## **MEMO**



DATE: March 6, 2012

TO: House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Kansas Department of Transportation

RE: KDOT response to questions posed following budget presentation

On February 29, 2012, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) presented information regarding KDOT's budget. Following the presentations, committee members posed several questions. Several of the questions that were posed involved similar themes. Questions that address the topics of the concerns that were expressed during the meetings are shown below with KDOT's response.

# Q: The committee requested information regarding current and prior Fiscal Year ending balances for the State Highway Fund (SHF).

A: KDOT estimates the FY 2012 ending balance for the SHF to be approximately \$145 million. KDOT currently has more than 880 open construction contracts in various phases of completion/payout. The total amount of encumbrances under those contracts exceeds \$2.6 billion with \$700 million in remaining balances payable. For the remaining months of FY 2012, the agency has planned lettings estimated at \$42 million. Without the available SHF ending balance at the end of FY 2012, there will be a cashflow problem for the agency as construction projects payout. A starting balance of at least \$95 million is the minimum necessary for KDOT to pay beginning year transfers out, debt service and bill payment. Additionally, an estimated \$97 million will be needed for construction payouts. Without adequate beginning balances, KDOT's ability to pay transfers to other agencies and regular operating expenses in FY 2013 will be severely compromised. In the absence of issuing additional debt, KDOT would be forced to delay lettings of any new projects or halt work on existing projects until its outstanding encumbrances could be paid down to the point where its cash flows could meet its obligations. A history of prior year ending balances can be found on Attachment A.

#### Q: Is KDOT required to maintain a minimum ending balance in the SHF?

**A:** By internal policy, KDOT retains a minimum ending balance requirement of an amount equal to two months' of debt service and \$25 million for orderly bill payment of contracts and operating expenses. The FY 2012 minimum ending balance requirement is \$53 million for the SHF. An additional estimated \$42 million would need to be available for transfers out on July 1. (NOTE: This transfer amount assumes changes in timing for the KHP transfer to

semi-annual transfers.) There are no required ending balances included in our bond covenants.

KDOT also has funds in numerous restricted accounts that are not part of the SHF. A list of these funds is included as Attachment B. The funds in each of these accounts are specifically restricted pursuant to the authority under which the account was created and cannot be utilized for the SHF or for any other purpose. In an 'all funds' view, these funds are included in addition to the SHF.

## Q: Are there any bond covenants or other policies that affect revenues to or transfers from the SHF?

A: KDOT's bond covenants require state revenues into the SHF of three times (3X) the amount of KDOT's annual debt service. KDOT has an internal policy to maintain four times (4X) coverage. The 4X coverage is relied upon by the rating agencies as a source of additional strength of the bonds, which results in a higher credit rating. Currently, KDOT must maintain \$740 million in state revenues to maintain the 4X coverage, excluding federal and local reimbursements. A drop below 4X coverage would be viewed by the rating agencies as further instability in the revenues backing the SHF debt and could result in a rating downgrade.

Following the authorization last May of the transfer of \$205 million during FY 2012 from the SHF to the SGF, on June 1, 2011, Moody's Investors Services revised the outlook for bonds issued by KDOT from stable to negative, citing the state's history of making such transfers to close budget deficits. Moody's stated KDOT's bond rating would move down if there was further use of SHF resources by the State for general operating purposes.

If revenue coverage falls below 3X indebtedness, bond covenants require the establishment and funding of a debt service reserve account, which would remove funds from the SHF to a separate restricted fund to be used solely for debt service.

Attachment C is a comparison of KDOT's weighted average cost of debt as compared to other state highway bond indebtedness.

- Q: The committee has requested information regarding KDOT bonds. The committee has inquired about the agency's ability to pay off the bonds early and what percentage can be paid off in addition to an overview of KDOT's current bonding authority and how much more the agency can bond.
- **A:** The Agency may retire up to \$921.9 million (55%) of State Highway Fund (SHF) debt as early as April 1, 2012 at a cost of approximately \$995.3 million. The added cost (above par value) is associated with prepayment penalties estimated to be \$70 million. Retirement of

these bonds would eliminate future interest payments which carry a present value of \$236 million. The option of redeeming just a portion of these bonds does exist.

