



# PNWER Regional Infrastructure Accelerator

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# About PNWER

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a public-private partnership chartered by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington; the western Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan; and Yukon and Northwest Territories.

PNWER is recognized by the federal governments as the model for regional and bi-national cooperation because of its proven success. It is the leading forum where people in the policy world and business world come together to identify solutions to regional challenges.



# About the PNWER RIA Program

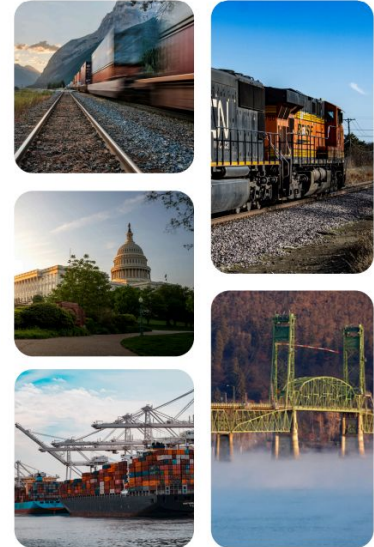
The PNWER Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) program is an initiative funded by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's Build America Bureau that helps **accelerate infrastructure project delivery** through the provision of **technical assistance** and identification of **innovative financing solutions**.

The PNWER RIA serves as a convener for transportation projects, with specific focus on multistate and multi-jurisdictional initiatives that:

- Ease supply chain disruptions
- Reduce transportation-related pollution
- Increase economic and environmental justice, especially for historically underserved communities

## Program Areas

- Build Northwest Center of Excellence
- Zero-Emission Commercial Corridors
- Critical Connections
- High Performance Rail



# PNWER RIA Program Areas

PNWER's Regional Infrastructure Accelerator is a USDOT-funded program that connects multi-state transportation projects with innovative federal financing mechanisms, including TIFIA and RRIF loan programs and Public-Private Partnerships (P3s).



## Build Northwest Center of Excellence

Serves as the overarching platform for all outreach activities, offering education on innovative federal financing tools.



## Critical Connections

Improve connectivity of Tribal nations and rural communities by updating, replacing or improving connective infrastructure.



## Zero-Emission Commercial Refueling

Supporting development of zero-emission refueling infrastructure for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles along freight corridors.



## High Performance Rail

Improve performance and safety of existing passenger and freight rail systems by identifying and bundling rail improvement projects.



# High Performance Rail

High Performance Rail encapsulates a multi-stakeholder approach to rail by identifying, evaluating and pursuing multiple rail improvement projects that, when bundled, will significantly reduce passenger train delays and improve freight velocity along major northwest rail corridors.

Focus on enhancing freight and passenger rail in these corridors:

- Amtrak Cascades
- Amtrak Empire Builder
- Big Sky North Coast Corridor
- Coast Starlight
- Pioneer Line

## ABCs of High Performance Rail

- **Accelerating** Economic Growth
- **Benefiting** the Environment
- **Connecting** More Communities



# Washington Rail & Freight Initiatives

## Cascades Corridor Rail & Port Investment Strategy | WA & OR

- Collaborating with relevant stakeholders to identify and bundle rail improvement projects to enhance daily corridor performance along the Amtrak Cascades route.

## Cascades Gateway Bi-National Rail Working Group

- The group explores short and long-term railroad actions that will improve the performance of the Amtrak Cascades and explore future additional daily service to and from British Columbia.

## Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Replacement | WA & OR

- Supporting the Bridge Authority in navigating federal credit program gap financing for the replacement of the bridge.

## MHD Vehicle Decarbonization

- Co-authored Washington's zero-emission MHD commercial vehicle incentive program, works with stakeholders to explore financing options for decarbonizing WA's supply chains



# Future Events

## PNWER Annual Summit

Bellevue, Washington | July 21-24, 2025

Registration opens soon; Learn more at [www.pnwer.org/2025-summit](http://www.pnwer.org/2025-summit)

## 2025 Greater Northwest Rail Summit

Portland, Oregon | October 16-18, 2025

Additional information will be provided at [www.RIAnorthwest.org](http://www.RIAnorthwest.org)





# Contact Us

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Sign up for updates at [\*\*www.RIAnorthwest.org\*\*](http://www.RIAnorthwest.org)

