exchange

Chicago, Illinois
October 3-4, 2017

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF STATE HIGHWAY AND
TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS
AASHTO

Welcome

- Welcome to the **SHRP2 Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies Peer Workshop.**
  - **14 states**
  - **5 rail roads**
- A few housekeeping details
  - Restroom locations
  - Lunch options
  - Dinner reservation for 6:00 at Club Lago Italian Bar and Restaurant 331 W. Superior Ave. – how many will join us?

Day 1 Agenda Review

Day 1

- Roll Call and Overview of SHRP2 Product
- Executive Leadership Panel
- Railroad/DOT Breakout Exercise: Identifying the Intersections in our Processes
- Structuring Agreements to Meet State-Specific Requirements

Day 2 Agenda Review

Day 2

- Welcome and Recap of Day 1
- Section 130 Federal Perspectives
- Section 130 Agency Perspectives
- CREATE Panel
- Innovative Contracting Methods with Existing Agreements
- How the COI can Benefit You
- Wrap Up and Next Steps
- Adjourn

How SHRP2 and *Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies* (R16) Can Assist Your Agencies

- Jessica Rich, Safety Engineer, FHWA
- Kate Kurgan, SHRP2 Product Lead, AASHTO

Purpose of Today's Presentation

Goals

- Update you on the SHRP2 program and Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)
- Discuss some of the successes of the program

What is SHRP 2?

- The Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2): a large scale research program designed to make significant advances in some of the most challenging areas in the highway industry

- 9-year, $232 million research program

- TRB: managed over 100 research projects, involving more than 300 research contractors

- Implementation budget of just over $170 million

Focus Areas

Safety: fostering safer driving through analysis of driver, roadway, and vehicle factors in crashes, near crashes, and ordinary driving

Reliability: reducing congestion and creating more predictable travel times through better operations

Capacity: planning and designing a highway system that offers minimum disruption and meets the environmental and economic needs of the community

Renewal: rapid maintenance and repair of the deteriorating infrastructure using already-available resources, innovations, and technologies

Quick SHRP2 Overview

- **SHRP2 Solutions** – 63 products

- **Solution Development** – processes, software, testing procedures, and specifications

