

# 2017 Fourth Quarter Earnings Conference Call

January 24, 2018



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## Forward-Looking Statements



Certain statements in this presentation are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. In some cases, forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of words like "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "plan," "consider," "project," and similar references to the future. Forward-looking statements are made as of the date they were first issued and reflect the good-faith evaluation of Norfolk Southern Corporation's (NYSE: NSC) ("Norfolk Southern" or the "Company") management of information currently available. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the Company's control. These and other important factors, including those discussed under "Risk Factors" in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, as well as the Company's other public filings with the SEC, may cause our actual results, performance or achievement to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not, and should not be relied upon as, a guarantee of future performance or results, nor will they necessarily prove to be accurate indications of the times at or by which any such performance or results will be achieved. As a result, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, the occurrence of certain events or otherwise, unless otherwise required by applicable securities law.



# 2017 Highlights Fourth Quarter and Full Year

January 24, 2018

James A. Squires Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer



## 4Q17 and Full Year Results Versus Prior Year



#### Record full year operating ratio and earnings per share

	*Excludes impacts associated with Tax reform(1)									
	4Q17* v	s 4Q16		2017* vs	2016					
Operating Ratio	67.7%	69.4%		67.4% RECORD RESULTS	68.9%					
Income From Operations	\$863M	<b>13</b> %		\$3,435M	<b>12</b> %					
Net Income	\$486M	<b>17</b> %		\$1,922M	<b>15</b> %					
Earnings Per Share	\$1.69 RECORD RESULTS	<b>19</b> %		\$6.61	<b>18</b> %					

<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

## **Balanced Deployment of Capital**



#### \$1.7 billion in CapEx; \$1.7 billion returned to shareholders

#### **Maintaining our Rail Infrastructure:**

- ✓ \$1.7 billion in CapEx for 2017
- ✓ Planned \$1.8 billion in CapEx for 2018





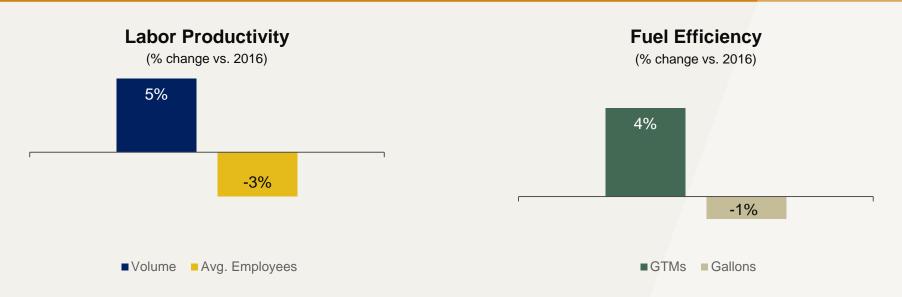
#### **Returns to Shareholders in 2017:**

- √ \$703 million in dividends
- √ \$1.0 billion in share repurchases

## Delivering Growth While Driving Efficiency



#### Achieved \$150 million in productivity savings in 2017



#### **Composite Service Metric**





# 2017 Marketing Overview Fourth Quarter

January 24, 2018

Alan H. Shaw
Executive Vice President
and Chief Marketing Officer



# Railway Operating Revenue Fourth Quarter 2017 vs 2016



#### Fourth consecutive quarter of year-over-year revenue growth



	Merchandise	Intermodal	Coal	Total
Revenue	\$1,576M <b>1</b> 5%	\$667M <b>1</b> 14%	\$426M <b>1</b> 6%	\$2,669M <b>1</b> 7%
Volume	611,000 1%	1,060,400 <b>1</b> 6%	253,700   6%	1,925,100 👚 5%
RPU	\$2,580 • 4%	\$629 👚 8%	\$1,677	\$1,387 • 2%
RPU (less fuel)*	\$2,551 👚 3%	\$549 👚 4%	\$1,649	\$1,329 1%

 $<sup>^{\</sup>ast}\,$  Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

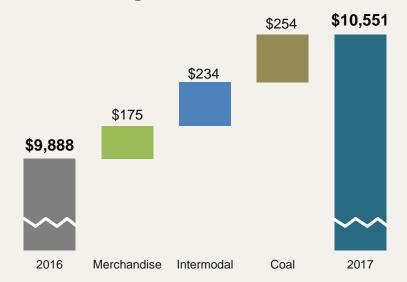
#### **Full Year Performance**



#### Unique market approach continues to yield higher returns

Revenue	Volume	RPU	RPU Less Fuel*
\$10.6 Billion	7,611,500 units	\$1,386	\$1,339
up 7%	up 5%	up 2%	up 1%

