ASLRAA Adds Mara Stark-Alcalá to its Legislative Team

WASHINGTON, April 23, 2020 – The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRAA) has bolstered its in-house Legislative team with the addition of Mara Stark-Alcalá, who has been named to the new role of Assistant Vice President, Congressional Affairs. Ms. Stark-Alcalá brings 10 years of strong and varied transportation legislative experience to the ASLRAA through her past positions with Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell (CC&H), the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), and on the staff of the U.S. Senate Committees on Appropriations and Environment and Public Works (EPW).

“I couldn’t be more pleased to hire Mara, so much so that it’s for the second time – once during my tenure at CC&H, and now at ASLRAA. Her transportation industry experience, detailed knowledge of the legislative and regulatory process, and her positive relationships with our short line industry members will enable her to make an immediate impact,” said Chuck Baker, President of ASLRAA. “We look forward to having her continue to put her expertise and intellect to work for short line railroads and the thousands of customers and communities that we serve.”

In her prior position as Senior Associate with CC&H, ASLRAA’s long-time government affairs firm, Ms. Stark-Alcalá worked across the transportation industry, advocating for many of the firm’s public transportation, municipal, commuter and freight railroad clients in addition to the ASLRAA.
At ASLRRA, she will be responsible for focusing full-time on the varied Congressional affairs issues facing short line railroads, including tax policy, infrastructure grant programs, and surface transportation policy.

“I am pleased to have the opportunity to continue my work for the short line industry in this new position,” said Stark-Alcalá. “Short lines have a great story to tell as a key transportation link, serving as the first and last mile of the freight rail network, keeping rural and small-town American connected to the U.S. and worldwide economy. Particularly in these challenging times for our country, we are seeing every day the critical role short lines play for the supply chain, the economy, and for the thousands of shippers and small towns that rely on us for their freight connections.”

Mara Stark-Alcalá is a graduate of Stanford University with a B.A. in Political Science.

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About ASLRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 603 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network. www.aslrra.org