Rail Baltica implementation in Latvia 08.12.2016.
Idea of Rail Baltica

- Railway system in the Baltic states is a part of larger 1520 mm Eurasian rail network, but technically is not connected with the main European standard gauge (1435 mm) network

- Largest railroad infrastructure project in the Baltic countries over the last 100 years

- Priority at the European level, the missing cross-border section of the European rail transport system

- Truly integrate into the European Union – connects capital cities, ports, airports and other strategic objects
Technical parameters

- Double track, electrified, conventional mixed traffic line (1435 mm)
- Design speed of passenger trains up to 240 km/h and freight trains up to 120 km/h
- Overall length approximately 728 km
- Minimum axle load 22.5 t
Game changer

Tallina
2 st.

Pērnava
1 st. 5 min.

Valmiera
2 st. 30 min.

Tukums
1 st. 20 min.

Rīga

Panevēža
50 min.

Jēkabpils / Krustpils
1 st. 50 min.
(2 st. 10 min.)

Kaunas
1 st. 20 min.

Rēzekne
3 st. 40 min.

Vilna
1 st. 50 min. / 2 st.

Daugavpils
2 st. 55 min.
(3 st. 40 min.)
RAIL BALTICA PLANNING PROCESS
RAIL BALTICA PLANNING PROCESS

• 2013. – 2016.

• 35 institutions

• 15 municipalities (including Riga city)

• 4,5 thousand owners of directly impacted land plots+ around 30 000 in nearest surroundings

• Riga city

• general public (Latvia)
Riga city, all alternatives
EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) process

Initial Public Hearing
(March, 2015)

Elaboration of report
(April-November)

Public Hearing
(December, 2015)

Approvals by municipalities
265 km long
300 m wide corridor

location-location-location
Initial public hearings
NIMBY wars

Average number of meeting participants – 300.

More than 5000 people participated

Hostile environment.
Initial public hearings in 15 municipalities

Why???
It’s already decided!!!
What are u talking about?
Twitter on RailBaltica
The most democratic public hearing in Latvia

Achievements after 1st round:

Public involvement from the first steps of the project – 5 years before construction process

Activity shows high level of civic society in Latvia – discussions, proposals, cooperation

Time for advisory groups in regions!
EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) process

Initial Public Hearing
(March, 2015)

Elaboration of report
(April-November)

Public Hearing
(December, 2015)

Approvals by municipalities
Action plan - to create platform for next round of public hearings

- advisory **work groups** in municipalities
- **individual meetings** on-site with private land owners

- informative phone
- informative e-mail

- website [www.railbaltica.info](http://www.railbaltica.info)
- additional cartographic materials (DIY)
Detailed Technical Solutions – basis for 3 D models for specific objects and localities

A picture is worth a thousand words (October, 2015)
265 km of preliminary railway design
more than 300 road crossings
more than 100 river crossings
EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) process

Initial Public Hearing
(March, 2015)

Elaboration of report
(April-November)

Public Hearing
(December, 2015)

Approvals by municipalities
RAIL BALTICA PLANNING PROCESS RESULT

• Direct and open cooperation with municipalities and inhabitants

• = 15 municipalities support the recommended alignment of Rail Baltica

• August, 2016 by decree of Cabinet of Ministers precise location of Rail Baltica in Latvia determined

• Most democratic EIA in history of Latvia:
  • 15 municipalities;
  • 35 institutions
  • More than 5000 people involved

• From 4000 land owners to 1000
Team culture is EVERYTHING

From Spectators (Them) to Actors (Us)

Communicate YOUR message

KISS&KISS&KISS
Securing Financing

- Joint CEF 1 application
- CEF 1 Grant Agreement
- Agreements among Parties
- Joint CEF 2 application, GA
FINANCING

Rail Baltica 1. phase

Design

Construction

Land acquisition

€ 291 M
Procurement plan for Rail Baltica Phase 1

- Open architectural competition for Riga central station, including embankment and bridge across river Daugava;

- Design and Built procurement for Riga central station, including embankment and bridge across river Daugava;

- Technical design procurement for Rail Baltica in territory of Riga international Airport;

- Technical design procurement for Railway line in Central section.

- Land acquisition
The aim of the competition: to obtain the most appropriate sketch design for the central multi-modal public transport hub in Riga and the Rail Baltica railway bridge.

The basic assessment criteria of competition entries:

- urban construction and architectural solutions for the competition object;
- functionality, mobility and accessibility of the competition object;
- logistics of organization of construction works.

Independent, International Jury

Competition territory ~14 ha

Study area ~ 59 ha
Open architectural competition

More than 200 documentation requests

15 Proposals
Winning proposal by Latvian architects
Winning proposal by Denmark architects
Price for innovative idea for architects from Spain
OLD RAILWAY BRIDGE: Floating Pedestrian Boulevard
The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.