#### **Revenue Change in \$ Millions**



#### \* Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Tight truck capacity, coal rebound, and drilling activity drove revenue growth in 2017:

- Tightened truck capacity and E-commerce growth
- High benchmark pricing increasing demand for US coals
- Increased steel production and drilling activity

## Strong Economic Environment



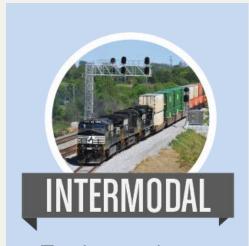
#### Opportunities in the Intermodal and Merchandise networks will drive growth



Improved industrial production

Continued drilling activity

NGL declines with pipeline activity



Truck capacity constraints

Strong consumer spending

Full implementation of ELDs



Declines in export coal markets

Lower natural gas prices



# 2017 Operations Overview Fourth Quarter

January 24, 2018

Michael J. Wheeler Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer



#### **Record Results**





Lowest annual train accident ratio



Record annual train length



Record annual locomotive productivity



Record annual fuel efficiency

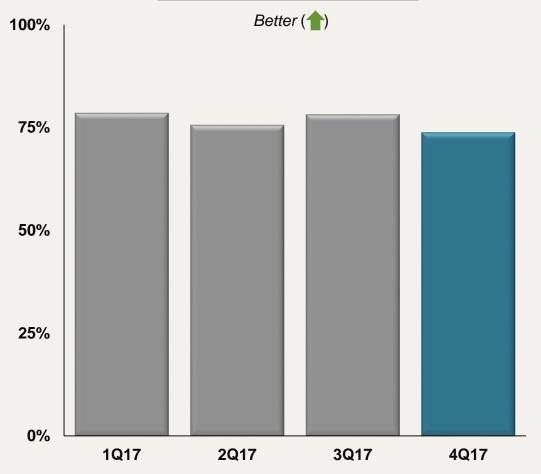


Record annual Operating Ratio

## Safety and Service







#### Safety:

- Injury ratios stable
- Lowest annual train accident ratio

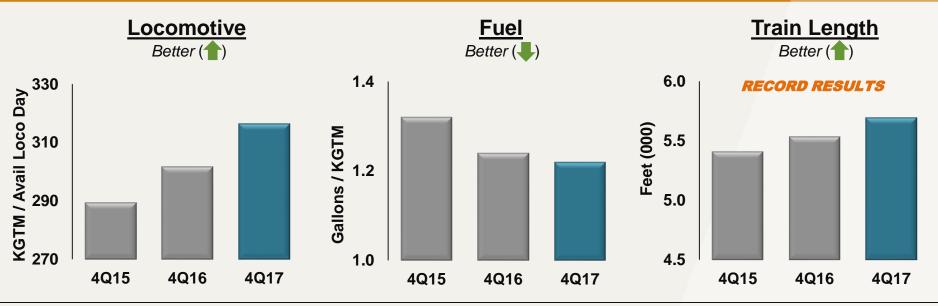
#### **▶** Service:

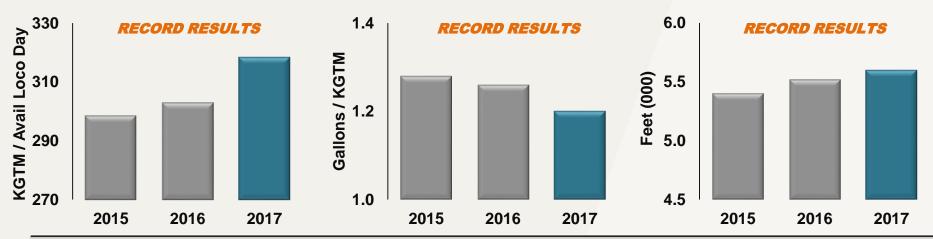
Challenging 4<sup>th</sup> quarter

# Productivity Measures Fourth Quarter and Full Year



#### Annual records in key productivity measures







# 2017 Financial Overview Fourth Quarter

January 24, 2018

Cynthia C. Earhart Executive Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer

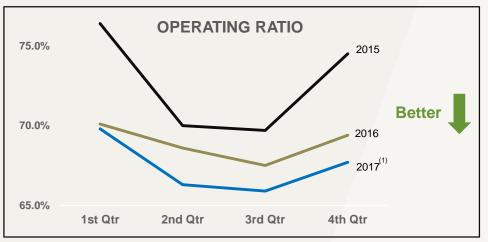


# 2017 Year in Review 2017 vs. 2016



#### Fourth quarter caps a record year

	1Q	2Q	3Q	Adjusted 4Q <sup>(1)</sup>	Adjusted Year <sup>(1)</sup>
Railway operating revenues	+6%	+7%	+6%	+7%	+7%
Operating ratio	-10bps	-230bps	-160bps	-170bps	-150bps
Income from railway operations	+7%	+15%	+11%	+13%	+12%
Earnings per share - diluted	+15%	+26%	+13%	+19%	+18%



<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Operating Results Fourth Quarter 2017 vs. 2016 (\$ millions)



#### Growth and 13% improvement in adjusted operating income

	Adjusted 2017 2017 <sup>(1)</sup>		2016			\$	%	
Railway operating revenues	\$	2,669	\$ 2,669	\$	2,490	\$	179	7%
Railway operating expenses		1,655	1,806		1,729		(77)	(4%)
Income from railway operations	\$	1,014	\$ 863	\$	761	\$	102	13%
Operating ratio (%)		62.0	67.7		69.4		1.7	2%

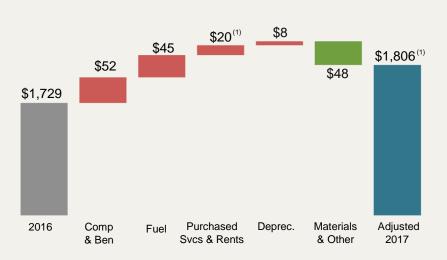
Favorable (Unfavorable)

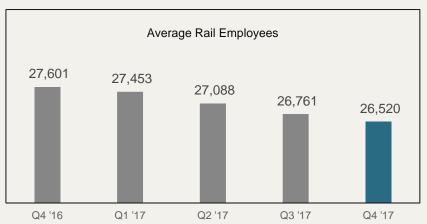
<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Operating Expense Components (excluding tax reform) Fourth Quarter 2017 vs. 2016 (\$ millions)



#### Cost control tempers inflation and volume-related increases





#### Compensation and Benefits 1 \$52 / 8%

- Incentive compensation \$55
- Health and welfare rates \$16
- Overtime \$9
- Reduced employee levels \$24

#### Fuel **1**\$45 / 23%

- 22% higher price per gallon \$41
- 1% higher consumption \$2

#### Purchased Svcs and Rents<sup>(1)</sup> 1\$20 / 5%

■ Higher volume-related costs \$12

#### Materials and Other **↓**\$48 / 22%

- Gains on sale of operating properties \$25
- Lower casualty and claims expense \$18
- Equipment and roadway material usage \$7

<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Financial Results Fourth Quarter 2017 vs. 2016 (\$ millions except per share)



#### Adjusted net income up 17% and adjusted EPS up 19%

	2017	Adjusted 2017 <sup>(1)</sup>	2016	\$	%
Income from railway operations	\$ 1,014	\$ 863	\$ 761	\$ 102	13%
Non-operating expenses – net	121	121	120	(1)	(1%)
Income before income taxes	893	742	641	101	16%
Income taxes	(3,075)	256	225	(31)	(14%)
Net income	\$ 3,968	\$ 486	\$ 416	\$ 70	17%
Earnings per share - diluted	\$ 13.79	\$ 1.69	\$ 1.42	\$ 0.27	19%

Favorable (Unfavorable)

<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Full Year Highlights

2017 vs. 2016 (\$ millions except per share)



#### Record earnings per share and operating ratio

	2017	Adjusted 2017 <sup>(1)</sup>	2016	\$	%
Railway operating revenues	\$ 10,551	\$ 10,551	\$ 9,888	\$ 663	7%
Railway operating expenses	6,965	7,116	6,814	(302)	(4%)
Income from railway operations	3,586	3,435	3,074	361	12%
Non-operating expenses – net	458	458	492	34	7%
Income before income taxes	3,128	2,977	2,582	395	15%
Income taxes	(2,276)	1,055	914	(141)	(15%)
Net income	\$ 5,404	\$ 1,922	\$ 1,668	\$ 254	15%
Earnings per share – diluted	\$ 18.61	\$ 6.61	\$ 5.62	\$ 0.99	18%
Operating ratio (%)	66.0	67.4	68.9	1.5	2%
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<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

(Unfavorable)

