

How does freight, passenger and tourist rail impact New Hampshire?

12 responses

Reduction in highway congestion and accidents, as well as emissions from passenger vehicles and trucks. A corridor to Concord is essential to meet rising populations and climate goals.

State should increase their support of freight rail. The greener alternative to trucks

Provides mobility and connectivity to support community growth and prosperity.

Helps support economic development, as well as mobility and reducing the number of vehicles on the road.

Positive impact on economy, reduces truck traffic, allows commute/travel options

More passenger/tourist availability will free up our growing parking capacity challenges at popular hiking and other outdoor recreation destinations. Also- could make for more accessibility.

Underutilized. Difficult to access. Freight is tough to access anywhere. Passenger is good in the southern part of state.

Tourist rail is the new economic driver for the state of New Hampshire. It effectively replaces long lost manufacturing and wood products jobs.

Amtrak Downeaster provides important intercity link in Southeastern NH. Freight connection is key to Port of NH.



10



How does freight, passenger and tourist rail impact New Hampshire?

12 responses

Urban families would have more access to diverse NH recreation and cultural places beyond their city limits.

Freight rail will be even more vital as energy costs continue to increase.

Freight is another tool we can use for business recruitment



10



What does New Hampshire do well to support freight rail?

9 responses

Inspections to keep safe, upgrading crossings. Tries to keep lines open & available

Upgrades at grade rail crossings.

Not actively pursuing removal of rail corridors which is detrimental to the future of the national rail network. Many states are actively pursuing removal of railroads which have been preserved.

There are some lines moving some material regularly

State capital funds to make improvements

Work with RRs to apply for Crisis funds

Work well with RR operators with their limited budget

DOT is always helpful with rail projects. The state and feds are supportive with infrastructure grants

Work with the congressional delegation to ensure adequate funding for Amtrak



6



What could New Hampshire do better to support freight rail?

10 responses

Attract more grant funds for infrastructure upgrades

There is no publicly available access (reload). Supporting that for businesses

Working with local communities to go ahead and protect industrial sites that are located next to railroad right of ways.

More funding, attract more shippers & receivers, more intermodal facilities to support transloading, etc.

Upgrade existing lines (weight limits), enhance intermodal connections, land use planning discussions

Stop turning lines into trails.

Encourage new operators as well as incentivize businesses to ship more by rail.

Help with quick costing for routes (customers)

The concept would be to effectively land bank properties for future rail did all of utilization.



7



What could New Hampshire do better to support freight rail?

10 responses

Bus connection between Concord and White River Jct. to connect with the Vermonter trains.

What does New Hampshire do well to support passenger rail?

6 responses

Contributes lots of NH ridership on the Downeaster!

Initial availability of TE and CMAQ funding for station improvements.

Amtrack Downeaster is accessible.

The DOT works extremely well in a collaborative effort to support passenger tourist rail in New Hampshire.

Downeaster Station communities, including leadership, are very engaged and supportive.

Solicits public comments on all modes of travel.



6



What could New Hampshire do better to support passenger rail?

7 responses

Active lines in the state. There are areas throughout NH without active lines

Funding

Commuter rail is great if it's self sustaining.

Capital investment funds to to upgrade to heavier rail to facilitate future growth of the rail lines for both Freight and passenger.

Funding for station improvements on Downeaster line

Provide funding for infrastructure improvements including track and stations.

Restore Northern Main Line. In the meantime, provide connecting bus service to White River Jct. for Vermonter trains.



6



What does New Hampshire do well to support tourist railroads?

4 responses

Economic development, movement of some products (gravel), less weight on roadways,

Promotes & ties into NH economy, marketing, etc.
Provides funding to support & enhance the tourist rail lines & experience.

The DOT is extremely supportive of tourist operations in New Hampshire. They collaborate very well with operators and are always looking to improve the properties..

This was the default question when the app first opened



4



What could New Hampshire do better to support tourist railroads?

4 responses

More funding always works!

Along the same lines with passenger and freight to gain capital funding for rail improvements, which can benefit everyone for the long run. Heavier rail will allow for sustainable operation.

