



Wednesday, March 24	Ready to Build
1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opening Session</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Welcome and Opening Address (Sponsored by WTS NC Triangle Chapter)</p> <p>Welcome and address of national, state, and local officials on important next steps and initiatives to implement an enhanced rail system to meet the rapidly rising demands of the growing population and industry.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <i>Jenny Fleming – Chair- Southeast Rail Forum Steering Committee</i>  <i>Julie White –Deputy Secretary – NCDOT</i>  <i>Paul Nissenbaum- FRA (invited)</i></p>
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>General Session</u></p> <p>Major Developments in Rail <b>(Session Sponsorship Available)</b></p> <p>Highlights of the Transforming Rail in Virginia initiative to expand reliability and service on Virginia’s rail lines, creating a pathway to separate passenger and freight operations along the Richmond to Washington, D.C. corridor, along with other developments. This will be presented along with an update on the S-Line acquisition in NC.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <i>Michael McLaughlin –Chief of Rail – VA DRPT</i>  <i>Jason Orthner – Director – NCDOT Rail Division</i></p>
3:00 p.m. To 3:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Train Station - Break</u></p> <p>Conductor Tours - Networking Yard - Exhibitor Cars – All Aboard Challenge – Rail Segment Sessions</p>
3:30 p.m. To 4:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>General Session</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Rail, Ports and Economic Development (Sponsored by STV)</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dana Magliola</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <i>TBD - Port Everglades, FL</i>  <i>TBD - VA Port Authority</i>  <i>Tolga Cankutaran – NC Port Authority</i>  <i>Ryan McDonald – GA Port Authority</i>  <i>Kellan Riley – CCX</i>  <i>Pat McCrory – SC Ports</i></p>

Wednesday,  
March 24

## Ready to Build

### Roundhouse Reception (Sponsored By: Gannett Fleming)

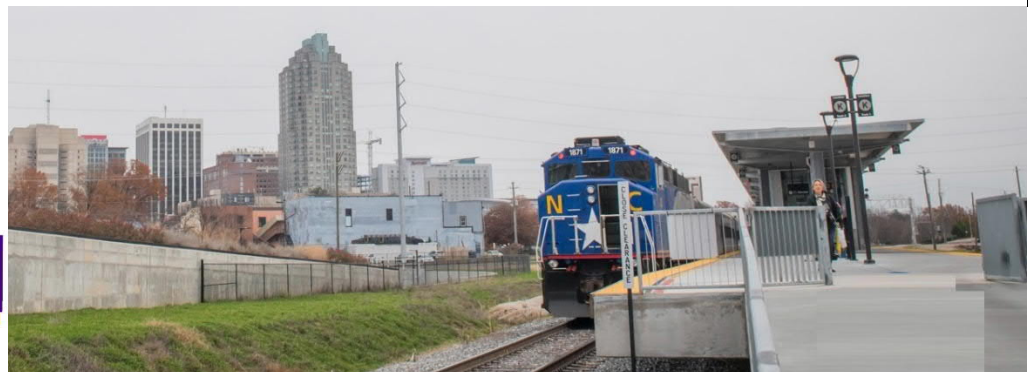


*Open to all attendees*

4:30 p.m.  
to  
6:00 p.m.

Select one of three free virtual experience to join with other SRF attendees for some fun interaction, networking and prizes:

- Escape Route - *(Hosted by Puzzle Break)* - Help your team find hidden clues and solve challenging puzzles virtually. No special software or hardware requirements to join in on the fun. Puzzle Break's staff give an introduction outlining the story, rules, and strategy. Everyone is organized into individual teams of players. Each team encounters a wide variety of digital clues, puzzles, and challenges that they must work together to solve before time runs out! Moderators curate each team's adventure throughout and provide a full debrief to all participants who are reunited to discuss their experience and learnings. The end-to-end experience is approximately 90 minutes. Prizes for the winners!
- Trivia Track - *(Hosted by Triangle Game Night)* - All aboard! Test your knowledge on everything railroad. See if you're on the right track in this railroad-themed trivia. Questions include history, terminology, procedures, mechanics, and so much more. Help your team mates out so you don't derail. Winners get bragging rights and prizes!
- Gin-Line - *(Hosted by Airbnb)* - Are you ready to turn some simple ingredients into some truly tasty drinks to enjoy at home with GINspiration History & Cocktails? Since everyone has different ingredients you can expect something different each time! This is the most unique, interactive gin tasting you'll ever go on, where you'll make (and drink) some great cocktails and learn the tipsy history of gin. This experience will be on a live video performance call. Plus stay for random drawing for prizes! (Limited to first 100 people).



