

# Flash News

from Transportation Communications Union/IAM

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## BNSF Rail Facts: What happens if mediation fails in national bargaining

BNSF and the other large U.S. railroads began the latest bargaining round with three labor union coalitions (representing about 145,000 railroad employees) in early 2015. Now in the third year of labor negotiations, the parties have been in mediation since at least the beginning of this year. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Edward Wytkind on Medium: As Public Transit Goes, So Goes the Nation

In a release on Medium website, Ed Wytkind, President of the Transportation Trades Department AFL-CIO (TTD) of which TCU is a member stated:

While public transit continues to be a lifeline for millions of Americans, too many transit agencies nationwide are failing with upkeep and modernization efforts and thus experiencing system failures. That isn't just my opinion—the American Society of Civil Engineers gave transit a grade of D- in their 2017 report card. [Click here](#) for more.

## RRB Release...

### Railroad Retirement Survivor Benefits

Monthly benefits may be payable under the Railroad Retirement Act to the surviving widower, children, and certain other dependents of a railroad employee if the employee was "insured" under that Act at the time of death. Lump-sum death benefits may also be payable to qualified survivors in some cases.

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