October 26, 2022

Dear Alabama State Rail Plan Stakeholders:

Atlas Technical Consultants is pleased to have been selected by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to assist in updating the 2014 Alabama State Rail Plan (SRP). Long Engineering and WSP USA will assist Atlas in the effort. A 2014 SRP summary and the complete 2014 Plan are available via the "Publications" tab of the ALDOT home page: https://www.dot.state.al.us.

ALDOT seeks input from the general public, elected officials, Alabama railroads and their customers, and the railroad industry and industry observers. The input will be used in the preparation of a draft updated SRP that will to be available for public review and comment late in 2022.

Objectives of SRP update are to identify all types of rail projects:

- Freight and passenger
- Under construction, and near and long term
- Public, public-private and private sector
- Planned, proposed, visionary or aspirational
- Multi-modal projects with a rail element

SRP update will include passenger and freight rail priorities, issues, needs and opportunities. Input is sought on topics such as:

- blocked crossings
- grade crossing safety improvements
- other rail safety concerns
- railroad infrastructure or capacity improvements

Additional information concerning SRP input opportunities will be provided later. SRP input and comments may be e-mailed to aldotrail@dot.state.al.us throughout the development process. It is requested that commenters identify their state of residence if other than Alabama.

The Atlas Team