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Date: **November 9, 2026**

TO: **RAILS Consortia Committee**

FROM: **Grant Halter, Data Analysis Manager**

SUBJECT: **Consortial Delivery Data Working Group Update**

The Consortial Delivery Data Working Group has met three times since June 2026 and has made significant progress toward our goal of automating the Delivery Count for LLSAP libraries. Noteworthy milestones thus far include:

- Reviewing the project work that led to the creation of the working group and building enthusiasm for established goals
- Discussing how to account for different ILS policies and reporting mechanisms when standardizing the data
- Digging into the quirks and outliers in how individual libraries process materials for delivery
- Analyzing sample ILS reports with the RAILS Delivery Count from August 2026 to uncover patterns, trends, and insights that can help refine reporting queries

Looking forward to the second half of our schedule, next meeting will be in January, some of the next steps include:

- Conducting a second round of comparisons between ILS reports and the RAILS Delivery Count in November, alongside a more intentional analysis of historical data
- Inviting IHLS and SHARE staff to provide insight into their experience using their ILS to submit delivery material volumes
- Inviting RAILS IT staff to discuss options for LLSAPs to efficiently share data with RAILS on a regular basis once the reporting standards are established
- Using our knowledge and experience from previous meetings to develop a game plan for onboarding standalone public libraries

Consortial Delivery Data Working Group Charge

Membership

- Appointed by the Consortia Committee chairperson for the entire period of the working group
- One staff member from each RAILS Local Library System Automation Program (LLSAP) with oversight or expertise in reporting functions
- The RAILS Associate Executive Director, Delivery and Facilities Director, and Data Analysis Manager are ex officio members

Charge

- Develop and recommend strategies for shared catalog consortia to collect and report standardized transit data from their report platforms that align with RAILS Delivery data collection needs
- Investigate challenges that will impact the quality of the data reported such as identifying items not captured and accounting for varying practices across libraries and consortia
- Identify solutions to standardize and analyze transit data across multiple catalog software platforms including definition creation, establishing common data fields, and creating data validation guidelines
- Recommend frameworks for consortia to sustainably submit data on a recurring basis
- Identify key metrics that will be needed to assess the effectiveness of the data collection and reporting
- Outline approaches for incorporating standalone libraries into delivery data collection and reporting

Time Period

The Consortial Delivery Data Working Group is expected to make its recommendations to the Consortia Committee no later than one year after its first meeting.