



Photo credit: Tom Compson

RAIL PASSENGERS

FRIDAY HOTLINE

#1412

SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2025



Take Action

NOTE: Our office has been getting a number of questions as of late about our printed "Passengers Voice" newsletter. We, unfortunately, stopped production in the Spring of 2020 and, as of this notice, do not have plans to start up again.

Association News

FAQ: What a Gov't Shutdown Means for Passengers

Over the past decade, government shutdowns have become an increasingly common fact of life for people living in the U.S.

Many of our members have been asking *Rail Passengers* staff what it would mean for trains and transit.

We've collected answers to the most frequently asked questions we receive about how a government shutdown will affect America's passengers.

What it Means for Amtrak and Intercity Rail

The simple answer: your Amtrak trip won't be affected by the government shutdown. As we've seen during previous government shutdowns, Amtrak has enough cash on hand to keep the trains running and workers paid in the near term.

The full answer: it depends on how long the government shutdown goes on. Amtrak can't operate indefinitely without receiving payments to its operations account for the Northeast Corridor and National Network. Based on prior experience, it is very unlikely that the shutdown will last long enough to affect Amtrak's day-to-day operations.

However, based on previous shutdowns, we know that grant making and rulemaking work will halt at the USDOT, which could delay the delivery of infrastructure funds to projects currently under construction across the country.

What it Means for Transit

Like Amtrak, transit systems will have enough cash on hand to keep trains and busses moving. However, given the financial cliff faced by many transit agencies across the U.S., the financial cushion may well be slimmer, depending on where you live.

As with intercity rail, the more likely cost of a shutdown would come in delaying important work to advance projects to enhance and expand transit service.

What it Means for U.S. Transportation, Generally

The biggest near-term impact of a shutdown will be felt in the aviation industry, which depends heavily on the government to coordinate flight operations and oversee airport security. The effects of the shutdown will be compounded by the simultaneous expiration of the law that authorizes the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to operate and collect ticket taxes.

In the near term, the people who will bear the brunt of this will be aviation and airport workers — 13,000 air traffic controllers and 50,000 TSA baggage screeners would be forced to work without pay. An extended shutdown would undoubtedly lead to staffing shortages, cancelled flights, and longer airport security lines.

Takeaways

Based on prior government shutdowns, it is unlikely that this shutdown will last long enough to negatively impact rail passengers.

However, until Congress confronts this annual dysfunction and returns to normal order, the nation's infrastructure programs will be forced to limp along. That means longer project delivery times and higher costs.

Capitol Hill Roundup: News on WAS, Amtrak Board and Brightline

[by Sean Jeans-Gail | VP of Gov't Affairs + Policy](#)

While the focus in Washington, D.C. has been on the [impending government shutdown](#), several important rail stories broke over the past week.

As always, *Rail Passengers* has been tracking these developments on behalf of our members, and we've included a summary of the most important developments for your perusal.

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The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) [announced last week](#) that Amtrak and the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation (USRC) Boards of Directors have unanimously agreed to approve a renegotiated cooperative agreement that will restore direct federal control over Washington Union Station.

USDOT says the new agreement will help fast track restoration efforts, improve security, and attract new economic development.

As part of the agreement, Amtrak will return its D.C. offices to Union Station. Amtrak moved its headquarters from Union Station down the block to 1 Massachusetts Avenue in 2017; [Amtrak's lease on that office space is set to expire in 2028](#). The USDOT argues that moving Amtrak back to Union Station will allow "Amtrak's taxpayer-funded office expenses to be reinvested in a federal asset rather than being spent on private realty."

The announcement also stated that USDOT is directing Amtrak to pursue a "back to basics" approach to the station, which suggests the railroad will pursue a less ambitious redevelopment plan than the current ["2nd Century Plan"](#) it has outlined for the station. An approach that prioritizes delivering lower-cost upgrades to platforms and passenger concourses in a timely fashion would be welcomed by many passengers.

The United States Senate confirmed Robert Gleason to the Amtrak Board of Directors last week, part of a group of 48 Trump Administration nominees that were approved *en bloc*. The confirmation came after a decision by Senate Republicans to approve lower-level nominations by a simple majority vote, a departure from Senate procedures.

[During his confirmation hearing](#), Gleason—a Pennsylvania native and the former Chair of the Pennsylvania Republican Party—underscored his personal history with rail travel. He recounted how the decline of rail service in his hometown mirrored the economic and social decline of the region more generally:

In the first half of the twentieth century, my hometown of Johnstown was connected to the rest of the world by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Trains with iconic names like the Red Arrow, Broadway Limited, the Fort Pitt, and the Cleveland—25 daily passenger trains—all stopped in Johnstown. I was a regular rail passenger traveling back and forth to Philadelphia to attend the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance and Commerce.

