Rail Passengers
Virtual Advocacy Presentation

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Rail Passengers Association | Washington, DC
This Presentation Will...

● Give you an overview of the Association’s legislative asks

● Give you the tools to make you a stronger advocate

● Show you how to contact your elected official
RAIL PASSENGERS
LEGISLATIVE ASK
Tier 1 - Responding to Coronavirus

**AMTRAK**
Amtrak Grants - $1.018 billion
- Northeast Corridor - $492 million
- National Network - $526 million
- State Supported Corridors: $239 million

**PUBLIC TRANSIT**
Mass Transit Grants - $25 billion
- Urban Area - $13.9 billion
- Rural Area - $1.8 billion
- State of Good Repair - $7.6 billion
- Fast-Growth & High-Density State - $1.7 billion
Our message to elected officials:

- **Thank You:** We need to tell Representatives and Senators "On behalf of the 28,000 Rail Passengers members, thank you for delivering for Amtrak, railroad workers, and transit agencies. The $1 billion for Amtrak and $25 billion for transit was essential to the services I depend on to get to work and to stay connected to other parts of the country."

- **Transportation Keeps the U.S. Economy Moving:** In addition to employing over 13 million people, the transportation sector is a foundational part of our economy. If we want to get America back to work, we need Congress to ensure that these transit agencies and commuter railroads are still able to move U.S. workers.

- **Passenger Rail Investment Will Put Americans Back to Work:** As Congress turns to additional phases for relief, passenger rail and transit should be a critical component of any economic recovery package. There are tens of billions of dollars worth of rail projects that could be quickly funded to create construction and manufacturing jobs for Americans -- and they will produce long-term benefits for America's transportation infrastructure.
## Tier 2 - Ask your Representative to Support Strong Funding in FY2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY2020 Appropriated Levels</th>
<th>Rail Passengers FY2021 Proposal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amtrak - National Network</td>
<td>$1,300.0</td>
<td>$1,326.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amtrak - Corridor Dev. Program</td>
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<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amtrak – NEC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consolidated Rail Infrastructure &amp; Safety Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal State Partnership for State of Good Repair</td>
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<td>$500.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restoration &amp; Enhancement Grants</td>
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<td>$50.0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,527.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,265.0</strong></td>
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In addition to those funding items, we would also ask you to highlight our policy recommendations - which include:

- Ensuring continued service on existing long-distance routes
- Solutions for improving On-Time Performance
- Improving on-board food & beverage service
- Making it easier launch new services and add frequencies on shared-use corridors
Finally, we are asking advocates to share our surface transportation reauthorization blueprint. Between the current pandemic crisis and the upcoming election it is unlikely that Congress will be able to pass reauthorization this calendar year. But it is still very important to remind offices that we have drafted a larger vision for passenger rail in the U.S.
Don’t forget to advocate for your local projects!

For Example:

- Daily Sunset (LA/TX/NM/AZ/CA)
- North-South Rail Link (MA)
- Gulf Coast Rail (LA/AL/MS)
- CA High-Speed Rail (CA)
- Front Range Passenger Rail (CO)
- Cascades High-Speed Rail (OR/WA/BC)
Legislative Resources

When talking to staffers, please send them to:
railpassengers.org/Leg.Resources

This site includes our literature on

1. Coronavirus Relief Bill
2. Fiscal Year 2021 Legislative Grant Request
3. Surface Transportation Reauthorization
4. Informational One-Pagers
One-Pagers

- Economic Benefits
- Environmental Benefits
- High-Speed Rail
- National Network & Rural Mobility
- Northeast Corridor & Gateway
- On-Time Performance

railpassengers.org/blueprint

Passenger Trains: Economic Engines for Growth

A connected America is not only good for passengers but good for America’s cities and towns, an economic engine in the command economy. The U.S. transportation system is a keystone—the nation’s most efficient highway has grown 1.3 million cars a year (or $500 billion per year). And the country’s largest cities—New York, Chicago, and LA—owe their economic vitality to high-speed rail. The蓝图

Southwest: A Drill-Buyer Builder

Rail Passenger

- A rail passengers study found that the Southern Cheif brings $150 million in direct and indirect activity to Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico.
- A tunnel from Texas to New Mexico along the three-state segment of the Chief will bring an additional $341 million in economic activity through construction, benefitting small towns in CO, TX, and NM.
- If the plan to break up the Chief with a 4-hour train were to go through, 12 vehicles would have to transport passengers. A train would only have to transport 1,000 passengers and 12 extra cars would be added. The trains would be more dangerous than the current average—400 cars of freight.

Virginia: A Decade of Growth

By investing in a 50 percent freight in Amtrak service, Virginia has produced a 50% increase in jobs since 2005 and removed 6.5 million tons of freight traffic from the Commonwealth’s highways. The report spoke for themselves.
- $14 million in economic returns to Virginia
- 14,000 jobs created over 10 years
- 90% reduction in road wear and tear
- $20 billion above the cost—$30 million per passenger in 2017

Gulf Coast Rail

A study done by the Transportation for America and the Southern Rail Commission found that restoring passenger rail between Mobile and New Orleans would produce $123 million in annual economic benefits for Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, despite costing the three states only about $1 million each year.
HOW TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS
How To Contact Your Officials

By going to votervoice.net/NARPRAIL/address you can find the contact information for every Federal and State Official tied to your address.
For Example:

Your Federal Officials
- President Donald Trump
- Vice President Mike Pence
- Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
- Senator Ed Markey (D-MA)
- Representative Ayanna Pressley (D-MA-007)

Your State Officials
- Governor Charlie Baker Jr. (R-MA)
- Lt. Governor Karyn Polito (R-MA)
- Secretary of State William Galvin (D-MA)
- Attorney General Maura Healey (D-MA)
- Treasurer Deb Goldberg (D-MA)
- Auditor Suzanne Bump (D-MA)
- Senator Sal DiDomenico (D-MA-Middlesex and Suffolk)
- Representative Mike Connolly (D-MA-26th Middlesex)
Clicking on the link next to the photo will bring up their full contact information

Checking the boxes next to each official’s name will populate them into the compose screen
Beginner's Guide:
railpassengers.org/beginnersguide

For more information:
railpassengers.org/RailNation2020
railpassengers.org/blueprint

Find your Legislators:
votervoice.net/NARPRAIL/address

Resources Toolkit:
railpassengers.org/Leg/Resources
If you have any questions or comments, please reach out:

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THANK YOU!