

**Intercity Passenger Rail Conference on Thursday, 16 September, in Denver**  
*- Conference Will Address Opportunities & Challenges Facing Passenger Rail Development in Colorado -*

**DENVER, CO, September 1, 2010** – A major conference to discuss the issues related to intercity passenger rail development in Colorado will be held on Thursday, 16 September 2010, at The Cable Center, located at 2000 Buchtel Boulevard in Denver. The event is open to the public and press and will begin with registration/continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and will adjourn promptly at 1:30 p.m., following the luncheon.

Among the speakers and panelists participating in the conference will be: Gil Carmichael, ITI Board of Directors; Harry Dale, Rocky Mountain Rail Authority; Thomas L. Finkbiner, ITI Board of Directors; Kevin C. Coates, North American Maglev Transport Institute; John C. Bennett, Amtrak; Alexander G. Brown, Alex Brown Consulting; Wendy Wallach and Sandi Kohrs, Colorado Department of Transportation; and Brian Middleton, Regional Transportation District (RTD). Providing the luncheon keynote address will be Rod Diridon, Sr., Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute, San Jose State University.

Representing one of the co-sponsors of the conference, the Colorado Rail Passenger Association, Jim Souby said that “population growth and congestion are already overtaking Colorado and its major highways. Given our state’s great appeal and future growth, we can only expect more congestion and problems with our current transportation systems. Our economy depends on the mobility of people, goods, and ideas. Intercity passenger rail can provide an efficient way for people to move from place to place with minimal impact on the environment. This conference will explore passenger rail options aggressively.”

Patrick Sherry, National Center for Intermodal Transportation (NCIT) Director, said that “there is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm about passenger rail right now. Increased congestion, higher fuel costs, competition from other countries to manufacture products, and a crumbling infrastructure make the need to fully understand the issues and options even more imperative. If we want a world class transportation system, we will have to figure out how to build it, manage it, and pay for it. Our conference will address all of these issues and help the people of Denver and Colorado make informed decisions going into this year’s elections.”

The conference registration fee is \$35 and the registration deadline is close of business, Friday, 10 September. There will be a \$10 parking fee, payable onsite to the parking attendant. An alternative transportation mode is the RTD Light Rail, which stops across the street from The Cable Center. To view the full agenda and to register for the conference, go to: [http://www.ncit.msstate.edu/events/events\\_11.html](http://www.ncit.msstate.edu/events/events_11.html). For information, call 303.871.4702.

#### **About ITI**

The Intermodal Transportation Institute at the University of Denver offers an Executive Masters Program that awards a Master of Science in Intermodal Transportation Management from the University of Denver. This graduate degree program prepares transportation industry managers for the increasingly complex, global business environment where knowledge of finance, quantitative processes, supply chain, law, and public policy issues as well as freight, passenger, and intermodal transportation operational strategies are critical management tools for success. For more information on the ITI Executive Masters Program call: 303-871-4702 or visit: [www.du.edu/transportation](http://www.du.edu/transportation).

#### **About NCIT**

The National Center for Intermodal Transportation (NCIT) is a partnership between the University of Denver and Mississippi State University. NCIT builds upon the activities of the Intermodal Transportation Institute (ITI) at the University of Denver and the activities of the centers with transportation focuses at Mississippi State University. NCIT is a part of the USDOT University Transportation Centers Program and was reauthorized under SAFETEA-LU. More information is available by calling 303-871-7773 or by visiting: [www.ncit.misstate.edu](http://www.ncit.misstate.edu).

#### **EDITORIAL**

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