In addition, the Agency may "legally defease" or retire another \$751.5 million (45%) of SHF debt immediately by funding escrow accounts to cover payment of interest until such bonds are eligible to be called or mature. These escrow accounts may have a life as long as 8 years. In order to determine the amount required to fund the accounts a more selective and detailed analysis would need to be performed. The option of redeeming just a portion of these bonds does exist as well.

The Transportation Works for Kansas Program (T-WORKS) authorized the Secretary of Transportation to issue additional bonds to the extent that the combined debt service on all existing bonds and proposed new bonds does not exceed 18 percent of SHF revenue in any fiscal year. Projections at the time of T-WORKS passage suggested that \$1.7 billion of additional bonds could be issued. In September, 2010 the Agency issued \$325 million of Build America Bonds to finance a portion of the T-WORKS program.

- Q: The committee requested information regarding transfers from the State Highway Fund (SHF) to the State General Fund (SGF) and which transfers have been deemed a loan.
- **A:** The total of State Highway Fund losses from FY 2000- FY 2012 amount to 1.5 Billion. For a detailed break-out of all losses to the SHF please see attachment D. Of this amount, \$125 million was considered a loan. To date \$63 million was repaid and the remaining \$62 million repayment was cancelled.
- Q: The committee requested additional information regarding Passenger Rail and the costbenefit analysis provided to the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) and the KDOT cost-benefit analysis. In addition, the committee requested information regarding the current Amtrak service and the federal and state subsidies.
- **A:** A history of passenger rail projects in Kansas is provided in Attachment E and cost estimates of passenger rail improvements can be found on Attachment F. The complete cost-benefit analysis of this project can be found in attachment G.

The State of Kansas does not currently subsidize passenger rail including the Southwest Chief Amtrak service. The annual federal subsidy for the national Amtrak service is estimated to be \$59.6 million for FY 12. The amount of these federal funds dedicated for the Southwest Chief through Kansas are not known to KDOT at this time.

#### **Attachments**

### **Ending Balance History**

	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>
State Highway Fund (SHF)	734,166	624,734	528,670	598,535	513,661	399,888	486,480	429,740	204,389	270,067
Bond Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	262,190
Debt Service (set by bond covenants)	46,965	50,214	60,044	72,165	78,573	74,938	62,620	104,566	106,105	113,439
Transportation Revolving Fund (TRF)	-	-	24,578	9,486	21,699	9,581	3,899	4,152	110	30,384
Communications System Revolving Fund (CSRF)	-	-	-	-	970	366	997	11,104	10,860	8,932
Aviation	2,031	1,892	1,831	1,541	1,210	731	570	1,212	1,361	147
Public Transit	5,488	4,948	6,027	6,553	5,561	4,889	4,474	3,543	2,168	2,189
Rail	1,921	288	1,214	951	1,137	1,124	5,476	8,150	4,223	2,011
Special City County Highway Fund	36,307	36,105	23,003	24,833	24,390	25,300	35,067	34,476	34,674	34,318
	826,878	718,181	645,367	714,064	647,201	516,817	599,583	596,943	363,890	723,677

<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Fund Name</u>
2008	Rail Services Improvement Fund
2298	Interagency Motor Vehicle Fuel Sales Fund (Clearing Fund)
2356	Traffic Records Enhancement Fund
2382	North Central Kansas Air Passenger Service Support Fund
2572	Coordinated Public Transportation Assistance Fund
2576	Highway Special Permits Fund (Clearing Fund)
3122	Other Federal Grants Fund
4109	Highway Bond Proceeds Fund
4140	Public Use General Aviation Fund
4210	County Equalization and Adjustment Fund
4220	Special City and County Highway Fund
4707	Highway Bond Debt Service Fund
7502	Rail Service Assistance Program Loan Guarantee Fund
7503	Rail Rehabilitation Loan Guarantee Fund
7511	Transportation Revolving Fund - Program Fund
7524	Communication System Revolving Fund
7548	Transportation Revolving fund - Equity Fund
7552	Kansas Intermodal Transportation Revolving Fund

