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The Rail Report

NCDOT Rail Division



March 2014

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Marketing North Carolina's Amtrak

We have stepped up our rail marketing efforts with a new brand and new look. Our first round of 2014 ads launched at the beginning of February in locations such as WRAL.com, Pandora, Google, the Business Journals, newspapers and public radio. These ads focus on our 15% mid-week discount. Our college sports marketing campaign, launched in the fall, is still ongoing.

We will continue to explore new opportunities and partnerships that will help get the word out about our passenger trains.

Rail Division Design and Construction Branch tests new Vehicle Detection Radar System

Williamson Avenue in Elon, 5th Street in Mebane and Ellis Road in Durham are test sites for new Vehicle Detection Radar System technology. The system, made by Island Radar/By Step, detects if a vehicle is in the crossing when the gates drop, and will slightly delay the lowering of the gate in front of the vehicle so that it will have a clear way out. The system also controls the timing of the gates lowering so that all four drop simultaneously. The system will be tested for two months before going live. Once live, ITRE will study, through video monitoring, any changes to motorists' behaviors resulting from the modified gate operations. The equipment and study is being paid for by a FHWA grant.



01/19/2014

Triangle Area Law Enforcement Agencies Participate in BeRailSafe SWAT Safety Training in February

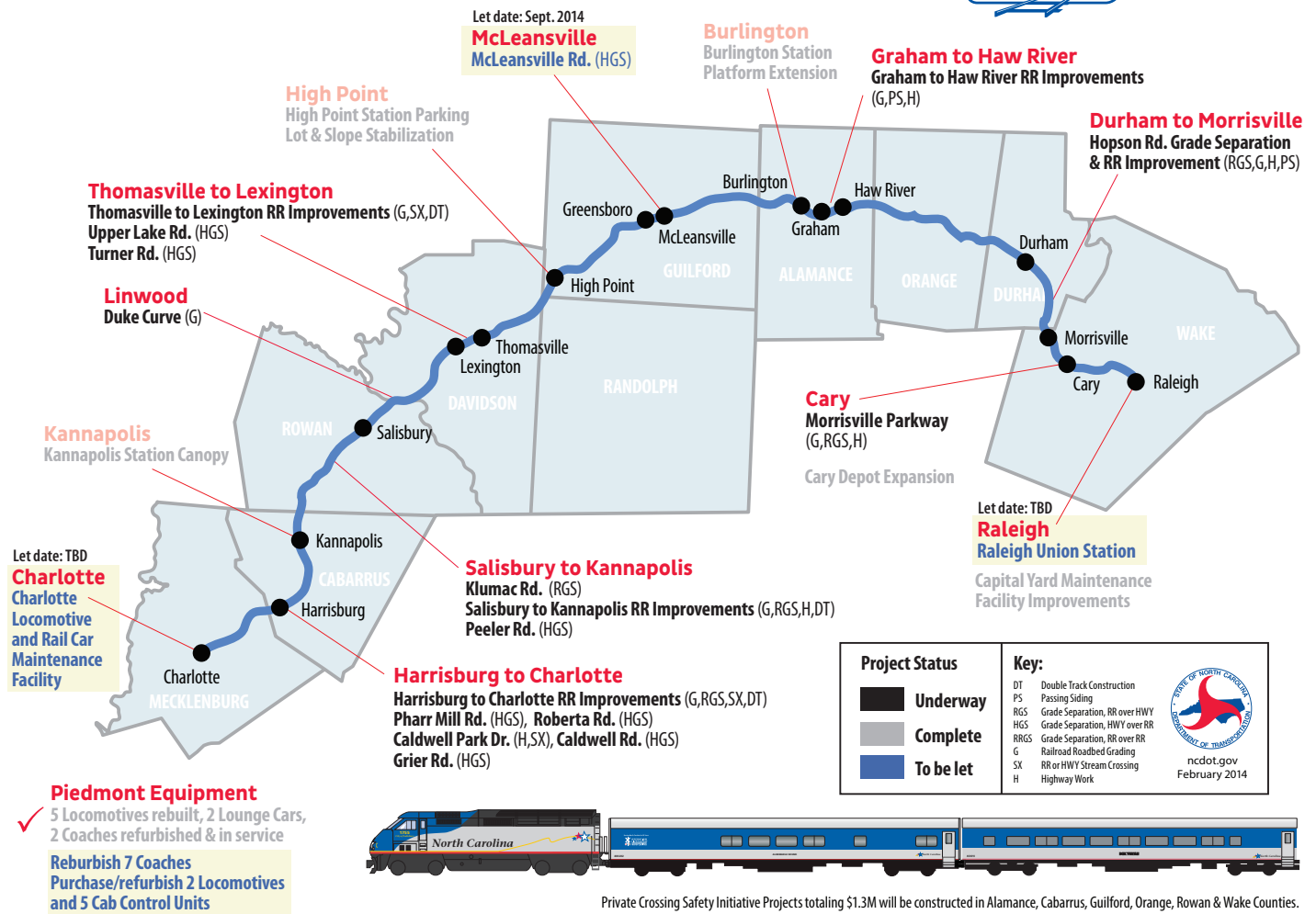
The NCDOT Rail Division hosted BeRailSafe training for triangle-area law enforcement agency SWAT teams on February 4 - 6. Seventy-two officers from Raleigh Police Department, Durham Police Department, Wake County Sheriff's Office, Holly Springs PD and Clayton PD participated in the class.

