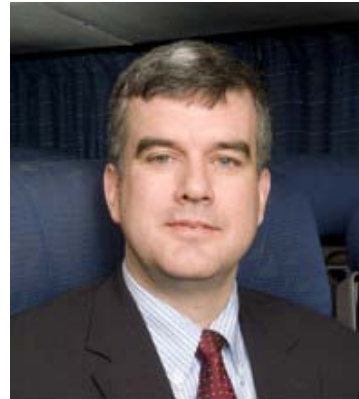


Richard Harnish

Executive Director
Midwest High Speed Rail Association



Richard Harnish is the Executive Director of the Midwest High Speed Rail Association, a membership-based non-profit organization advocating for fast, frequent and dependable trains linking the entire Midwest.

Harnish graduated from Elmhurst College in 1986 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in transportation management. After leaving Elmhurst, Harnish was a logistics manager at American President Lines and JB Hunt and managed industrial real estate on Chicago's west side.

Harnish helped found the Midwest High Speed Rail Association in 1991. He became the first paid executive director of the Association in February 2001 after leading a successful fundraising campaign.

While at the Association, Harnish has led several successful grassroots campaigns including winning a doubling of Amtrak service linking downstate Illinois to Chicago.