Thursday,  
March 25

## Ready to Build

### SRF Rail Segment Sessions

View SRF Rail Segment Sessions anytime on your own pace and schedule. All sessions are pre-recorded so there will be no Q&A. All forum attendees will have access to SRF features which will include access to presenter through director connects, chats, social media, and other options if you wish to ask them questions. Session recordings will be made available after the conference until the end of the year with SRF registration.

- "Alternative Technology – Out of the Shadows"  
*Presented by: Bryan Juncosa – JMT*
- "Improving the Customer's Experience: Virginia's Station Needs Assessment for State of Good Repair"  
*Presented by: Nicolas Ruiz – Virginia DRPT*
- "Epidemic of Railroad Pedestrian Deaths & Absence of Countermeasures."  
*Presented by: Roger Smock – NCDOT Be Rail Safe Program & Isaac "Ike" Avery – Highway Safety Czar with the Conf. of District Attorneys*
- FRA Safety Initiatives  
*Presented By: Federal Railroad Administration (Speaker TBD)*
- "Long Bridge: Improving Mobility and Connectivity along Critical Rail Connection"  
*Presented by: David Wilcock and Mark Colgan – VHB*
- "Dedicated Funding for Expansion of Passenger Rail Service – A Virginia Success Story"  
*Presented by: Jeremy Latimer – Virginia DRPT*
- Economic Benefits of Rail in the Southeast  
*Presented by Emily S. (Speaker TBD)*
- Federal Railroad Administration's Discretionary Grant Programs  
*Presented by: Federal Railroad Administration (Speaker TBD)*
- "Commuter Rail" - Panel Discussion on commuter rail investments across the southeast including:
  - *Greater Triangle Commuter Rail*
  - *Florida's Brightline*
  - *Rich Dalton, Virginia Railway Express*
  - *Texas Commuter Rail (invited)*
- "Transforming Rail in Virginia" (Presented 9-10-2020)  
*Moderator: Jenny Fleming – VHB*  
*Presented by: Jennifer Mitchell – Virginia DRPT*
- "Southeast Corridor – Connecting Communities, Enhancing Economies" (Presented 11-19-2020)  
*Moderator: Eddie McFalls - Pinecone*  
*Presented by: Julie White and Jason Orthner – NCDOT*

Active on  
March 25 at  
8:00 a.m.

Thursday, March 25	Ready to Build
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Train Station - Break</u></p> <p>Conductor Tours - Networking Yard - Exhibitor Cars – All Aboard Challenge – Rail Segment Sessions</p>
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>General Session</u></p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>Rail Plan Updates (Sponsored by Pinecone)</p> <p>During this session the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) will provide an update on the Southeast Regional Rail Planning Study. In addition, each state will share ongoing rail initiatives and opportunities. Challenges and successes will be highlighted.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <i>Jessie Fernandez-Gatti - Federal Railroad Administration</i>  <i>Meg Pirkle – Chief Engineering - GDOT</i>  <i>Kaycee Mertz – Intermodal Planning and Environmental Manager – GDOT</i>  <i>Doug Frate – Director of Intermodal and Freight Programs – SCDOT</i>  <i>Beth Smyre – Dewberry</i>  <i>Eddie McFalls – NCDOT Rail Division</i></p>
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Train Station - Break</u></p> <p>Conductor Tours - Networking Yard - Exhibitor Cars – All Aboard Challenge – Rail Segment Sessions</p>
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>General Session</u></p> <p>Gateway to Gateway <b>(Session Sponsorship Available)</b></p> <p>Learn about two different but similar rail stations the Charlotte Gateway Station and the Moynihan Station in New York. The panel will discuss the challenges faced by these complex projects, creating connections to platforms and see parts of the projects that go unnoticed by most.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Randy Brown – Federal Railroad Administration</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <i>Craig Newton – NCDOT Rail Division</i>  <i>TBD - City of Charlotte</i>  <i>TBD – Empire Development Commission</i></p>

Thursday, March 25	<b>Ready to Build</b>
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General Session

**Kimley»Horn**

4:00 p.m.  
to  
5:15 p.m.

