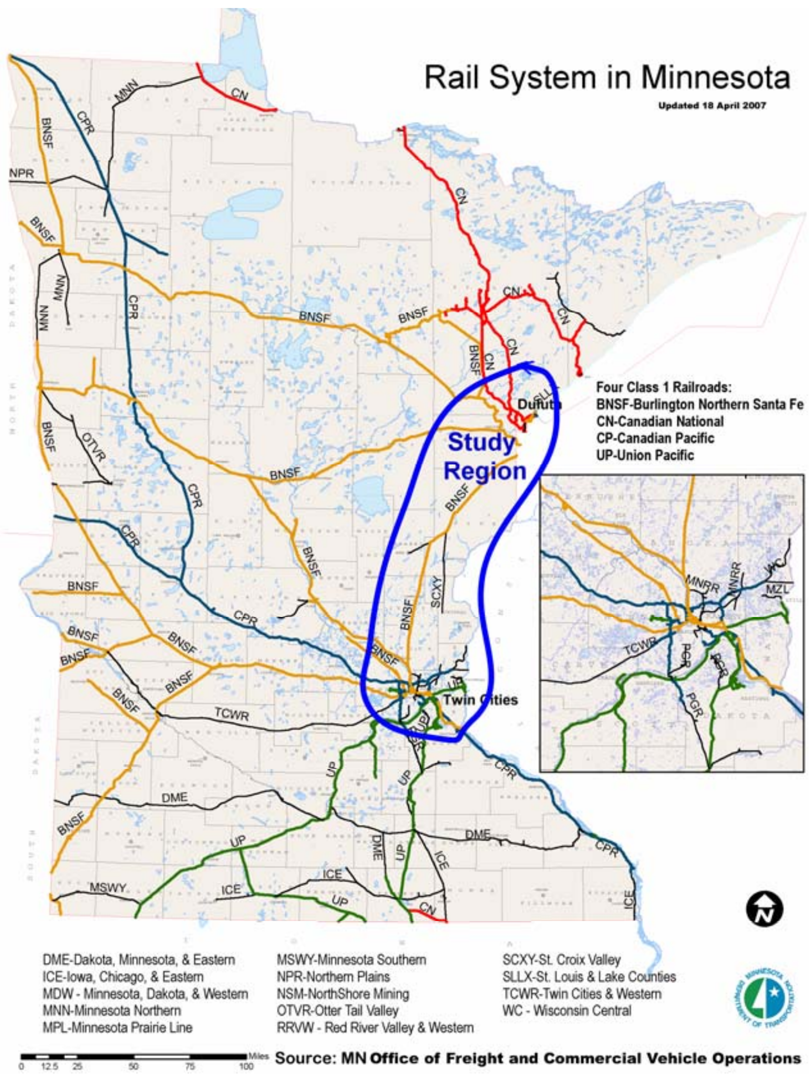
U.S. Department of Transportation • Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

Capital Assistance to States–Intercity Passenger Rail Service Program

Project Summary for the State of Minnesota

Project Twin Cities-Duluth High-Speed Rail Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement	***Location in Minnesota*** Minneapolis Duluth	***FRA Program Share*** **$1,100,000**	***Matching Funds from Other Sources*** $1,100,000	***Total Project Cost*** $2,200,000



Benefiting Intercity Passenger Train Route(s): Possible future service

Project Description: Minnesota DOT will prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for new passenger rail service from Minneapolis to Duluth. The PEIS will address proposed rail infrastructure improvements to support high-speed rail service up to 110 mph along the BNSF line, for a distance of about 150 miles. A feasibility study was completed for the proposed service that describes a range of rail improvements from conventional 79 mph service to 110 mph service requiring a full train control system. Capital improvements are estimated to range from $75 to $400 million (2006 dollars).

Project Benefits: Completion of the PEIS will advance implementation of Minneapolis to Duluth rail service. A PEIS will set the stage for implementation over time as the service is introduced and expanded. The proposed project would introduce intercity passenger rail service where there is none today. In 2009 a commuter rail service is planned to start along the Minneapolis end of the route and both services could terminate at the same station and connect with transit.

Source(s) of Matching Funds: State of Minnesota ($900,000) and local-private funds ($200,000)