

PRESS RELEASE

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This week marked an important milestone in the decades overdue effort to link the state capital to the largest center of population in Louisiana. The Baton Rouge to New Orleans rail project has languished under numerous gubernatorial administrations. After having been studied numerous times, we at the Louisiana Association of Railroad Passengers commend the Edwards Administration for signing an agreement alongside Amtrak and the Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad to implement passenger rail service linking Greater New Orleans to the Capital Region.

We look forward to advocating in concert with the incoming Landry Administration and Amtrak for this service to make efficient and effective use of available Federal infrastructure dollars to enhance the safety, speed, and reliability of this crucial rail link for its viability in the communities between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. We in our advocacy efforts have identified the railroad bridge transiting the Bonnet Carre Spillway, passing track to allow faster trains and greater throughput of train traffic, as well as important rail-highway grade separation programs in the vicinity of important commercial truck routes as the next projects of concern to enhance this rail link for the benefit of Louisiana citizens and businesses in the scope of this vital program.

We are delighted to partner with business and government officials in advocating for stronger economic and transportation ties via rail for the growth of our region and the connectivity of Louisiana citizens to the United States by passenger rail, a mode of travel that Louisiana needs.

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