



Lumps of coal for the 3C and sugarplums for the golden states as jobs and commerce set for high-speed departure from Ohio

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Reaction of OEC Deputy Director Jack Shaner to today's announcement by the Federal Railroad Administration that it plans to redirect Ohio's \$400 million award to other states, in keeping with Ohio Governor-Elect John Kasich's vow to kill the 3C train:

"Tonight, a lonely train whistle will sound across Ohio, signaling the high-speed departure of jobs and development and other valuable cargo, outbound to enrich other states.

"The anti-public transportation crowd can sleep tight tonight, smug and secure that the 3C line may continue to carry only lumps of coal and freight for the foreseeable future while other states' transportation stockings get stuffed with millions of dollars of investment.

"The Buckeyes may rule the gridiron, but the Buckeye State just fumbled away a \$400 million investment opportunity. Commerce, convenient travel, and energy conservation –that's the real 3Cs that Ohio turned over today.

"There may yet be one last glimmer of hope. The Dayton *Daily News* reported today (<http://bit.ly/em8xpo>) about a possible effort by private investors and local governments to fund and operate the 3C train. Such locally-led, public-private partnerships exist in California and Minnesota.

"For that to happen, Ohio needs to complete the engineering studies on the 3C. This will give definitive, detailed information about speed, ridership, revenue and costs and benefits. That, in turn, will better enable local governments and prospective private investors to make well-informed decisions about whether and how to move forward.

"We urge all involved to give this one last chance a try."