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BRINGING PASSENGER RAIL TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Re-establishing passenger rail service between two of Michigan's most vibrant cities—Ann Arbor and Traverse City—will link the resource-rich tourist destinations in the northwest and the economic and population centers in the southeast. This investment will solidify Michigan as a leader in a new era of modern train travel while boosting economic development along the corridor.

The Michigan Land Use Institute believes that bringing passenger rail service back to northern Michigan is possible in less than a decade with a focused campaign of public engagement, technical analysis, and adequate support from a cross section of community, state, and federal agencies.

➡ OUR GOAL

MLUI will lead a campaign to establish regular passenger train service on the state-owned stretch of railroad tracks between Traverse City and Ann Arbor by 2025. This service will provide travelers with a new option for getting around the state and boost the economies of downtowns along the route.

➡ OUR STAFF

James Bruckbauer

Policy Specialist, promotes efforts to improve Traverse City's passenger rail, regional transit, and bike networks. He manages the Local Motion program, which helps companies encourage their employees to carpool, bus, bike, and walk to work.

Jim Lively

Program Director, coordinates strategic development for all MLUI programs. He's highly respected for building bridges among citizens, local governments, and the state; and bringing better community design to northwest lower Michigan.

→ 2015 PLANS

Program Launch:

MLUI will launch the A2TC initiative by releasing a four-page brochure that outlines the 10-year vision for passenger rail service in northern Michigan. It will describe the project, timeline, ways the public can get involved, and how this project will impact Michigan.

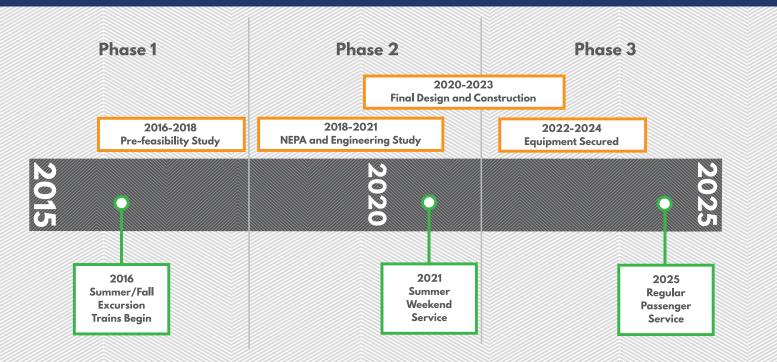
Demonstration Train:

MLUI, in partnership with MDOT, will plan a demonstration train ride from Ann Arbor to Traverse City in the summer of 2016 to better understand the track conditions, the safety improvements required, and the interaction between the tracks and the communities along the route.

Build Public Support:

MLUI will begin working with citizens and public officials to build local and legislative support for a possible 2016 passenger rail feasibility study.





MICHIGAN LAND USE INSTITUTE

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