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Railroad Coordination

SHRP2 R16 Community of Interest Meeting



**RAILROADS
& HARBORS**

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Wisconsin Railroads & Harbors 2017



| | | |
|--|-------|--------------------------------|
| | BNSF | Burlington Northern-Santa Fe |
| | CN | Canadian National ¹ |
| | CPRS | Canadian Pacific |
| | ELS | Escanaba & Lake Superior |
| | METWR | East Troy Railroad Co. |
| | WN | Wisconsin Northern |
| | TR | Tomahawk Railway |
| | UP | Union Pacific |
| | WGN | Wisconsin Great Northern |
| | WSOR | Wisconsin & Southern Railroad |

Publicly-owned lines

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| | Port or harbor |
| | Amtrak Station |
| | Rails-to-Trails |
| | Out of service |
| | RTC-owned ² |
| | State-owned |



NOTES:

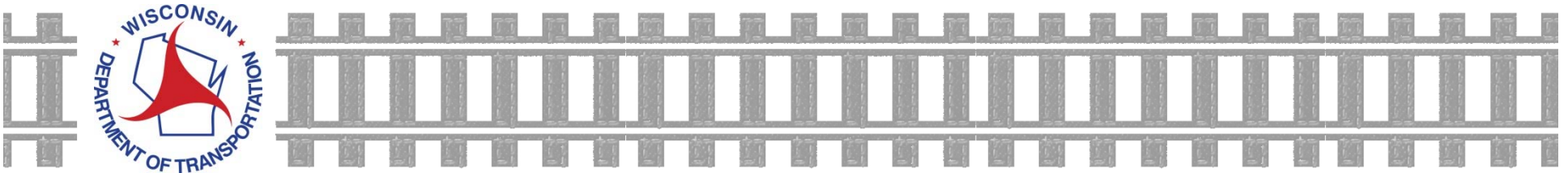
- ¹ Canadian National is the parent company of Wisconsin Central Limited and the Sault St. Marie Railroad.
- ² Rail Transit Commission (RTC) owned
- Switching and terminal operations (Madison Terminal Railway, LLC, Rail & Transload, Inc. in Watertown, and the Port of Milwaukee) are not shown.
- Map displays rail lines and corridors owned by operating freight railroads and government agencies.
- Industrial leads, utility company spurs, museum tracks are not shown.
- Line color represents principal operator, may not be owner.

What WisDOT do to improve Railroad Coordination?



Possible Solutions

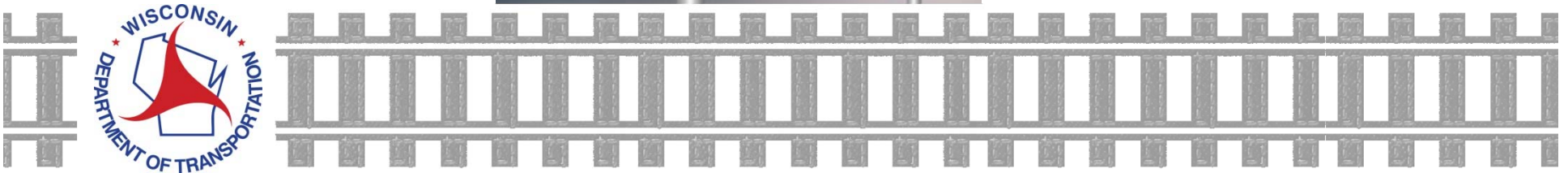
10  ideas



1. RR Coordination Training

Provide training to designers:

- get an early start
- how to coordinate projects with RRCs.



2. Partnership with Railroad

Establish stronger partnerships at various levels within DOT with all of the railroad companies.

Define lines of communication for various roles and issues. Agree to a formal escalation process.

Clearly define stakeholder goals and needs.

