



## Fact sheet on NARP's proposed "grid and gateway"

### *A parity in route miles*

- There are currently 22,000 route miles of rail lines (one land mile = one route mile, regardless of how many tracks are on that mile of land)
- NARP's proposal will bring the number of route miles to 45,000 – roughly the same size as the current interstate highway system.
- The interstate highway system has grown from its initial 41,000 miles to 47,000 miles in 2004.

### *An increase in communities served*

- Today, there are a total of 292 communities that are identified by the Census Bureau as Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSA), or that are non-MSA state capitals.
- Amtrak currently serves 134 of them – less than half.
- Among the cities currently not served by intercity passenger rail:
  - San Francisco, CA
  - Las Vegas, NV
  - Boise, ID
  - Columbus, OH
  - Madison, WI
  - Des Moines, IA
  - Mobile, AL
  - Louisville, KY
  - Nashville, TN
  - Brownsville, TX
- NARP's proposal would add 103 MSAs, CMSAs or non-MSA state capitals to the passenger rail network.

*Providing a transportation choice people demand*

- In 2006, a Harris poll indicated that 79% of adults would like to see an increasing proportion of traffic going by intercity or commuter rail.
- According to a 2005 study by the Surface Transportation Policy Project, people living in communities with few transportation options devote the greatest share of their family budget to transportation costs.