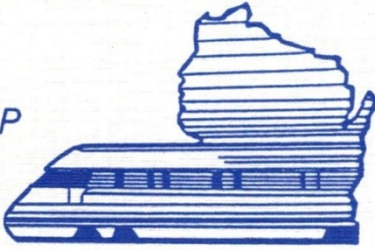


WisARP



Wisconsin Association of Railroad Passengers

Leading Wisconsin in Promoting a Statewide Rail Network for the 21st Century

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WI Association of Railroad Passengers
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Wisconsin Association of Railroad Passengers Applauds Amtrak's *Borealis* Service for Wisconsin

The Borealis, a new Amtrak daily passenger train service, will begin on May 21, 2024 creating a second daily train between the Twin Cities and Chicago, via Milwaukee. This train will originate from St. Paul at mid-day and Chicago in the late morning, giving travelers another option for travel across the state and on to other destinations. Tickets are now on sale with a one-way ticket starting at \$41, with special fares available for seniors, veterans, military personnel, children ages 2-12, students and others

"We are rejoicing over the announcement of the Borealis by Amtrak" stated John Parkyn, President of Wisconsin Association of Railroad Passengers, a statewide all volunteer non-profit organization. "With tenacity over a decade to get a second train running across the state, our members and the public can now enjoy another option for clean, safe and reliable travel – we are ready for this train."

The Borealis will feature both Coach and Business Class seating with a Cafe` car featuring refreshments. Free Wi-Fi and comfortable reclining seating will make the journey through Wisconsin's beautiful countryside a good choice over driving.

The Borealis service is sponsored by the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Amtrak along with the Federal Railroad Administration through its Corridor Identification Program. Parkyn went on to say that "working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration have been important from the start and we appreciate our partnerships with these agencies. Our organization welcomes the second daily train service and we now move forward with plans for future service to Green Bay, Madison and Eau Claire."

The Borealis follows the route of the Empire Builder and will stop at all eight stations in Wisconsin with an additional stop at the Milwaukee Intermodal Station as it makes its way across the state. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation estimates that 232,000 passengers are expected to ride the Borealis in its first year of service.