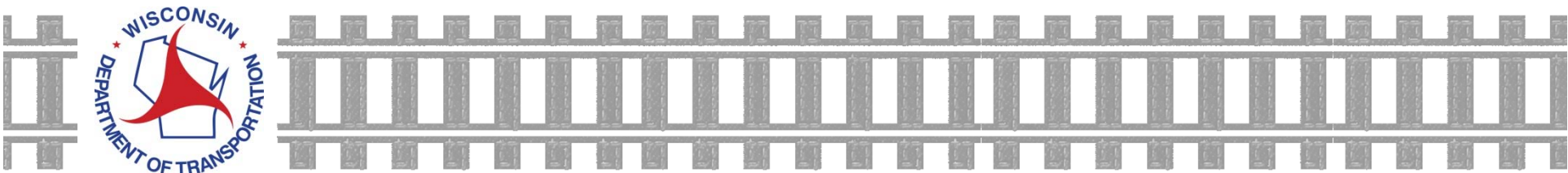
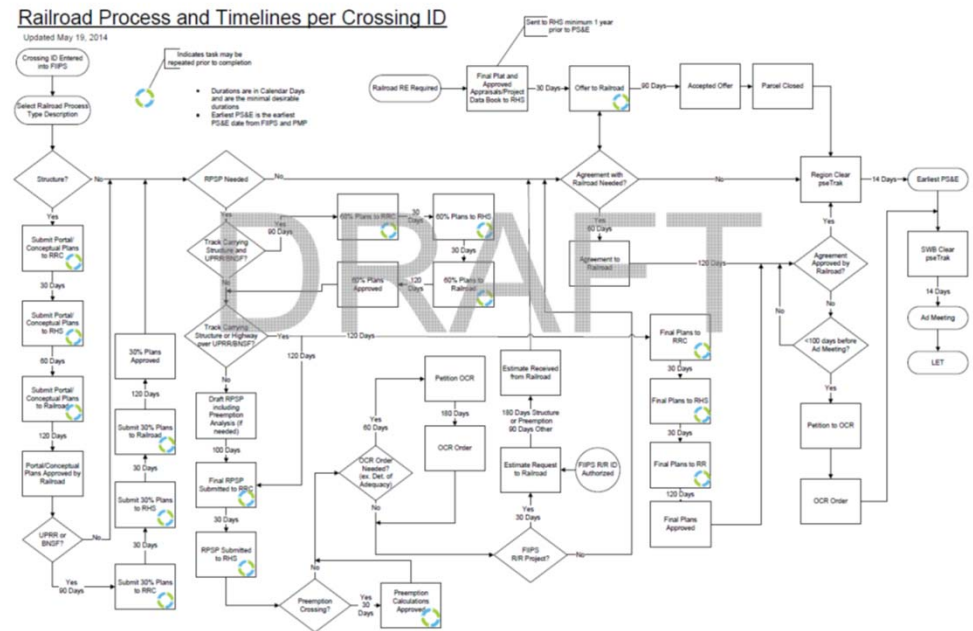


3. Railroad Project Tracking System

Map out RR coordination process and analyze and improve process.

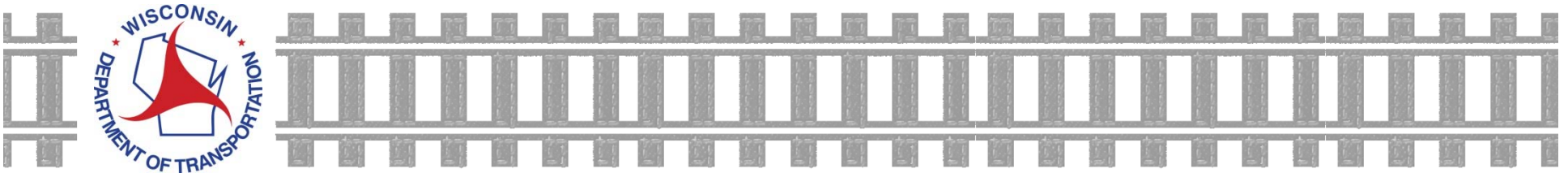
Create a tool defining Timeframe required for RR coordination and scoping of projects.

Develop IT solution for tracking and reporting.



