

Georgia State Rail Plan

Fact Sheet

Fall 2019



The State Rail Plan Underway!

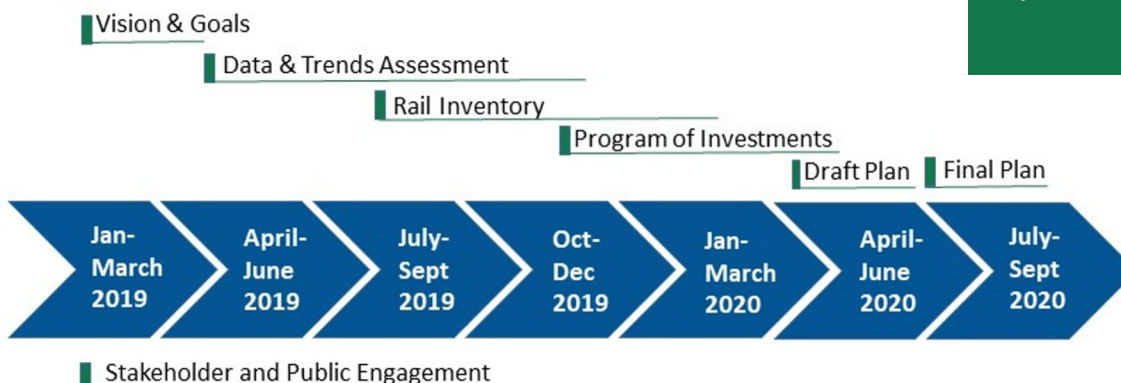
The Georgia State Rail Plan articulates the state's vision for freight and passenger rail services. It includes a comprehensive inventory of Georgia's rail network, its related transportation and economic impacts, and a proposed program of investments. The plan represents an opportunity to look at such areas as:

- shortline development;
- port connections;
- passenger and freight rail needs and opportunities;
- crossing safety;
- freight demand and growth; and
- intermodal connections.

Engaging with our stakeholders is key! Throughout the process, we'll connect with these groups and others:

- railroads, shippers and ports;
- local, regional, and state agencies;
- neighboring states' transportation officials;
- economic development organizations;
- advocacy groups; and
- the public.

Project Schedule



Did you know?

Georgia has the largest rail network in the Southeast, with over 4,600 miles of active rail lines.

More than 100 million tons of freight are shipped annually by rail in Georgia, removing 5 million trucks from the state's highway system each year.

Role of Rail in Georgia

Georgia's Freight Railroad

Georgia is served by two Class I freight railroads, CSX Transportation (CSX) and Norfolk Southern Railway (NS). Together, they operate 3,288 route miles throughout the state serving all major economic centers and the state's ports.

The state also has 26 Class III railroads that operate 1,012 route miles in the state. GDOT owns six short lines, which accounts for 465 operated miles. The state ranking of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) highlights the importance of Georgia to the national rail network. (see graphic)

Of the 50 States, Georgia Ranks....



2017 Association of American Railroads Rankings

Georgia's Passenger Rail

Daily passenger rail service in Georgia is served by four Amtrak routes, three of which serve coastal Georgia, the Palmetto, Silver Meteor, and Silver Star. The Palmetto operates between New York and Savannah, while the Silver Star and Silver Meteor operate between New York and Miami. Each of the three coastal trains stop in Savannah, and the Silver Star adds a stop in Jesup. This route uses the CSX rail corridor. North Georgia is served by Amtrak's Crescent route, which travels between New Orleans and New York City with stops in Atlanta, Gainesville, and Toccoa. This route uses the Norfolk Southern rail corridor.

The stations in Atlanta and Savannah are the most heavily used stations, accounting for approximately 88% of Georgia's ridership. In 2018, about 141,500 people boarded or alighted in Georgia, of which just over half were in Atlanta and about 38% were in Savannah.

Amtrak Routes & Stations