2011 - State DOT Debt Survey

		Allocation	1	Aggregate		Weighted	Average Co	ost		Weighted	Average Lif	e		Credit Rating	js	
State	Fixed	Variable	Syn Fixed	Debt	Fixed		Syn Fixed		Fixed	Variable	Syn Fixed	Aggregate	Moody	S&P	Fitch	State
California	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	340,525,000	4.42%	0.00%	0.00%	4.42%	2.80	-	-	2.80	Aa3	AA	AA-	California
North Dakota	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38,210,000	4.25%	0.00%	0.00%	4.25%	5.12	-	-	5.12	Aa1	N/A	AA	North Dakota
West Virginia <sup>6</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	428,255,000	4.10%	0.00%	0.00%	4.10%	5.55	-	-	5.55	Aa1 - Aa2	AA - AA-	AA+	West Virginia <sup>6</sup>
Montana	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	121,850,000	4.41%	0.00%	0.00%	4.41%	5.59	-	-	5.59	Aa2	AA	N/A	Montana
Maryland	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1,561,840,000	3.85%	0.00%	0.00%	3.85%	6.23	-	-	6.23	Aa1	AAA	AA+	Maryland
Oklahoma <sup>12</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	632,010,000	3.38%	0.00%	0.00%	3.38%	6.44	-	-	6.44	Aa3	AA	AA - A+	Oklahoma <sup>12</sup>
Nevada	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	611,975,000	4.30%	0.00%	0.00%	4.30%	6.51	-	-	6.51	Aa3	AA	AA	Nevada
Utah	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3,367,800,000	2.68%	0.00%	0.00%	2.68%	6.83	-	-	6.83	Aaa	AAA	AAA	Utah
Delaware <sup>7</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1,110,140,000	4.23%	0.00%	0.00%	4.23%	6.97	-	-	6.97	Aa2	AA+ - AA	N/A	Delaware <sup>7</sup>
Hawaii	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	337,420,000	4.94%	0.00%	0.00%	4.94%	7.08	-	-	7.08	Aa	AA	AA	Hawaii
Georgia	82.80%	17.20%	0.00%	1,588,028,258	4.12%	0.18%	0.00%	3.21%	6.68	9.70	-	7.20	Aaa	AAA	AAA	Georgia
Alaska	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	262,330,000	4.32%	0.00%	0.00%	4.32%	7.45	-	-	7.45	Aaa	AA+	AA+	Alaska
Michigan <sup>10</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2,294,812,945	4.75%	0.00%	0.00%	4.75%	8.34	-	-	8.34	Aa2	AA+	AA	Michigan <sup>10</sup>
Kentucky <sup>8</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1,663,030,000	4.18%	0.00%	0.00%	4.18%	8.50	-	-	8.50	Aa2	AA+ - AA	AA-	Kentucky <sup>8</sup>
Wisconsin	91.79%	8.21%	0.00%	1,784,938,000	4.18%	0.46%	0.00%	3.94%	8.69	6.54	-	8.51	Aa2	Aa+	AA+	Wisconsin
Illinois <sup>5</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3,143,070,563	4.78%	0.00%	0.00%	4.78%	8.69	-	-	8.69	A1	Α	A+	Illinois <sub>5</sub>
Arizona <sup>1</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2,871,195,000	4.43%	0.00%	0.00%	4.43%	8.73	-	-	8.73	Aaa - Aa2	AAA - AA	AA	Arizona <sup>1</sup>
Missouri <sup>3</sup>	98.16%	1.84%	0.00%	3,204,715,000	4.00%	0.35%	0.00%	3.97%	9.50	3.84	-	9.39	Aaa	AAA	AAA	Missouri <sup>3</sup>
Kansas *	64.02%	0.03%	35.95%	1,697,235,000	3.60%	0.60%	3.95%	3.68%	11.77	2.67	5.57	9.50	Aa1	AAA	AA+	Kansas
Indiana <sup>13</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1,166,791,298	4.48%	0.00%	0.00%	4.48%	10.56	-	-	10.56	Aaa - Aa1	AAA - AA+	AA+ - AA	Indiana <sup>13</sup>
Florida <sup>2</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4,820,525,000	4.63%	0.00%	0.00%	4.63%	12.44	-	-	12.44	Aa1 - A1	AAA - A+	AAA - A+	Florida <sup>2</sup>
Washington	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6,004,454,495	4.05%	0.00%	0.00%	4.05%	12.91	-	-	12.91	Aa1	AA+	AA+	Washington
Pennsylvania <sup>4</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	517,500,000	3.74%	0.00%	0.00%	3.74%	13.02	-	-	13.02	Aa1	AA	AA+	Pennsylvania4
Mississippi	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	589,805,000	4.36%	0.00%	0.00%	4.36%	13.47	-	-	13.47	A1	AA-	N/A	Mississippi
Oregon	88.24%	11.76%	0.00%	2,255,055,000	5.07%	1.81%	0.00%	4.75%	14.30	11.95	-	14.02	Aa1	AAA	AA+	Oregon
Colorado <sup>9</sup>	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	678,005,000	4.01%	0.00%	0.00%	4.01%	14.45	-	-	14.45	AA3	AA	AA	Colorado <sup>9</sup>
Texas <sup>11</sup>	97.01%	2.99%	0.00%	11,113,935,000	4.11%	0.57%	0.00%	3.99%	16.17	18.13	-	16.23	Aaa	AAA - AA+	AAA	Texas <sup>11</sup>
Average	97.11%	1.56%	1.33%	2,007,609,280	4.20%	0.15%	0.15%	4.14%	9.07	1.96	0.21	8.98				
Total				54,205,450,558		·						·				

Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming have no bond debt.

N/A - Not applicable or not rated

WD - Withdrawn

<sup>\*</sup> Kansas information as December 31, 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AZ DOT credit ratings: Hwy User Tax based \$1.601 billion Moody's Aaa/S&P AAA/Fitch N/A and GARVEE \$878 million Moody's Aa2/S&P AA/Fitch AA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FL DOT credit ratings: Turnpike: \$3.095 billion Moody's Aa3/S&P AA-/Fitch AA- and Right of Way: \$1.587 billion Moody's Aa1/S&P AAA/Fitch AAA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> MO DOT credit ratings: listed credit ratings are from senior debt obligations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PA DOT: A limited amount of "old debt" is excluded from calculation. It goes back a several decades and remains active due to refinancing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> IL DOT has \$86,507,970 of zero-coupon (capital appreciation) bonds outstanding that will be retired by August 1, 2024 which are excluded in this calculation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> WV DOT credit ratings: GO \$305 million Moody's Aa1/S&P AA/Fitch AA+ and GARVEE \$123 million Moody's Aa2/S&P AA-/Fitch N/A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> DE DOT credit ratings: Revenue bonds \$1.062 billion Moody's Aa2/S&P AA+/Fitch N/A and GARVEE \$47 million Moody's Aa2/S&P AA/Fitch N/A

<sup>8</sup> KY Transportation Cabinet Credit ratings: ALCO \$407 million Moody's Aa2/S&P AA/Fitch AA- and TAK \$1.256 billion Moody's Aa2/S&P AA+/Fitch AA-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> CO DOT One bond series is excluded from this survey because of information not readily available. This issuance will be paid off soon.