Our town was bypassed by the interstate highway system, and most airlines overflowed us. The region began a downhill slide. As passenger train service dwindled, we are now only served by two trains a day.

In addition to my personal experiences with the benefits of rail connections and the potentially devastating effects of a community not being on the main transportation grid, I am honored to be nominated to join the Amtrak Board and continue in public service. My civilian government experience makes me well-qualified for the role of Amtrak director.

"It is clear from his testimony and from his responsiveness to inquiries from members of the committee that Mr. Gleason would be an excellent addition to the Amtrak Board of Directors," said *Rail Passengers'* President & CEO Jim Mathews, while urging the Senate to confirm Mr. Gleason. "It is refreshing to see someone with such a firm understanding that passenger

trains are economic engines for the towns they serve.”

The USDOT transferred \$42 million in funds to Brightline Florida to advance critical rail safety projects along the corridor. The funds were part of grants approved by the FRA under the Biden Administration which had yet to be obligated. The grants were caught up in a freeze of the distribution of funds mandated by Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy in January 2025, part of an unprecedented USDOT-wide review of infrastructure grants approved under the Biden Administration.

USDOT [provided a summary](#) of the safety grants, some of which have been waiting to be obligated for more than three years:

- * \$24.9 million announced in August 2022 to the Florida Department of Transportation for improvements to 330 highway-railroad crossings, along 195 miles of corridor, including fencing, crossing delineators, crisis support signage and other intrusion prevention mitigations.

- * A grant for \$1.6 million announced in September 2023 for a Trespassing Identification and Classification System under the CRISI Grant Program for FY22. The project will advance a technology that will provide real-time alerts and aggregate data to generate heat-maps of trespassing and potential collision events on the Florida East Coast Railway right of way from Miami to Cocoa.

- * A grant for \$15.4 million announced in June 2023 to increase safety at 21 grade crossings along the Brightline/Florida East Coast Railway corridor with additional crossing gates and delineators.

- * A grant for up to \$150,000 announced in October 2024 for Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office to support overtime costs for targeted enforcement of pedestrian trespassing at identified hot spots.

FRA Reissues Fed-State Funds NOFO

[by Sean Jeans-Gail, VP of Government Affairs](#)

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) issued a \$5 billion Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the [National Railroad Partnership Program](#)—an apparent rebranding of the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP). The NOFO would redirect \$2.4 billion previously awarded to California's high-speed rail project.

The NOFO includes \$2.4 billion that the FRA is attempting to claw back from the California high-speed rail corridor currently under construction in the Central Valley—a decision that the California High-Speed Rail Authority is currently challenging in court.

“The FRA's decision to terminate federal funding for California high-speed rail was unlawful, unwarranted, and is being challenged in federal court,” [said Micah Flores, a spokesman for the Authority](#). “Now, their attempt to redirect a portion of that funding, currently the subject of litigation, is premature. The Authority has been prepared for this possibility and will take imminent legal action to block this misguided effort by the FRA.”

The FSP program funds projects that reduce the state of good repair backlog, improve performance, or expand or establish new intercity passenger rail service. This NOFO will also include funds from a NOFO issued by FRA under the Biden Administration in 2024 that were never awarded. The press release issued by the USDOT criticized the Biden Administration for a focus on “diversity, equity, and inclusion requirements”.

The announcement also stated that the NOFO will emphasize highway-rail grade crossing safety and supporting projects that align with the Trump Administration's “focus on the American family.”

Recognition for New York by Rail Magazine





Wappingers Falls, NY-September 17, 2025 - Content Studio New York, a magazine, media and marketing company, has received two prestigious awards for publishing the 20th Anniversary Edition of New York by Rail Magazine that was published in the spring of 2024.

For the 16th year in a row, Content Studio New York has received the Apex Award for Magazine Excellence in the "Magazines, Journals and Tabloids, Custom Published" category. Thirty-seven years running, the Apex Award is an annual national competition that recognizes excellence in publishing among communication professionals. The 2024/2025 New York by Rail magazine was chosen from over 1,000 entries in over 100 categories.

In a second wave of commendation, Content Studio's New York by Rail Anniversary issue also took home the New York State Tourism Excellence Award in the "Tourism Marketing Campaigns, Projects and Program in Printed Materials" category.

On September 11, at a special ceremony in Lake George, the New York State Tourism Industry presented the award to Content Studio New York CEO Tom Martinelli.