- **Field Testing** – refined in the field

- **Implementation** – 430 transportation projects; adopt as standard practice

- **SHRP2 Education Connection** – connecting next-generation professionals with next-generation innovations
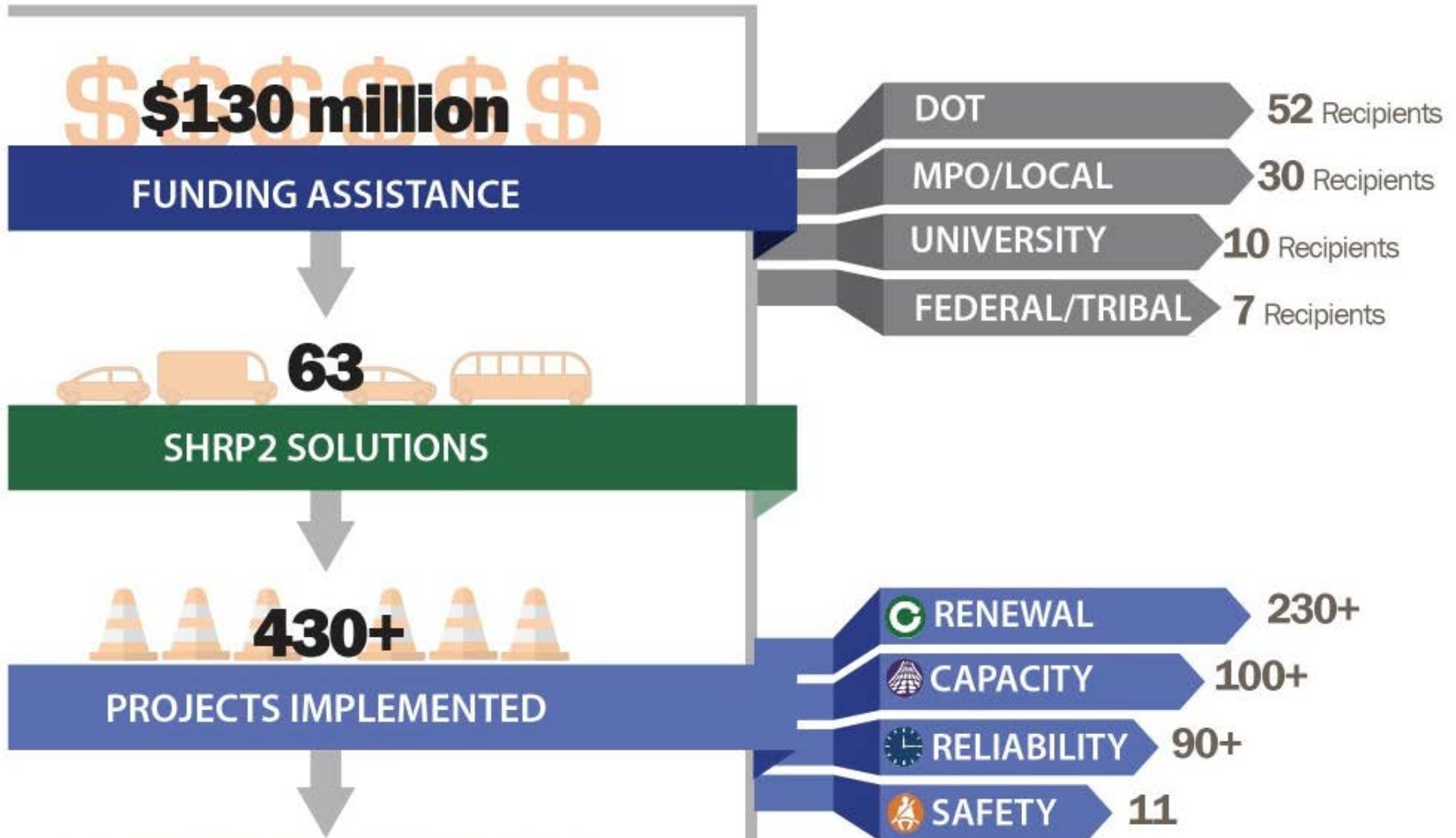
430

