## The Southeast High Speed Rail Conference Update

Presented by:
Danny Plaugher
Executive Director



#### What is the Southeast High Speed Rail Association?

- It is a coalition of citizens, business and community leaders who educate and advocate for the expansion of fast, frequent, and reliable rail service across the Southeast
- We were founded in 2009 by Virginians for High Speed Rail, Women Transportation Seminar's Triangle North Carolina and Central Virginia chapters, and the Southern Environmental Law Center with the goal to promote and advance the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor

# Southeast High Speed Rail Conference

- First mission of the Association was to put together the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Southeast High Speed Rail Conference originally hosted by Virginians for High Speed Rail in 2000
- VHSR along with VDRPT, NCDOT-Rail Division, WTS, SELC, City of Richmond, Norfolk Southern, and CSX were on the planning and host committee that organized the SEHSR conference



### Goals of the SEHSR Conference

- Highlight the importance of the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor in America's transportation system
- Make the case for continued investment in all sections of the corridor to ease congestion, produce economic development, reduce travel times, improve our environment, and create jobs
- Continue to build and strengthen regional unity to advance the SEHSR corridor



## Why put on the Conference?

- •16.55 percent
- 213 hours
- •55.6 minutes
- 26 percent



### Benefits of Trains to the SE

- 62 percent
- 46 percent
- **4**
- 7,263,536
- **228,000**

















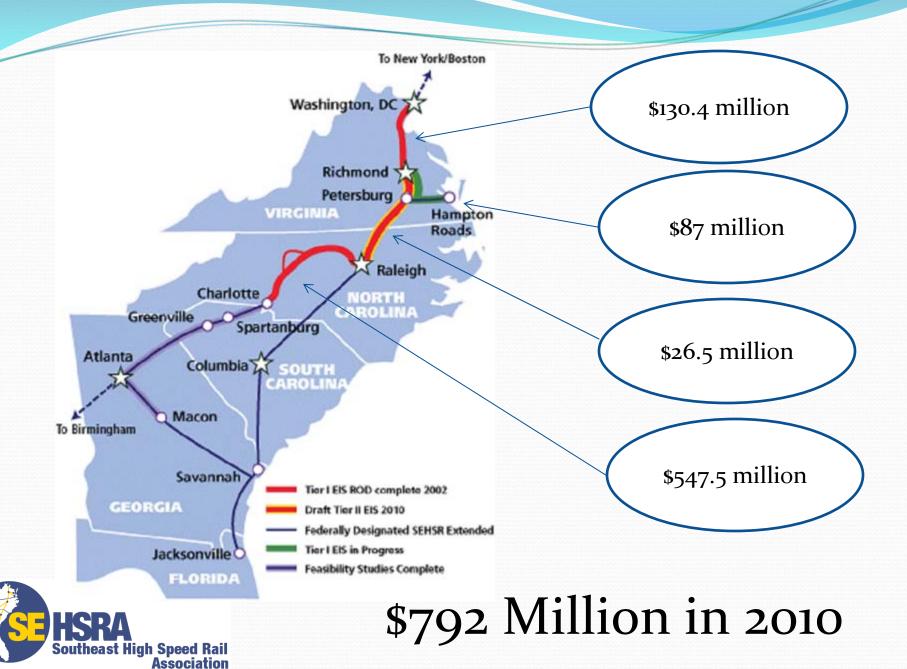




#### Call to Action

- To support entities like the VA NC Interstate High Speed Rail Compact
- Continue to build public support for HSR
- Further the conversation through educational events
  - Al Engel, Amtrak VP of HSR
  - Bill Lind, Conservative Case for Public Transit and High Speed Rail (110 mph)





## Thank you!