Collaborate with neighboring states to expand some of this service. (Ex: encourage expansion of Conway Scenic to Portland before they convert that railroad to a trail)

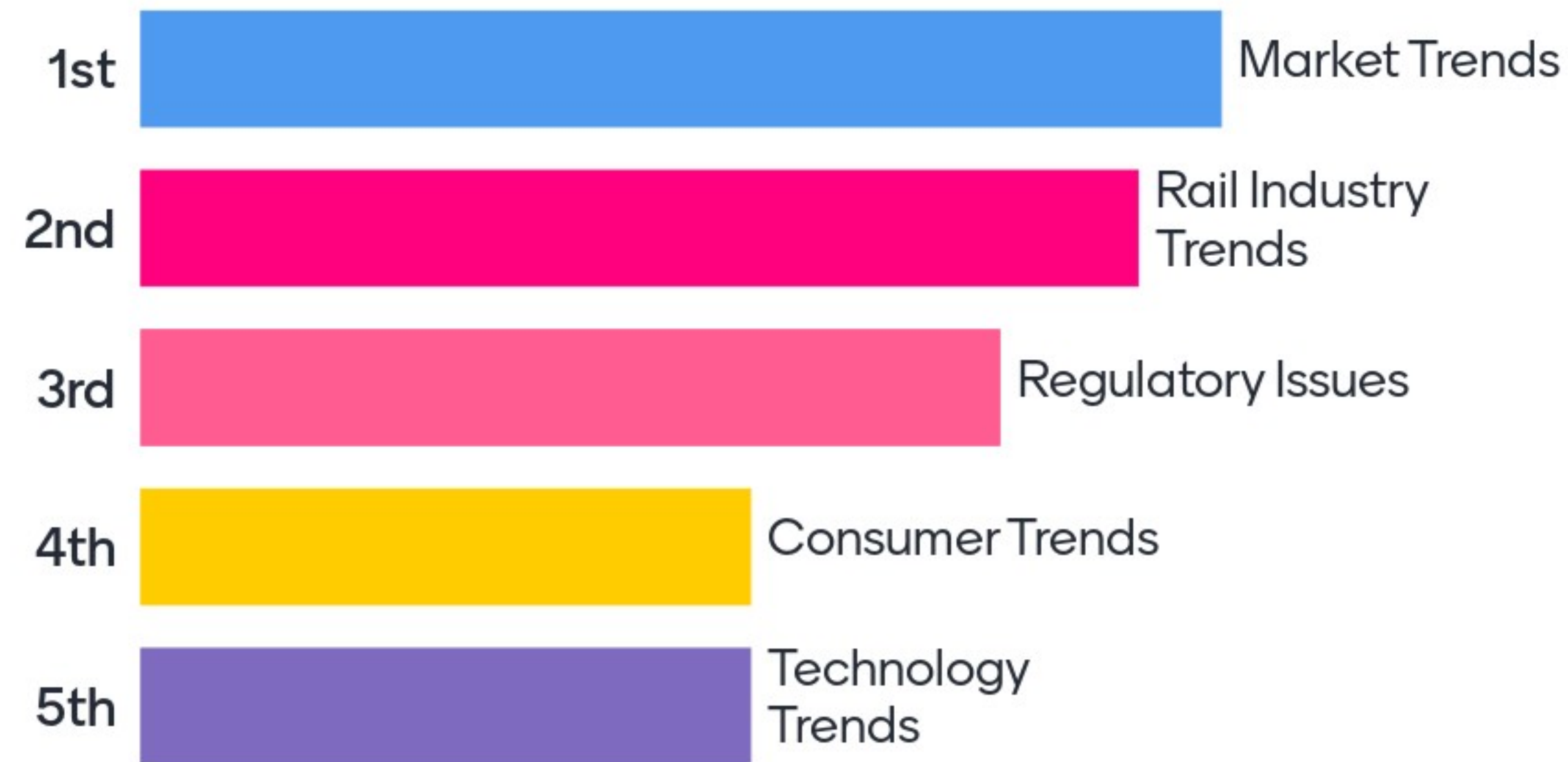
Enhance intermodal connections



4



Rank these trends in terms of how significant of an impact you think they will have on rail service in NH in the future.



What needs or opportunities are missing from this list so far?

9 responses

Political will in NH to invest in rail system

Not in my back yard.. issues for development for businesses and RRs

If autonomous trucking will negate opportunities for rail improvements?

More Federal DOT grant access

Creating a collaborative, rail transportation, and industrial development initiative.