SHRP2 projects nationwide
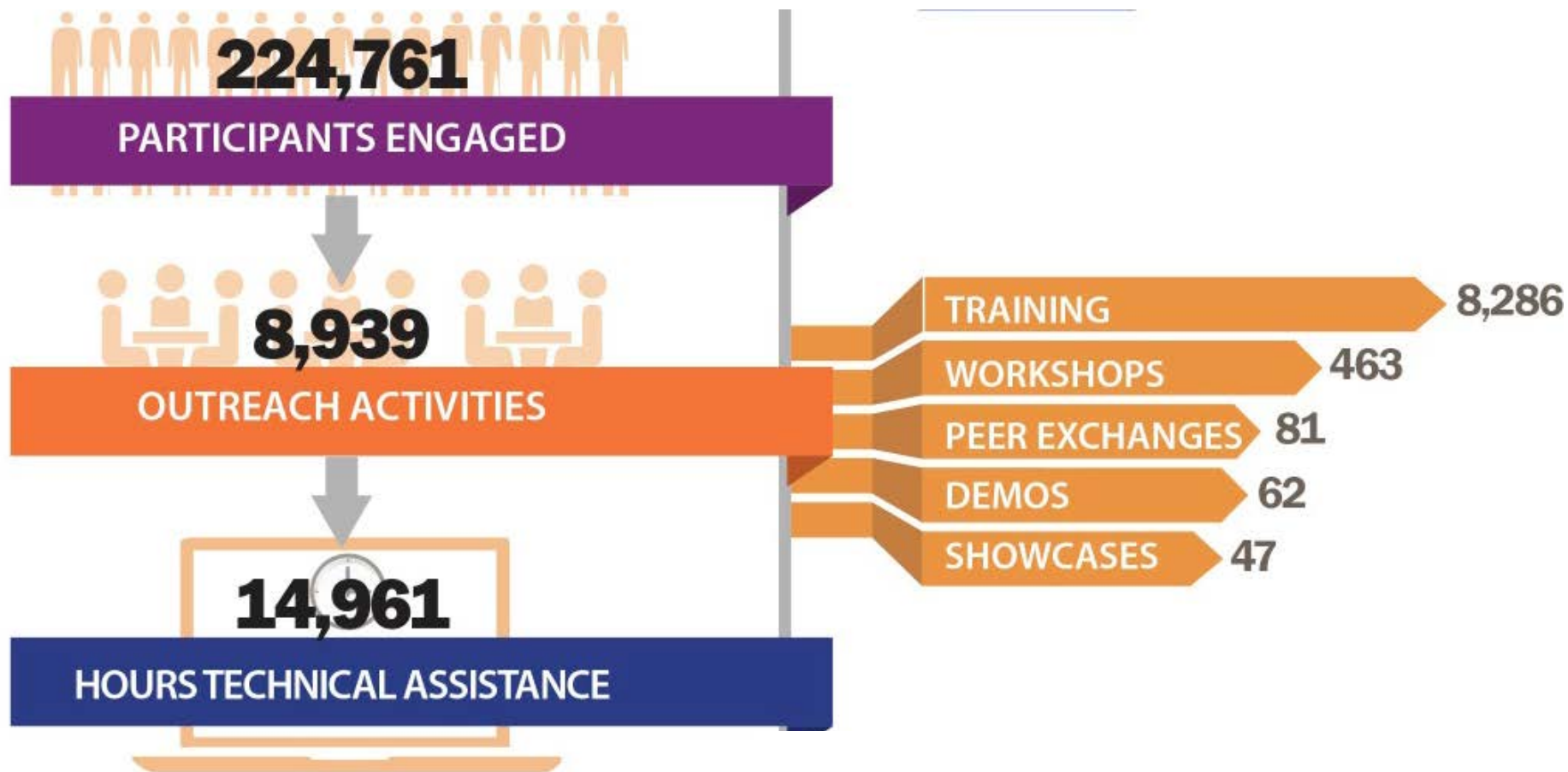
SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program

- Designed to help State DOTs, MPOs, local agencies, and other interested organizations deploy SHRP2 Solutions.

Proof of Concept Pilot	Lead Adopter Incentive	User Incentive
To evaluate product readiness.	To help offset costs associated with product implementation and risk mitigation.	To support implementation activities, such as conducting internal assessments, changing processes, and organizing peer exchanges.

SHRP2 Implementation: INNOVATE.IMPLEMENT.IMPROVE.

SHRP2 Implementation: INNOVATE.IMPLEMENT.IMPROVE.

Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies (R16)

Challenge

- Railroad-DOT interaction requires a thorough review of the safety, engineering, and the operational impacts of a roadway project during construction – since it will have lasting effects on the railroad for decades thereafter. Rapid construction goals require a new approach that eases the project agreement process for both industries.

Solution

- Recommended practices, model agreements, and training materials to help resolve potential conflicts.

Available Solutions

- **Best practices and streamlined processes**
  - Facilitates beneficial relationships between railroads and public transportation agencies
    - Institutional arrangements
    - Innovative partnering techniques
    - Approaches to ensure collaboration
- **Standardized (Master) agreements**
- **Partnering Processes**

Streamlined Processes and Agreements

Best Practices

- **Streamlined internal and external coordination**
- Single point of first contact and coordination
- Dedicated railroad project managers
- Formal agreed upon points of concurrence
- Formal project management
- **Meetings**

Processes

- Process manual
- Standardized crossing improvement contract process
- **Streamlined flagging process**
- Expediting right-of-way access
- **Streamlining agreement processing**
- Escalation process to expedite issues
- **Partnering processes**
- Electronic workflow agreement process

Agreements

- Standardized (Master) agreements
- Partnering Memorandum of Understanding

Benefits of Using Railroad-DOT Mitigation Strategies

- Expedited project delivery
- Better management of limited resources
- Improve communication, cooperation, collaboration
- Streamlined processes
- Transparency
- Improved quality & safety
- Win-win solution
- Less risk!

