



EAST-WEST PASSENGER RAIL STUDY

Advisory Committee Meeting #4 – Springfield, MA
February 24, 2020

Meeting Agenda

- Provide summary of additional information to be developed
 - Transportation benefits
 - Economic and demographic benefits
 - Environmental benefits
 - Updated Ridership Forecasting & Sensitivity
- Facilitated discussion among Advisory Committee
 - Pros and cons of the six preliminary alternatives
 - Hybrids and phasing
 - Priorities for Short-Listing
- Next Steps
 - Advisory Committee meeting before short list finalized

Advisory Committee Meeting #3 Feedback

connection
electrification transformative
equity investment nobus
jobs commuting benefits
feasible
affordability environment
sustainable ridership realistic

Additional Information Still to be Developed: Ridership Sensitivity Tests

- Add induced demand directly to station to station ridership numbers based on area type
- Expand demographic coverage
 - Western station buffers of 40 miles instead of 20 to better capture rural areas and mirror local driving patterns
 - Focus on coverage of higher education institutions to make sure student population included
- Explore other model inputs and sensitivities
 - Hartford line geographically close
 - Other lines (ex: Downeaster) may offer similar characteristics (distance, markets/population served, frequencies, travel time)
- Additional Benchmarking/Calibration

Additional Information to be Developed for Short Listed Alternatives

- Net present value of transportation-related benefits
 - Vehicle operations
 - Business Time & Reliability
 - Personal Time & Reliability
 - Safety
 - Environmental Factors
- Benefit-Cost Ratio
 - Total Benefits
 - Total Costs

- Socioeconomic Impacts (from Construction and from Operations)
 - Business Output
 - Value Added (GDP)
 - Job Years
 - Labor Income
 - Population and household growth
 - Labor force growth

Key Questions for Short-Listing

- What are your service priorities?
- What criteria should we use to narrow down to the final 3?
- What trade-offs are acceptable? Not acceptable?
- Are there hybrids of the six preliminary alternatives that we should consider?

Contact

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