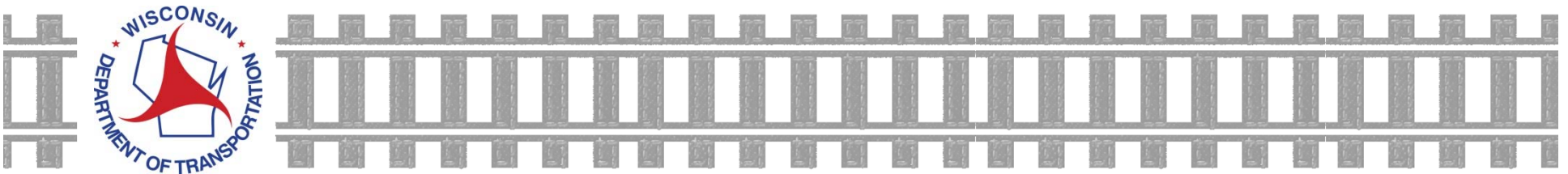
TRAINS

Tracking
Railroad
Activity
INformation
System



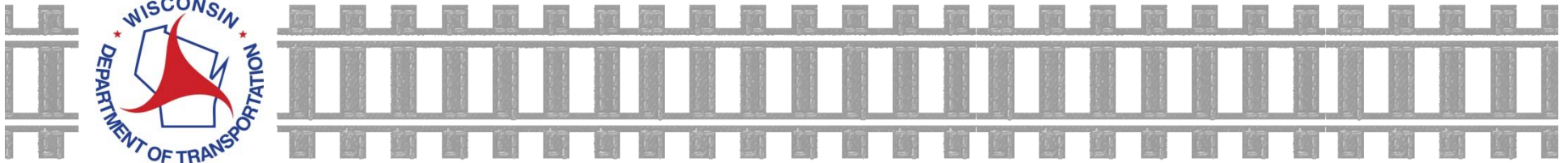
5. Risk Assessment

- Work with Regional Rail Coordinators (RRC) to inventory projects with RR involvement and evaluate level of risk.
- RHS monitors medium and high risk projects.
- Provide updates/reports to Division management in a monthly status report and as needed.



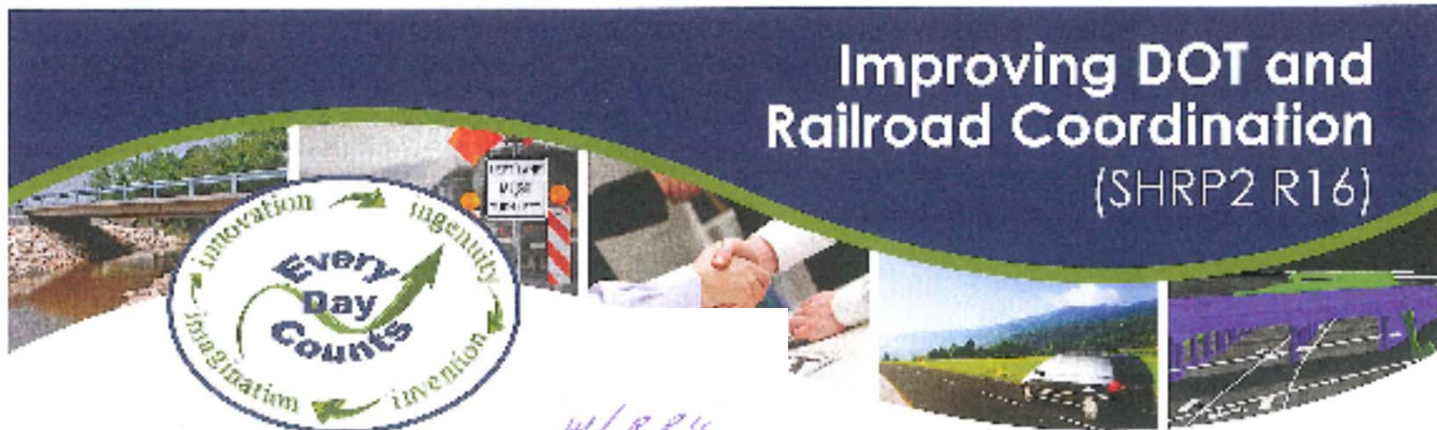
6. Notifications

Provide list of upcoming projects to railroads a year in advance so that they can plan for flagger and other staffing resources.



