

# 2017

# FRA Rail Program Delivery

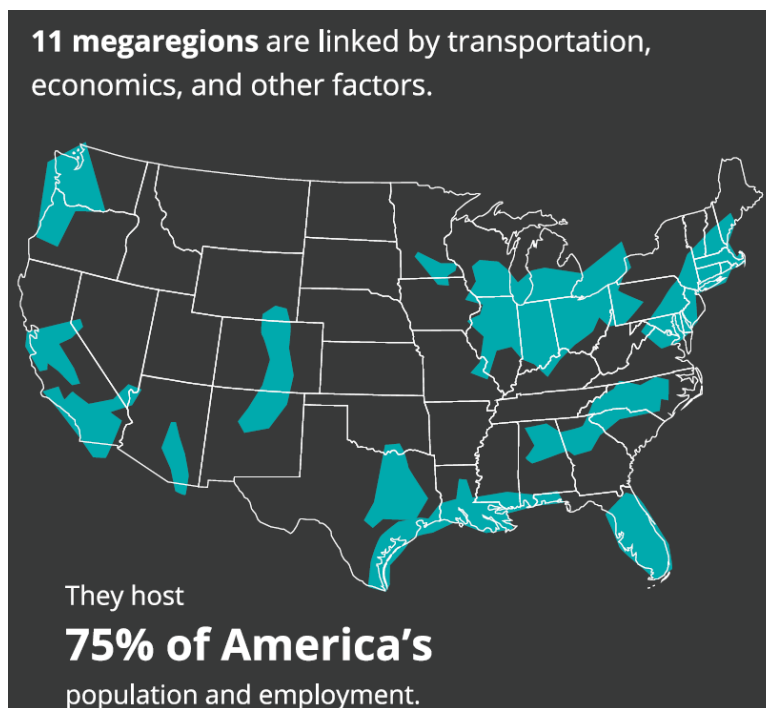
## Meeting

# Regional Rail Planning Studies Update

Jessie Fernandez-Gatti

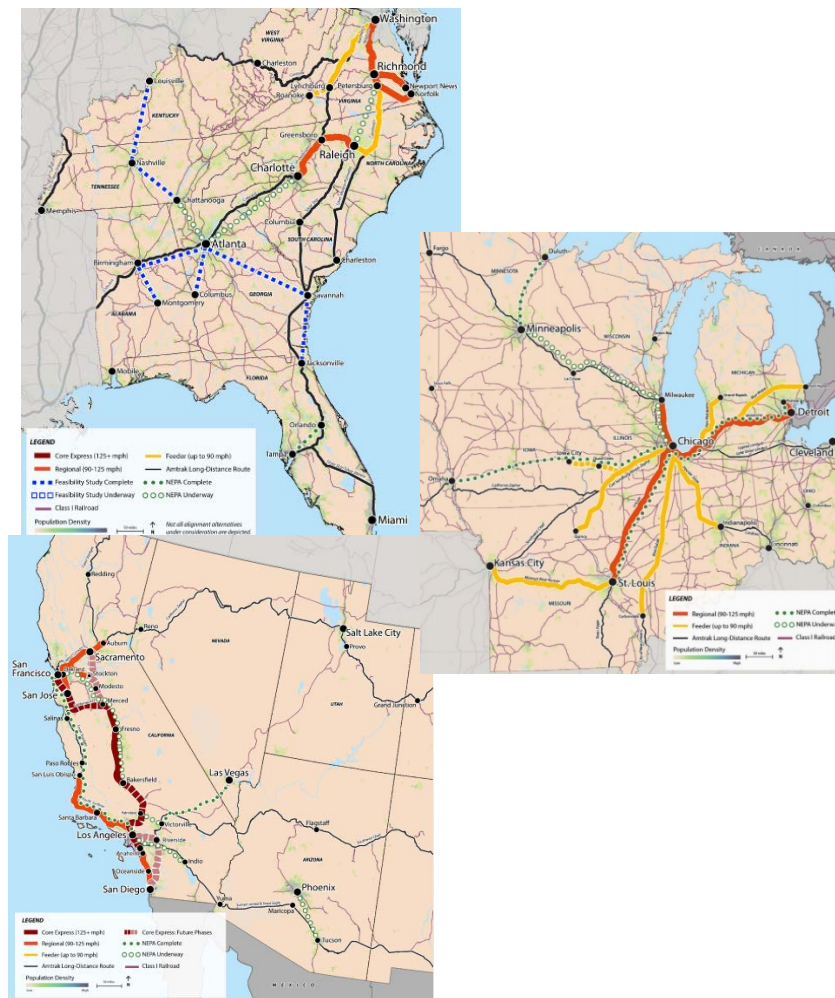
# Why Regional Rail Planning?