Implementation Assistance Program States

Round 2	Round 5	Round 7
Arkansas	Delaware	Oregon
Colorado	District of Columbia	Virginia
Idaho	Florida	
Pennsylvania	Kentucky	
South Dakota	Utah	
Texas	New York	
California	North Carolina	

More information on these activities at:

http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDOTMitigationStrategies.aspx

Success Stories to Date

- **Washington State DOT**

  - Streamlined Work Flow with clearly defined roles and responsibilities dramatically reduced the need for escalation of Issues – from 15% to less than 1% of projects

- **Florida DOT**

  - Flagging Agreement saved $200K

- **Texas DOT**

  - Reduced railroad agreement processing from 16+ weeks to as little as 4-6 weeks when using standard format agreements.

  - Simple maintenance agreements - 2/3 of State projects - reduced from 2-3 month turnaround to less than 1 month.

EDC3 Examples

- **Alabama DOT** created a new Railroad Certification and Agreement Process; and trained several County Engineers on how to evaluate railroad crossings, leading to faster and more efficient delivery of projects especially LPA projects

- The **Minnesota DOT** has selected the Red Wing Project to demonstrate having the contractor include flagging costs as part of their contract; MnDOT District 6 and Canadian Pacific are developing a district-wide streamlined railroad agreement process that can be used statewide and with other railroads in Minnesota.

- **Indiana DOT** continues to add to its growing library of "master/template" documents and is working to format all of these new documents for ease of use internally at INDOT.

Break

15-Minute Break

Session 2

Partnering, Leadership, and Communications: Advancing Railroad-DOT Relationships

- **Randy Blankenhorn**, Transportation Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation

- **Jo Strang**, Vice President, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association

- **John Dinning**, Manager of Public Works, Canadian National

- **Amtrak**, Representative

- Moderator, Frank Frey, General Engineer for HSR, Federal Railroad Administration

Questions

BREAK

Lunch on You Own - Start Back at 1:15

Railroad/DOT 101: Identifying the Intersections in their Processes

Breakout Facilitators:

- Group 1 – Pam Hutton
- Group 2 – Kate Kurgan
- Group 3 – Dave Solow
- Group 4 – Hal Lindsey
- Group 5 – Jessica Rich

Roundtable Discussion Items

Report Out

BREAK

15 Minute Break

Structuring Agreements to Meet State-Specific Requirements

- **Lisa Stern**, Railroad Engineering & Safety Supervisor, Wisconsin DOT
- **Steve Meyer**, Capital Projects Director, Utah Transit Authority
- **Scott Hoftiezer**, Railroad Program Manager, Colorado Department of Transportation
- **John Dinning**, Manager of Public Works, Canadian National
- Moderator, David Solow, SME, CH2M

Day One Wrap Up

- Thoughts from participants
  - Items of particular interest?
  - Items to stress tomorrow?
  - Any follow up items?
- Dinner at Club Lago 331 W. Superior Ave.
  - meet in lobby at 5:45

Welcome and Day One Recap

- Good morning!
- Thoughts from yesterday's workshop?
- Recap of Day 1
- Overview of Agenda for Today

Section 130 Perspectives Part 1

- **Kelly Morton**, FHWA Transportation Specialist, Office of Safety

Questions

BREAK

30 Minute Break

Section 130 Perspectives – Part 2

- **Scott Hoftiezer**, Railroad Program Manager, Colorado Department of Transportation

- **Jim Weatherhead**, Rail Program Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Transportation

- **Moderator: Kamie Young**, Manager of Public Projects, BNSF

Questions

Session 7

Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE)

- **Samuel Tuck**, Bureau Chief Freight Rail Management, Illinois Department of Transportation

- **Jeffrey Sriver**, Director of Transportation Planning and Programming, Chicago Department of Transportation

- **Elliot Ramos**, Rail Project Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation

Questions

BREAK

15 Minute Break

The Effect of Implementing Design-Build and other Innovative Contracting Methods on Existing Agreements and Processes

- **Dan Leonard**, Grade Crossing Engineer, PennDOT

- **Troy Creasy**, Project Manager II, CSX

- Moderator: Mike Loher, SME, CH2M

Questions

Session 9

How the COI Can Benefit You

- **Lisa Stern**, Railroad Engineering & Safety Supervisor, Wisconsin DOT

- **Troy Creasy**, Project Manager II, CSX

- Moderator, Pam Hutton, SHRP2 Implementation Manager, AASHTO

What is the Community of Interest?