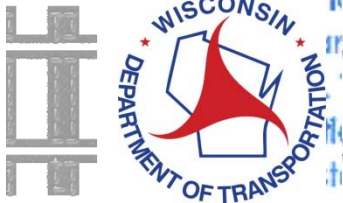
7. Learn From Other States

Write and enact a work plan for EDC-3 initiative-
“Improving DOT and Railroad Coordination” – to
acquire best practices, model agreements, and
lessons learned from other states.



W/RRs

The increasing number of projects and interchanges between railroads and



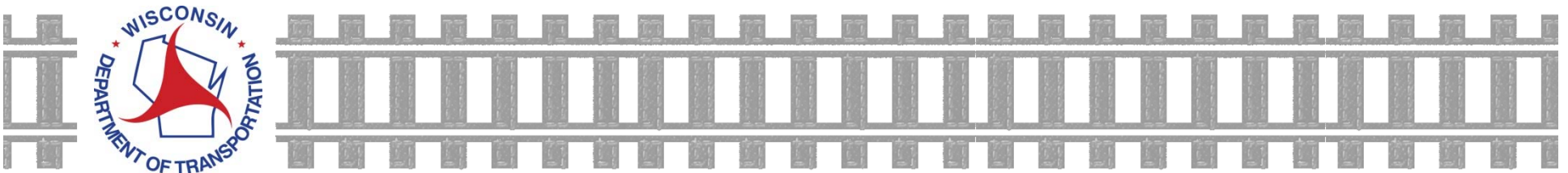
Each year, transportation agencies construct hundreds of highway projects that cross over, under

Many state DOTs and local public agencies, the majority of the Class I railroads, several regional

8. Better Agreements

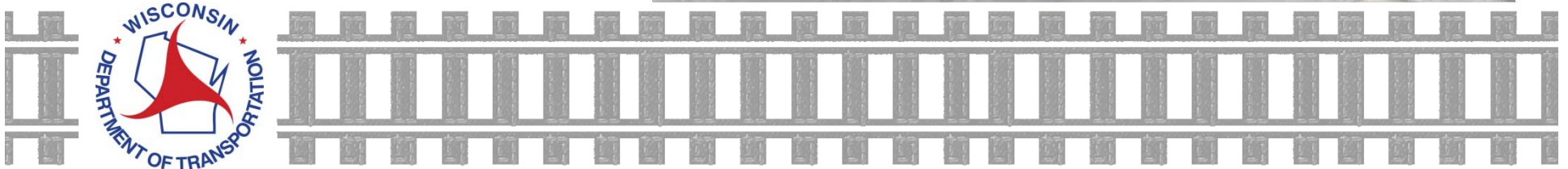
Develop better agreements with railroads for construction and maintenance that incorporate more language for dispute resolution and consequences for nonperformance.

Currently working out language for contractor safety requirements and to address real estate concerns.



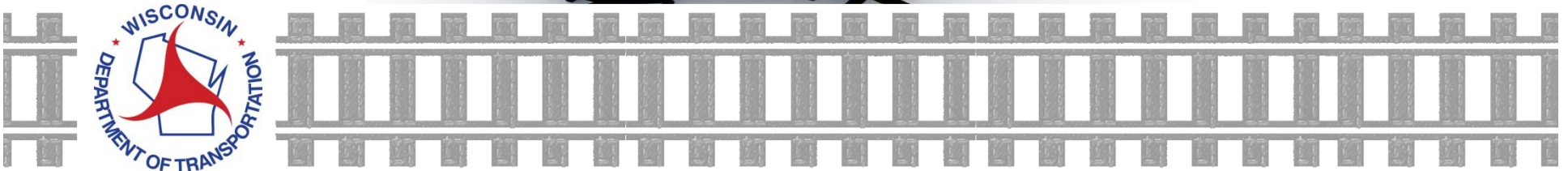
9. Dedicated Flagger (on hold)

Negotiate with the railroads that have flagger resource issues to provide a dedicated flagger for WisDOT projects. Provide funding if required.



10. RRC Collaboration

Regularly schedule meetings among the Region Railroad Coordinators and the RHS Engineering Unit.



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