- ▶ **Better integrate** rail projects with other transportation modes
- ▶ **Promote greater involvement** by stakeholders and build consensus
- ▶ **Identify priorities** that support logical sequencing of developing networks and efficient use of limited funding
- ▶ **Yield more cost-effective** investments
- ▶ **Respond to PRIIA requirements**



# Regional Planning Goals

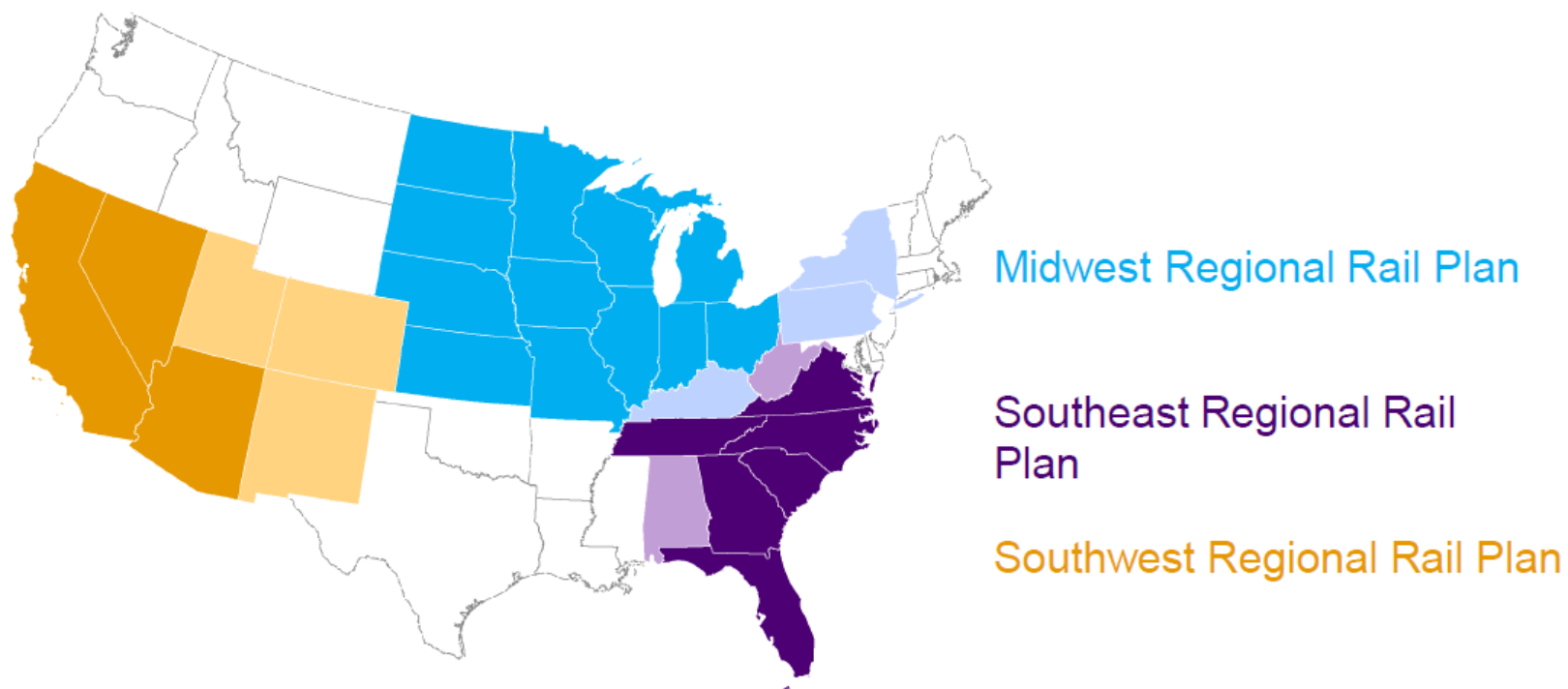
- ▶ **Produce a consensus 40 year vision** for intercity passenger rail transportation within a region
- ▶ **Identify** the potential multi-state network of **"candidate corridors"** for further evaluation, planning, and implementation
- ▶ **Identify institutional challenges and opportunities** that exist related to the development and delivery of the vision for the region



# What the Studies are NOT

- ▶ *DOES NOT* identify specific routes or alignments for corridors that make up the network
- ▶ *DOES NOT* identify specific station locations
- ▶ *DOES NOT* come to conclusions regarding capacity or operating feasibility
- ▶ *DOES NOT* represent a commitment to implementing specific projects

# FRA Planning Efforts



# Study Status Update

- ▶ Completed last stakeholder workshop for Southeast on November 14<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh, NC
- ▶ Final Stakeholder Meeting for Midwest on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Chicago, IL
- ▶ Draft Plans Spring 2018



# Lessons Learned

- ▶ Stakeholders value opportunity for collaboration
- ▶ Demonstrate advantages of planning in network context
- ▶ Recognize reality of needing to develop corridors / network incrementally
- ▶ Maintain flexibility in long-term vision
- ▶ Benefit in continuing collaboration after study completion

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# Thank you!

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