Second the NIMBY observation

Forget it this was on the original slides, but unprecedented level of funding for passenger rail

Port of New Hampshire

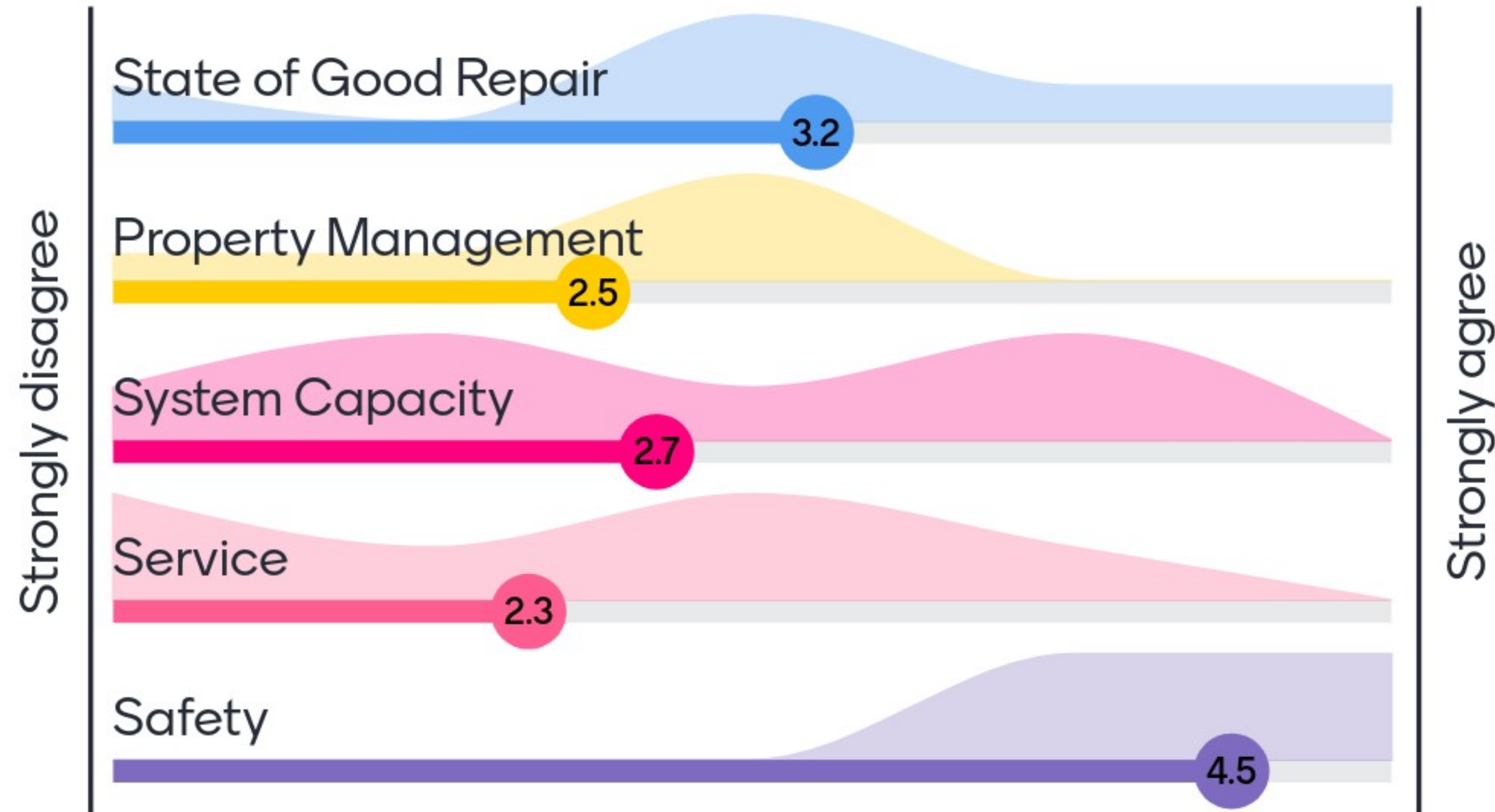
Passenger rail from Canada to North Country



