

McCormick

Northwestern Engineering



**Transportation Center at
Northwestern University**

Joint NUTC Sandhouse Gang & Chicago Transportation Research Forum (TRF) Meeting

“Metra and CREATE – Making a Difference in Chicago”

Thursday – Jan. 22, 2015 12:00 noon
Brown Bag Luncheon at Metra Headquarters

Speakers: DONALD A. ORSENO, *Executive Director, Metra*
BILL THOMPSON, *CREATE Railroad Program Manager*

Metra and CREATE (Chicago Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program) move forward with ambitious plans for the future. In October 2014 the Metra Board of Directors approved the first long-term capital plan in Metra's 30-year history. Metra, Amtrak and Norfolk Southern celebrated the grand opening of the Englewood Flyover in October. CREATE announced the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Study for the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project. This \$1 billion plus project that will address a major rail congestion point in Chicago will have a significant impact on freight and Metra and Amtrak fluidity in Chicago. **Don Orseno, Metra's CEO and Bill Thompson, AAR's Vice President in charge of CREATE** will address these and other issues and answer questions on the future direction of Metra and CREATE.

Location: Metra Board Room, Metra Headquarters
547 W. Jackson Blvd. – 13th fl., Chicago, IL 60661

Pre-Registration Required – ID required to gain access to Metra Headquarters

To Register go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jan-22-2015-sandhouse-gang-metra-create-brown-bag-luncheon-meeting-tickets-14631468115>

Speaker Bios

Donald Orseno: Metra's Executive Director has worked for the railroad industry for 40 years. Formerly Deputy Executive Director/COO, he provided executive direction and guidance to the Chief Officers of Engineering, Transportation and Mechanical as well as Safety, Operations Training and Certification and Regulatory Compliance. He also provided executive oversight and direction to Purchase of Service Agreement contract carriers (BNSF and Union Pacific) to ensure consistency with Metra's standards and practices. As Executive Director, Mr. Orseno now provides direction and oversight to all areas of Metra's Administrative and Operating program.

William C. Thompson has over 35 years of heavy haul freight railroad operations, management and project management experience. He is currently the CREATE Railroad Program Manager for the Association of American Railroads (AAR) in Chicago. Prior to joining the AAR, Thompson spent 23 years with the Union Pacific Railroad in freight railroad operations, engineering, program management, and risk management. He is Former Deputy Project Manager on the \$330 million Reno Nevada RETRAC railway construction project and a Registered Professional Engineer.