<sup>10</sup> MI DOT bonds Credit ratings: Comprehensive Transportation Fund Moody's Aa2/S&P AA+/Fitch AA and State Trunkline Fund Moody's Aa2/S&P AA+/Fitch N/A

<sup>11</sup> TX DOT bonds Credit ratings: State Highway Fund First Tier Revenue Bonds \$4.078 billion Moody's Aaa/S&P AAA/Fitch N/A and TX Mobility Fund GO Bonds & State of TX Highway Improvement GO Bonds \$7.035 billion Moody's Aaa/S&P AA+/Fitch AAA

<sup>12</sup> OK DOT bonds Credit ratings: DOT Issued \$228 million Moody's Aa3/S&P N/A/Fitch A+ and State Issued \$404 million Moody's N/A/S&P AA/Fitch AA

<sup>13</sup> IN DOT bonds Credit ratings: \$868 million Moody's Aa1/S&P AA+/Fitch AA+ and \$143 million Moody's Aa1/S&P AA+/Fitch WD

## State Highway Fund losses during the CTP 2000 - 2009

		millions) 00-2009
Sales Tax		
Reduction in the Sales Tax Transfer 2000-2009, transfer eliminated	\$	(1,438)
Increase in Sales Tax direct deposit	\$	421
Loan to the State General Fund	\$	(125)
Repayments on Loans to the State General Fund	\$	63
Notor Fuel Taxes		
Increase in the Motor Fuel Tax by 2002 Legislature	\$	207
ransfers Transfers		
State General Fund to fund the KHP	\$	(174)
Affordable Airfare	\$	(15)
Offset in SGF transfer for Affordable Airfare	\$	10
Bond Proceeds backed by the State General Fund		
2004 Issue	\$	210
Total FY 2000 to FY 2009	\$	(841)

#### State Highway Fund losses in FY 2010

	:	2010
ransfers		
State General Fund to fund the KHP	\$	(36)
Affordable Airfare	\$	(5)
Transfers to the State General Fund	\$	(118)
To Special City and County Highway Fund	\$	(5)
Bond Proceeds backed by the State General Fund		
Transfer to the SGF to pay the debt service on above bonds	\$	(25)
Total FY 2010	\$	(189)

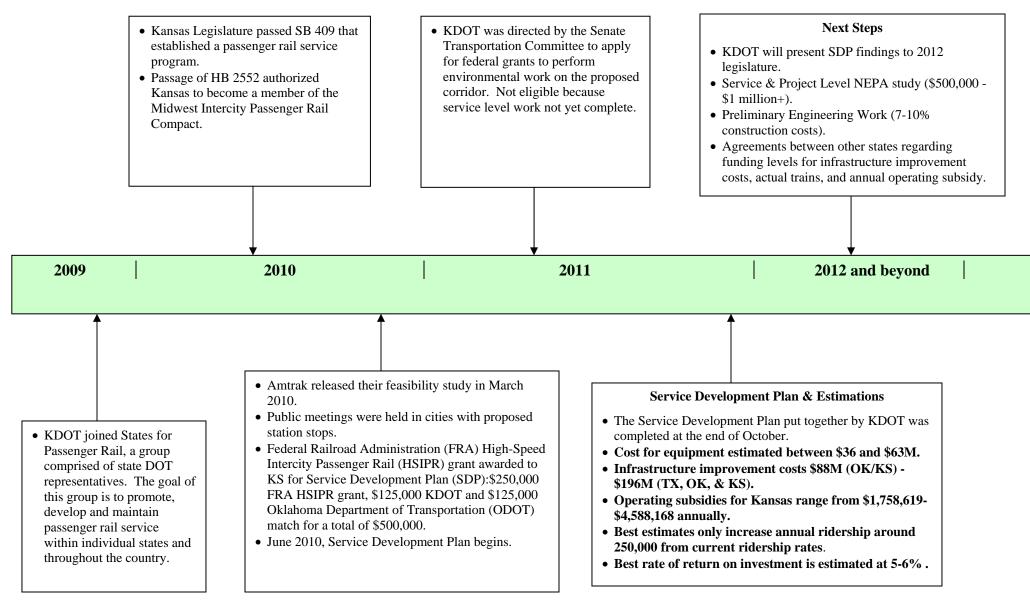
#### State Highway Fund losses in FY 2011

	- :	2011
Transfers		
State General Fund to fund the KHP	\$	(36)
Affordable Airfare	\$	(5)
Transfers to the State General Fund	\$	(124)
Bond Proceeds backed by the State General Fund		
Transfer to the SGF to pay the debt service on above bonds	\$	(25)