## Cash Flows 2017 vs. 2016 (\$ millions)



#### Committed to significant shareholder returns

	2017	2016
Cash from operating activities	\$ 3,253	\$ 3,034
Property additions	(1,723)	(1,887)
Free cash flow (1)	\$ 1,530	\$ 1,147
Returns to shareholders:		
Dividends	\$ 703	\$ 695
Share repurchases	\$ 1,012	\$ 803

#### Quarterly dividend increased to \$0.72 per share

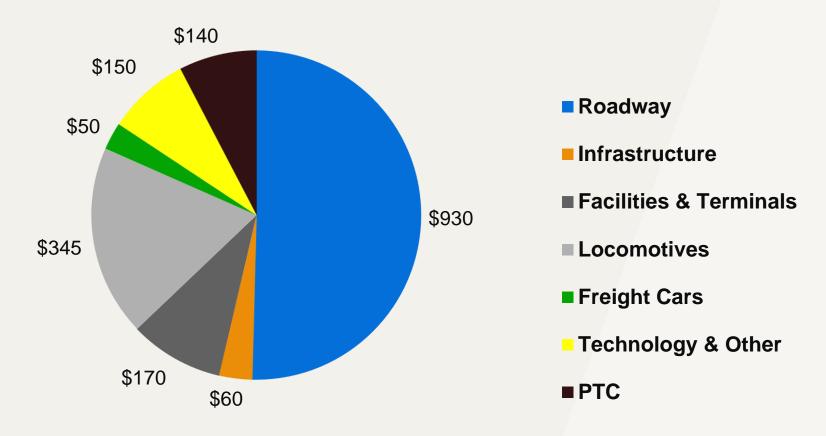
<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# 2018 Capital Improvement Budget (\$ millions)



#### Strategic investment to core assets supports growth

#### **Total Spending = \$1,845 million**





## Strategic Plan Update

January 24, 2018

James A. Squires Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer



## Driving Increased Shareholder Value



## **Key Focus Areas**

#### **2020 Strategic Plan Targets**

(as conveyed December 4, 2015)

Optimize revenue – both pricing and volume



Disciplined pricing increases above rail inflation

Improve productivity to deliver efficient and superior service



Operating Ratio < 65

Increase asset utilization



Double-digit compound annual EPS growth

Focus capital investment to support long-term value creation



CapEx ~19% of revenue through 2018
CapEx ~17% of revenue thereafter

Reward shareholders with significant return of capital



Dividend payout target of ~33% over the longer term and continuation of dividend growth and significant share repurchases

## Driving Increased Shareholder Value



# 2020 Strategic Plan Targets (as conveyed December 4, 2015) Disciplined pricing increases above rail inflation Continued pricing gains over rail inflation 8 consecutive qtrs. of y-o-y Operating Ratio < 65 Operating Ratio of 67.4

Dividend payout target of ~33% over the longer term and continuation of dividend growth and significant share repurchases

Double-digit compound annual EPS growth

CapEx ~19% of revenue through 2018

CapEx ~17% of revenue thereafter



Dividend payout >33% in 2016 & 2017; Over \$1.8 billion in share repurchases from 2016-2017

Double digit EPS growth in

2016 and 2017

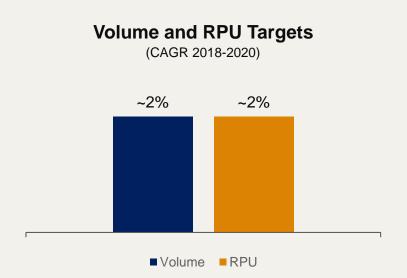
Total CapEx since 2015 ~18% of

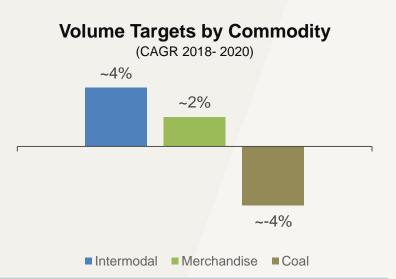
revenues

<sup>(1)</sup> Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

## **Balancing Growth and Productivity**







#### **Productivity Initiatives**

- ✓ Continued focus on fleet and line rationalization.
- √ Improving fuel efficiency
- ✓ Investments in technology

#### **Resource Flexibility**

#### Workforce

✓ Managing resources while supporting demand

#### Locomotives

✓ Investing and maintaining reliability of fleet

#### Capital

✓ Balanced and disciplined approach in deploying capital

## Norfolk Southern's Strategic Plan



Revenue plan drives profitable growth

Service product that customers value

Efficiencies while pursuing growth

Committed to delivering shareholder value

# Thank You



