

# Short Line Railroads and Economic Development

Pennsylvania Economic Development Association

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Discussion issues –

How can short line railroads reach beyond the tracks to enhance transportation options for non-rail served sites?

Transloading

Cross dock services

Warehouse and trucking partners

Discussion issues –

What trends are evident in the transportation industry that show potential to help grow short line rail freight traffic?

What general economic trends favor rail freight traffic?  
What business or industry sectors are underserved or represent emerging markets for short line railroads?

## Discussion issues –

How do short line railroads and class 1 railroads interact and coordinate with one another in matters of operations, marketing and business development?

What challenges do short line railroads face in these relationships and what can short lines do to add value for class 1 railroads as well as for economic development partners?

Discussion issues –

What challenges face the short line railroad industry?

Regulatory

Infrastructure funding and access to capital

Equipment supply

Truck size and weight

45G Tax credit

Discussion issues –

How can short line railroads and the economic development community partner to increase rail traffic and enhance competitiveness for clients?

Engaging railroads early in the development process

Avoiding adverse use of rail served sites

Facilitating communication and information sharing

Discussion issues –

What role do short line railroads play in the tourism industry?