

A Word from Our Director Regarding Rails & Ales 2020

As you are all well aware, the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has led to the cancellation of many events and large gatherings around the world, including more recently the United States. Your safety – and the safety of all our patrons, volunteers, and staff – is of the utmost importance to us.

That is why we have made the very difficult decision to cancel our **Rails & Ales 2020** event on April 4, 2020, at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. We will soon be reaching out to our ticket holders, brewers, food vendors, and sponsors to inform them. And we will look forward to holding a new Rails & Ales event in 2021, the exact date of which to be determined in the coming weeks. Because of this extraordinary public health crisis, we are prepared to offer our registered Rails & Ales 2020 ticket holders refunds through Eventbrite. Refunds could take five to seven days to arrive, once the process is initiated. Thank you in advance for your tremendous patience and understanding as we work through this process.

Each year, immediately after one Rails & Ales event concludes, our staff and volunteers are already hard at work diligently preparing and planning for the following year's event, which is why a decision like this is particularly painful for us. However, we all feel, given these difficult circumstances, it is the right one to make.

The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania has taken extraordinary measures and precautions around the Museum to ensure public safety, while actively monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak, working with our Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission leadership. Currently, we are following guidelines from Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization, and the Department of Health at local, state, and federal levels to proactively protect our visitors, volunteers, and staff, and we are actively working to apply these principles and strategies to our day-to-day business and in our recent events.

Public safety always has been – and always will be – our top priority. Our decision to ultimately cancel the Rails & Ales 2020 event was a painful one, but it was made with the safety of all our patrons at top of mind. Rails & Ales will return next year – *rest assured* – and we certainly look forward to it!

Thank you,



Patrick C. Morrison, Director
Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania