



Agenda for Amtrak's Savannah Civic Conversation

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception on the Beech Grove, Amtrak's Private Office Car, at Amtrak's Savannah Station (Shuttle departing Hyatt Regency Savannah at 5:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Hyatt Regency Savannah, Scarbrough Four Meeting Room

1. Continental Breakfast (9:00 – 9:30 a.m.)

2. Welcome Address and Remarks (9:30 – 10:00 a.m.)

- Joe McHugh, Vice President, Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, Amtrak
- Welcome Remarks from Alderman Tony Thomas, Council Chairman, Savannah City Council
- Great American Stations Video

3. Americans with Disabilities Act Review and Update/Best Practices Overview (10:00 – 10:50 a.m.)

- John Bennett, Assistant Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, Amtrak
- Joseph D. Rago P.E., Senior Director, Stations and Facilities, Engineering Structures, Amtrak

4. Understanding the World of Funding Sources (10:50 – 11:30 a.m.)

- Mark Yachmetz, Associate Administrator for Railroad Development, Federal Railroad Administration
- Yana Hudson, Esq., Principal Officer, Planning, Strategic Partnerships, Amtrak

5. Breakout Session (45 minutes) (11:30 – 12:15p.m.)

6. Lunch (12:15 – 1:00 p.m.)

7. Union Station 100th Anniversary Video (1:15 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.)

8. Case Studies on Stations Before/After Renovations (1:25 – 2:30 p.m.)

- Mayor Johnny L. DuPree, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- Mayor John Robert Smith, Meridian, Mississippi
- Bill Burckhalter, Train Station Volunteer Coordinator, Kirkwood, Missouri

9. Vintage Amtrak Commercials (2:30 – 2:45 p.m.)

10. Telling your Story through Design and Image (2:45 – 3:10 p.m.)

- J. Craig Thorpe, Railroad Concept Artist

11. Introduction of Virtual Civic Conversation, Closing & Breakout Session (50 minutes) (3:10 – 4:00 p.m.)

- Joe McHugh, Vice President, Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, Amtrak

5:00 p.m. Informal Happy Hour at the Hyatt Regency's Vu Lounge, just off of the lobby