- **What is it?**
  - Neutral platform to discuss efforts to improve coordination and communications between transportation agencies and their respective railroads
  - Opportunity for face-to-face peer exchanges and collaboration
  - Opportunity to share best practices, lessons learned, challenges, new processes, agreements, and other information

- **Who is represented?**
  - State DOTs
  - Class 1 Railroads
  - Short Lines
  - Transportation Associations
  - FHWA/AASHTO/FRA

How often will COI meet?
- Quarterly meetings
  - ✓ Q1 in person
  - ✓ Q2, Q3 and Q4 via Webinar

Role of COI Members

- Serve as advocates and subject matter experts
- Advocate for best practices and get buy-in from railroads and other transportation agencies
- Advice on outreach for national adoption
- Identify and share innovations with peers
- Test innovative practices and agreements

COI Activities

- Project updates on COI member implementation efforts
- Executive leadership panel on importance of partnership and communications in advancing railroad-DOT relationships
- Roundtable discussions of processes and existing/desired agreements
- FRA/FHWA updates on Section 130 program, FAST Act state action plans
- Lessons learned from working on alternative project delivery methods
- Upcoming webinar topic discussions

COI Activities to Date

- Section 130 Case Study (in your folders) with at least one more Case Study to come.

- Strategies Document (in your folders) reviewed by COI.

- Introductory and two subject matter webinars (recorded and posted on web site). Next Webinar in December related to Flagging Best Practices. 2018 Webinars in Q2, Q3 and Q4.

- Innovation Library

- First of two Peer Exchanges in Chicago in October of 2017; second Peer Exchange will be in Q3 of 2018, feedback requested for location

Innovation Library – R16 Webpage

- A library of agreements and other documents developed by state DOTs and rail agencies.
- State and Railroad Agreements, Manuals, and Processes (R16)
  - Organized by State/Railroad
  - Organized by Topic

http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_InnovationLibrary.aspx

R16 Innovation Library-State

Innovation Library - Agreements, Manuals, and Processes Organized by State and Railroad (R16)

A library of agreements and other documents developed by state DOTs and rail agencies.

To view these documents sorted by TOPIC, click here.