#### State Highway Fund losses in FY 2012

\$ /22
\$ /
(33
\$ (205
\$ (238)
\$ -\$1.458

# Passenger Rail Timeline 2009-2012 & Beyond



#### Kansas Expanded Passenger Rail Cost Estimates

Estimated Costs (\$M - 2011 Dollars)

Based on estimates in Service Development Plan (SDP)

\*No infrastructure improvements are expected in Missouri

<u>TOTAL COSTS</u> - Includes track improvements, grade crossing improvements, Newton layover facility (HFE and CSO only), PE and NEPA (soft costs), contingencies and equipment (trainsets)

#### 100% non federal funds (FULLY state supported)

	Kansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Total
Heartland Flyer Extension	75.64	60.86	0.00	136.5
KC-OKC-FW Daytime Service	139.16	178.70	118.34	436.2
Combined Services	175.10	181.51	118.34	475.0

#### With 80% Federal Funds - if federal funds are available and application is approved for full 80%

	Kansas - 20%	Federal - 80%	Oklahoma - 20%	Federal - 80%	Texas - 20%	Federal - 80%	Total
Heartland Flyer Extension	15.13	60.51	12.17	48.69	0.00	0.00	136.5
KC-OKC-FW Daytime Service	27.83	111.33	35.74	142.96	23.67	94.67	436.2
Combined Servies	35.02	140.08	36.30	145.21	23.67	94.67	475.0

#### **Estimated Annual Operating Subsidy**

\$Millions - 2011 Dollars (Federal Funding is <u>not available</u> for operating expenses) - based on percentage of track miles in each state

	Kansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Total
Heartland Flyer Extension	1.80	2.60	0.00	4.40
Track miles %	41%	59%	0%	
KC-OKC-FW Daytime Service	4.70	4.10	1.20	10.00
Track miles %	47%	41%	12%	
Combined Services	6.44	5.62	1.64	13.70

Attachment F

# Passenger Rail Benefit Cost Analysis Summary Assuming 15% Contingency

Scenario	Net Present Value (NPV)	Economic Rate of Return (ERR)	Benefit Cost Ratio (B/C)
Heartland Flyer Extension	-\$15.3 million	3.14%	0.93
KC-OKC-FW Daylight Service Only	-\$222.8 million	N.A.	0.64
Combined Services	-\$96.2 million	2.29%	0.87

Source: Parsons Brinckerhoff

#### Benefit Cost Analysis Summary Assuming 30% Contingency

Scenario	Net Present Value (NPV)	Economic Rate of Return (ERR)	Benefit Cost Ratio (B/C)
Heartland Flyer Extension Only	-\$27.1 million	2.57%	0.88
KC-OKC-FW Daylight Service Only	-\$261.1 million	N.A.	0.61
Combined Services	-\$137.6 million	1.71%	0.83

Source: Parsons Brinckerhoff

## **Appendix B (From Service Development Plan)**

HSR PUBLIC BENEFITS ANALY	SIS - BENEFIT CATEGORIES			
		110 Notices Appendix 2	2 10·2) Federal Regis	ter Vol. 74, No. 119 June 23, 2009, Section 5)
That Guidelines Guiles Ghadelini 1/10		To Houses, Appendix 2	., 2110, 2 <i>j</i> 1 odorar Rogio	
	Representative Measures	Should be included in Benefit Cost Analysis?	Quantifiable for Benefit Cost Analysis?	Comments
General Description ot Public Benefits				calls for "particular focus on job creation and retention, green
Analysis from FRA Federal Register	should include operational, tranpsortation			environmental outcomes, potential energy savings, and community
Guidelines	and output benefits			livability" (2010 FRA notice)
User Benefits				
	travel time savings for "existing" rail			
	passengers	yes	yes	from rail travel demand and operational modeling
	travel reliability improvements for existing			
	rail passengers	yes	yes	from rail travel demand and operational modeling
	travel time savings, diverted from other			depends on availability and quality of information about travel times of
	modes	yes	yes	competing modes
	travel reliability and other benefits, diverted			depends on availability and quality of information about travel reliability of
	from other modes	yes	yes	competing modes
	vehicle operating cost savings for diverted			
	auto users	yes	yes	estimated based on highway VMT reductions
		not specifically		
		mentioned in FRA		benefits from amenities such as internet access and comfortable
	travel productivity benefits	guidelines	yes	working environment; applicable to business travel market segment only
		not specifically	yes (if estimated by	trips that are not made in the absence of the rail service (e.g., for transit
		mentioned in FRA	Travel Demand	dependents or where other modes are excessively costly and time
	newly induced trips	guidelines	Modeling)	consuming)

