

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ANDREW CARD
HIGH-SPEED CORRIDOR GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
OCTOBER 15, 1992

Thank you ... and let me acknowledge Pat Nowak (Mich DOT), Congressman Dingell and Mayor Guido [Guy Dough]. In addition to Chairman Dingell, I would also like to note that Congressman Fred Upton of the 4th district -- who could not be here today -- also played a major role in advancing this bipartisan effort we are announcing today.

This week marks the anniversary of the birth of Dwight Eisenhower -- who led the nation in the building of our federal interstate highway system. But it also marks another landmark in transportation -- the renewal of our commitment to developing high speed rail corridors throughout our nation.

When the President signed into law the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, he signaled his intention of renewing and improving our nation's surface transportation system.

Today we have made good on this promise as we are announcing the designation of a 647 mile high-speed rail corridor linking Chicago with Detroit, St. Louis and Milwaukee. And we are announcing a grant to Michigan of \$1.36 million per year, for the next five years, to help develop the 280 mile link connecting Detroit and Chicago -- which alone serves a population of over 11 million people. When completed, the entire multistate corridor will serve close to 17 million people.

With the creation of this high speed rail link, it is projected that by the year 2010, we will have 6 daily roundtrip trains running between Detroit and Chicago ... at 100 plus mph ... at a trip time of 4 hours ... carrying 2.2 million passengers.

We believe that high speed rail service will not only aid in relieving congestion in Michigan -- especially along I-94 -- but will save energy and improve air quality as well.

This corridor will further assist in the development of a national intermodal transportation system -- as this multistate high speed rail corridor will link up to other intercity rail passenger service, to airports, to city transit systems and to other modes of transportation.

In fact, I am pleased also to announce today a \$160,000 grant for research to develop a new intermodal terminal in Detroit at the "New Center" -- located on Woodward Avenue. This terminal will blend Amtrack, intercity bus, taxi, airport shuttle and other modes together in one centralized connecting hub.

Besides dramatically improving our rail service and increasing the efficiency of travel, this new high speed rail corridor will also result in the elimination of nearly a hundred hazardous highway-rail crossings: thereby saving dozens of lives in traffic accidents annually.

The development of this high speed rail corridor will also create jobs. The expenditures for laying track, signal and passenger car construction, and the development of new rail technologies, will boost Michigan's economy, employment rolls, and leadership worldwide in transportation development.

It's a "win-win" situation for Detroit , the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Missouri who all are a part of this high speed rail corridor.

###