Connecticut Department of Transportation

- ConnDOT Amtrak Support Service Master Agreement

Delaware Department of Transportation

- Delaware DOT Railroad Coordination Workshop Slides
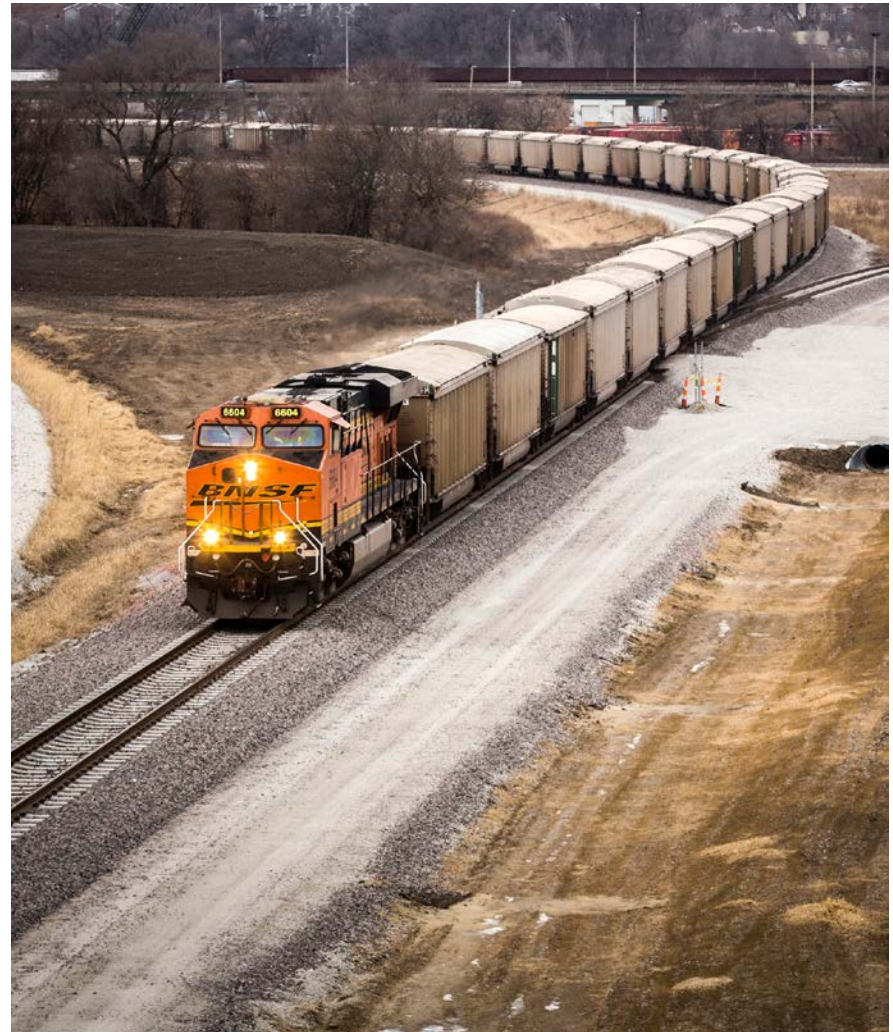
Georgia Department of Transportation

- Georgia DOT CSX Railroad Special Provisions
- Georgia DOT CSX Right of Entry Acquisition Agreement Form
- Georgia DOT CSX Special Provision CSX Higher Atlanta Division
- Georgia DOT Guidance on Right of Way Acquisition
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Railroad Master Agreement
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Right of Way Agreement Form
- Georgia DOT Norfolk Southern Special Provisions
- Georgia DOT Vertical Clearance of Bridges over Railroad Tracks
- Georgia DOT Railroad Plan Submittal Checklist

Illinois Department of Transportation

- Illinois DOT Flagger Agreement

What's Next for R16

- Next COI meeting will be Virtual (Webinar) in December - Best Practices related to Flagging
- In-person meeting of the COI in Q1 2018
- Virtual COI meetings (Webinars) in Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2018
- Q3 2018 Peer Exchange
- Additional case studies

For More Information

Product Leads:

Kate Kurgan
AASHTO Co-Product Lead
kkurgan@aashto.org

Pam Hutton
AASHTO Co-Product Lead
phutton@aashto.org

Jessica Rich
FHWA
jessica.rich@dot.gov

Joe Taylor
FHWA Product Lead
joseph.taylor@dot.gov

Additional Resources:

GoSHRP2 Website:	fhwa.dot.gov/GoSHRP2
AASHTO SHRP2 Website:	http://shrp2.transportation.org
R16 Product Page	http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDOTMitigationStrategies.aspx

Wrap Up and Next Steps

- Travel Reimbursement Reminders
- Evaluation and Photo Permission Forms
- Thank You for Participating

Contacts and Resources

- **Contacts:**
  - Ken Jacoby, FHWA, Ken.Jacoby@dot.gov
  - Pam Hutton, AASHTO, phutton@aashto.org
  - Kate Kurgan, AASHTO, kkurgan@aashto.org
  - Mike Loehr, CH2M SME, Michael.Loehr@ch2m.com
  - Dave Solow, CH2M SME, David.Solow@ch2m.com
  - Susannah Kerr-Adler, CH2M SME, Susannah.KerrAdler@ch2m.com
  - Hal Lindsey, CH2M Project Manager, Hal.LIndsey@ch2m.com

- **Resources**
  - **AASHTO SHRP2 R16 Webpages:**

    http://shrp2.transportation.org/Pages/R16_RailroadDOTMitigationStrategies.aspx

    FHWA GoSHRP2 R16 Webpage:
  - https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/goshrp2/Solutions/Renewal/R16/RailroadDOT_Mitigation_Strategies

Thank you!