Raleigh’s Warehouse District – Bust to Unique Revitalization (Sponsored By: Kimley-Horn)

Prior to the development of the Raleigh Union Station (RUS) the Raleigh Warehouse District was a collection of derelict warehouses with only a small collection of restaurants and businesses. RUS utilized a very unique piece of property in the heart of Raleigh that would have been very difficult to support any other type of building and created a beautiful Amtrak passenger station along with opportunities for mixed use tenant spaces. This project was an immediate catalyst for additional private sector growth as well as the jumping off point for several additional public sector projects. The presentation will culminate with a look at the West Street Extension (WSE) alternatives for crossing with wide expanse of tracks adjacent to RUS. Most interestingly, the team will present a very unique construction alternative utilizing a jacked box tunnel. This alternative was included within a recent feasibility report to study the potential to significantly reduce the length of time railroads are exposed to construction as well as reduce time contractors must work within the active rail corridor. This is a construction technique unique to the southern states.

*Moderator: Grady McCollum, City of Raleigh*

*Speakers:*  
*Craig Newton – NCDOT Rail Division*  
*Betty White – Kimley Horn*  
*Jeb Pittsinger - Mott MacDonald*

SRF 2021 Sponsors:



Friday,  
March 26

## Ready to Build

### General Session

8:30 a.m.  
to  
9:30 a.m.

The Southern Rail Commission – Reconnecting the Gulf Coast by Rail (Session Sponsorship)

The Southern Rail Commission (SRC) was authorized in 1982 by the 97<sup>th</sup> Congress and subsequently approved by the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama state legislatures. From its formation in 1983, the SRC has played an essential role in advocating for passenger rail services and partnering with Amtrak, including the extension of the Sunset Limited service from California to Florida via New Orleans — creating the first truly transcontinental rail line in American history. SRC led efforts in obtaining Congressional designation for the Gulf Coastline as part of the FRA High Speed Rail Network, included in the TEA-21 reauthorization, and continues secure competitive grant opportunities for funding to develop plans and deliver projects and operations to restore passenger service along the Gulf Coast

*Moderator: Paul Worley, CPM, Rail and Transit Practice Leader, Mott MacDonald*

*Speakers:*

*John Robert Smith – Chair, Transportation for America*

*John Spain, Executive Vice President, Baton Rouge Area Foundation*

*Stephen McNair, PhD, Owner, McNair Historic Preservation, Inc.*

9:30 a.m.  
to  
10:00 a.m.

### Train Station - Break

Conductor Tours - Networking Yard - Exhibitor Cars – All Aboard Challenge – Rail Segment Sessions

### General Session



Southeast Corridor Commission—Establishing a Regional Vision for Rail

10:00 a.m.  
to  
11:00 a.m.

The Southeast Corridor (SEC) Commission was established in 2019 to bring Washington, DC, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida together to develop and implement a common vision for high-performance rail. The Commission is working to advance rail throughout the corridor through policy, education, and collaboration to help drive the region's economy. This session will discuss the activities and future of the SEC Commission, followed by a panel discussion with the Commission's Executive Committee. Ongoing Commission efforts include studying the economic benefits of rail, developing the Southeast Regional Rail Plan, and considering long-term governance and funding options.

*Moderator: Marston Raue*

*Panelists:*

*Julie White, Chair, NCDOT Deputy Secretary of Multi-Modal Transportation*

*Jennifer Mitchell, Vice-Chair, VDRPT Director*

*Meg Pirkle, Secretary, GDOT Chief Engineer*

Friday, March 26		Ready to Build
11:00 p.m. to 11:15 a.m.	<u>Train Station - Break</u>	
Conductor Tours - Networking Yard - Exhibitor Cars – All Aboard Challenge – Rail Segment Session		
11:15 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<u>General Session</u>	
Reenergized by Rail (Session Sponsorship Available)		
<i>Come hear how investments in Rail have reenergized communities across the southeast and spurred growth and economic investments.</i>		
<p><i>Moderator:</i> Dana Magliola –NCDOT Rail Division (confirmed);</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Christopher Chung – Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (confirmed); Joe McAndrews – Greater Washington Partnership Terry Shook – Shook Kelley Jay Corbalis – JBG</p>		

\*The schedule is subject to change

**Potential Virtual Conductor Tours:**

*SRF is thrilled to be able to provide the opportunity for some FREE Virtual Tours to all our attendees. These will allow attendees to capture the conference experience in a safe environment, under ideal conditions, along with providing access through an online, self-paced, immersive platform. We hope you will enjoy these virtual tours on railroads from all across the Southeast!*