Non User Benefits				
			yes (TIGER guidelines	would include local emissions for AQ attainment (e.g., NOX,
	emissions reductions	yes	applicable)	partiuclates) and also carbon emissions (GHG or CO2)
	other environmental benefits: noise, water			
	pollution and runoff, etc.	yes	yes	would result mainly from auto to rail shifts
	community development	mentioned in 2010 FRA	guidance, but probably best related to Livability Benefits	
		not specifically		
		mentioned in FRA	yes - TIGER guidelines	standard in BC analysis, and could be estimated based on reduced VMT
	safety - crash reductions	guidelines	applicable)	and crash data
				cost of fuel saved would already be included in vehicle operating cost
		cited in 2009 FRA		savings, but an additional social benefit could be assigned and
	reduced oil imports	guidance,	yes, from research	monetized
Livability Benefits				
	metrics mentioned in FRA guidelines are illustrative, and include "integration with existing high density livable development (e.g., central business districts with public transportation, pedestrian and bicycle distribution networks, and incorporation of transit oriented development)" (2009 FRA guidelines, 5.1.1.3, p. 29918)	would need strong justification	monetizing benefits very difficult	primarily qualitative, although some research has been done to monetize some impacts, such as improved mode choice and increased use of non-motorized transportation, more compact forms of development, aesthetic enhancements of downtown areas, and possibly benefits to low income or non auto owners

Long Term Economic Development Impacts				
FRA guidelines do not specifically				
mention these, but can be inferred as				
possible for inclusion: examples could				
include:				
	additional tourism or other spending by			OK for a regional or state BC analysis, but spending may just be shifted
	visitors (out of state for a state impact			from other locations (e.g., from Oklahoma to Kansas, or from Texas to
	analysis)	no	no	Oklahoma)
	increased commercial development and real estate value around new stations	would need strong justification		
Agglomeration Benefits	increased labor/business productivity,	3,		
	increased worker wages, increased			
	output, possible increased employment			

Economic Recovery Benefits					
Economic Recovery Benefits	construction and O&M related jobs and				
	income	no, although cited as important evaluation criteria in 2009 FRA guidance, but no longer present in 2010 announcement' FRA			
	permanent economic development				
	benefits				
	Deficition	yes, but very difficult to quantify, and only benefits due to improvement productivity, and not shifted from other locati			
Freight Related Benefits				only applicable if jointly operated rail freight services see operational improvements; cost savings to freight RRs themselves would not be considered public benefits unless passed on to consumers or producers	
	freight rail travel time savings	partly (public portion only	v)		
	shifts from truck to rail	partly (public portion onl			
OTHER IMPORTANT INPUTS NOT		1 ) (1 1			
ADDRESSED IN FRA GUIDELINES					
Real Discount Rate		essential and critical to result	variable	Can vary depending on public vs. private considerations, interest rate expectations, cost of capital, and preference for long term vs. short term benefits. TIGER guidelines prescribe 7% but permit 3% as an alternativel, especially for benefits; OMB establishes discount rates for federally funded projects which differ and are currently in the 3-4% range.	
			variable but no less than		
Period of analysis (years) for discounted			20 years for		
present value			infrastructure		
PROJECT COSTS					
initial capital costs					
ongoing operations and maintenance					
periodic major rehab or replace costs					