The training was a modified BeRailSafe program designed to educate SWAT and emergency response operators of the inherent dangers and risks of responding to and working around passenger rail equipment during a hostage or standoff scenario. Students were given hands-on exposure to unique railroad equipment. The course focused on passenger train consists, passenger car arrangements, operation of doors, trap-doors, seating, emergency exits and concealed compartments as well as electrical and high pressure air hazards. The students were educated on the train crew responsibilities during emergency braking or emergency incidents, the safety equipment in and on trains and communication with railroad officials for emergency planning and operational effectiveness. The training included planning and conducting mock standoff scenarios and counteracting the situation with emergency tactics and department-issued emergency response equipment.



Raleigh PD SWAT team training at NCDOT Capital Yard

Piedmont Improvement Program Projects



ARRA Funds Spent to Date (effective 1/31/2014)

Component	
PD&A	\$ 33,005,208
Equipment Procurement & Rebuild	\$22,400,762
Stations & Facilities	\$10,407,763
Track & Structures	\$53,170,008
CRISP	\$ 2,156,566
Program Totals	\$121,140,389 of \$520M awarded FRA Grant Funds

Rail Division Director speaks to Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee

Paul Worley spoke to the JLTOC on February 7, providing Rail Division updates focusing on Piedmont Improvement Program Projects, Intercity Passenger Funding Outlook and Freight Rail and Rail Crossing Safety Improvement Fund Updates.

Comprehensive State Rail Plan Update

The Stakeholder Plan has been approved and meetings are being scheduled to receive stakeholder input into the visioning process. This includes listening sessions with our Legislative Oversight Committee, the Executive Board, and the NC Department of Commerce.

The Executive Summary and a Preliminary Funding Recommendation Report will be complete in the fall of 2014 and the public draft will be available in January 2015.

Eastern Infrastructure Improvements Studies

On March 1, 2014, an interim report on the EIS was submitted to the Legislature. The final report is due on January 1, 2015.

Piedmont Improvement Program Project Photos – late January through February, 2014



U-3469 Klumac Road - Track Installation



U-3469 Klumac Road - Track Ballasting



U-4716 Hopson Rd./Nelson-Clegg - Erosion Control



U-4716 Hopson Rd./Nelson-Clegg - Signal Cabinet Installation



U-4716 Hopson Rd./Nelson-Clegg - Grading



U-4716 Hopson Rd./Nelson-Clegg - Signals

Piedmont Improvement Program Project Photos – late January through February, 2014



C-4901A Bowers to Lake - Rip Rap Stabilization



C-4901A Bowers to Lake - Rip Rap Stabilization



C-4901C Turner Road - Approach Fill Grading



C-4901B Upper Lake Road - Bridge Construction



I-2304AE Duke Curve Realignment - Subballast



P-5208 Haydock to Junker - Grading & Drainage