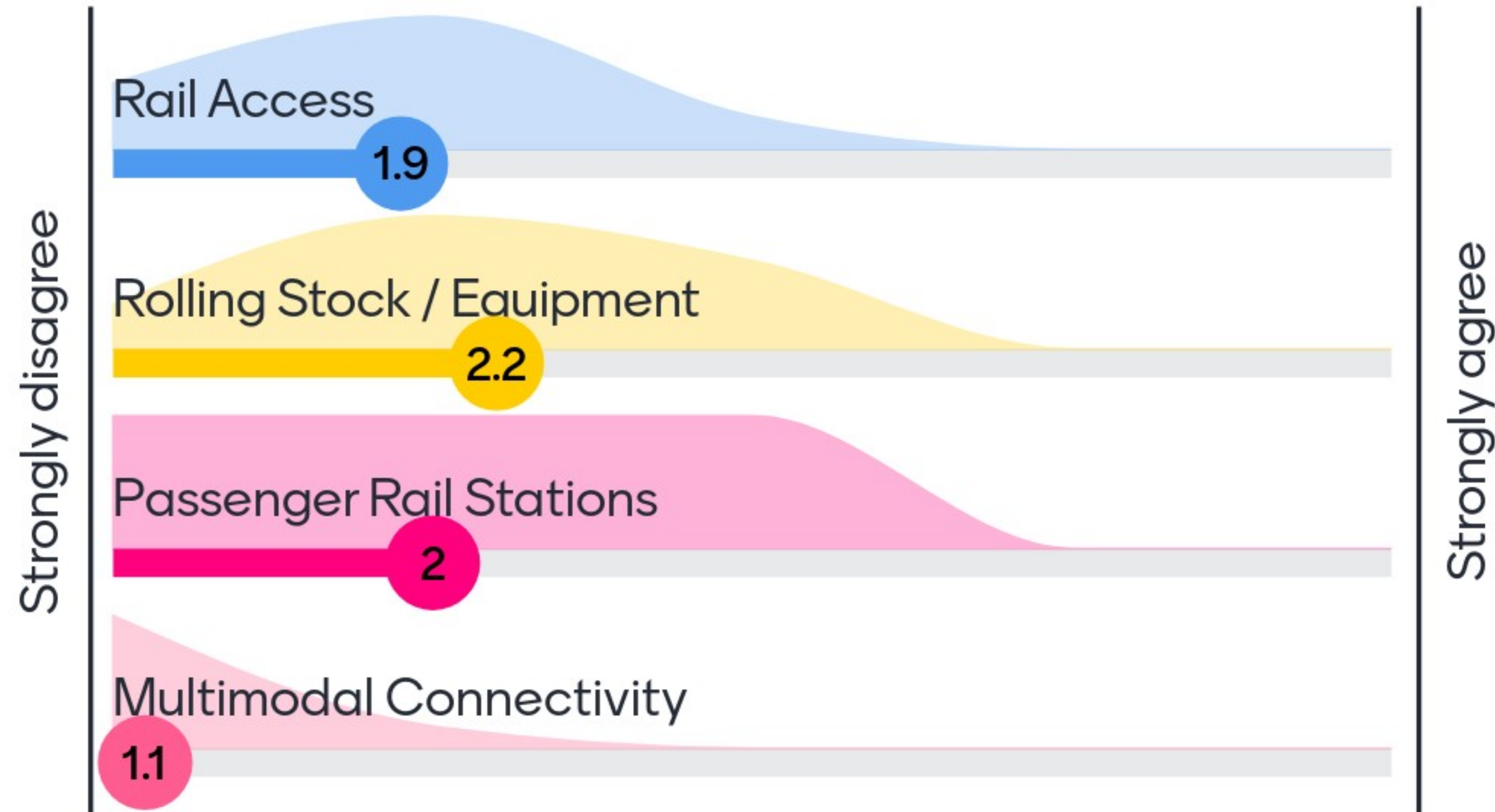
6



New Hampshire's rail system/service is performing well in the following areas:



New Hampshire's rail system/service is performing well in the following areas:



Is there anything else you would like to see included or emphasized in the Vision statement?

6 responses

New technology, integrating passenger and freight. Restructure it.

We need more focus on multimodal transportation, opportunities for both Freight and passenger.

Priority for upgrades should be on existing tracks in the state. Need to take care of what is in NH before expanding

Multimodal opportunities

Safety- relative to recent rail incidents around the country.

Safety- considering recent rail incidents around the country.



4



Is there anything else you would like to see included or emphasized in the goals?

4 responses

Safety in light of recent rail incidents around the country.
Resiliency of the existing rail system.

To create a mechanism to promote rail-based industrial development, which circumvents local community ability to stop such projects.

Safety emphasis. Incremental improvements that could facilitate expansion or shared/dual use, such as sidings or passing tracks to allow for more freight & passenger rail.

Identify conditions operators need met to support rail with trail.



4