"It's an honor to be recognized--but to be recognized by both of these well-respected organizations is twice as nice," said Martinelli. "Partnering with Amtrak on this publication has obviously allowed us to create a magazine

that travelers not only find to be a great resource, but one that they enjoy reading as well."

The award is designed to recognize exceptional achievements by New York's destination marketing organizations, attractions, and tourism professionals across a wide range of categories

Since 2004, when New York By Rail was first published, the magazine and its digital version have been the sought-after guide for train travelers and pleasure seekers alike. As an official Amtrak publication, 75,000 copies of the magazine are printed annually and distributed through most New York Amtrak owned stations, tourist Information centers, airports, hotels, and travel agents.

For all the latest information available from New York By Rail or to request a hard copy of the guide, visit NewYorkByRail.com.

Content Studio New York specializes in travel industry and passenger rail-related content, including destination guides, websites, blogs, social media and other digital services. To learn more about Content Studio New York, visit ContentStudioNY.com

For more information, contact: Thomas Martinelli, CEO/Chief Content Officer at: tom@contentstudiony.com or 845-453-0345.

Field Notes

Calling All Readers!

Do you have a favorite transit/train photo (or photos) you have taken from your travels around the country, or even around the world? Would you like to see them featured in our Hotline social media post each week (with credit, of course)?

Global Passenger Rail Roundup

By Philip Mayer, Association Volunteer

Columbus, Ohio, has not had passenger train service since AMTRAK discontinued "The National Limited" in 1979. That rail line passed through Columbus and other cities as it travelled between New York City and Kansas City, Missouri.

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has solicited support from the federal government and general public for bringing AMTRAK service back to Columbus, the capital and most populous city in Ohio.

"A regional survey last year found 90% of central Ohioans — rural, suburban and urban — favored rail service," said William Murdock, executive director of MORPC.

The Federal Railroad Administration has officially accepted four proposed Ohio routes for further study. Of these, the "3C&D" route (Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati) is the highest priority, linking major population centers across the state.

Even with the best of luck, train service will not return to Columbus before the 2030s. It will be a 1 to 3 year process to finalize the routes, and then securing funding will also take multiple years.

Like Columbus, Dayton is not served by AMTRAK, while Cleveland and Cincinnati are. While 90% of Central Ohioans support passenger train service, the major impediment seems to be the state senate, which rejected rail funding in this year's budget.

To encourage Ohio politicians to approve the rail project, former Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood told local leaders on September 16, "If you build it, they will come."

LA Expands Metro A Line to Pomona

Hundreds gathered at the new Pomona Station on September 19, to celebrate the extension of the Los Angeles County Transportation Authority's (Metro) A Line into the San Gabriel Valley.

The A Line, which extends to Long Beach in the West, is now 57.6 miles, with the addition of stations in Pomona, Glendora, and San Dimas. The line was already the longest light rail line in the world before the extension, with the second-longest being Belgium's 42 mile coast tram.

The extension adds connectivity to Southern California, including San Bernardino County, and 19 colleges and universities. The extension, and further rail developments will be well utilized by attendees of the 2028 Summer Olympics which will be held in Los Angeles. Cricket was last featured in the Olympics in 1900, but will return to the Pomona Fairplex for the LA Games.

The opening of the extension was hosted by actor Will Wheaton and featured DJs, dancing, confetti cannons, and speeches in both English and Spanish.

"The A Line will connect Angelenos to a wealth of destinations from the foothills to the beaches," said Fernando Dutra, Metro Board Chair and City of Whittier Council Member. "Now more Eastern San Gabriel Valley residents can take Metro rail to cities like Pasadena, Downtown L.A., South L.A. and Long Beach, boosting mobility in communities that haven't been served by rail for decades."

Metro A Line trains will operate every eight minutes during peak service weekdays, 10 minutes off-peak, weekday and daytime weekend service and every 20 minutes during evening/late-night service.

Britain and the World Celebrate Rail's 200th Anniversary

September 27, the North East of England will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railroad. While the S&D was not the first railroad in existence, Niall Hammond, chairman of the S&DR Friends Group, said it was the "railway that got the world on track." Anthony Coulls of the National Railway Museum said the line "set the DNA for the railway system."

Earlier rail lines existed to move coal and other products. The 26 mile S&D was the first to carry passengers, and introduced novel concepts such as train stations, signalling systems, and timetables.

A large crowd gathered for the line's first trip in 1827 which featured a locomotive hauling 30 wagons. This weekend, a replica of the Locomotive No 1 will recreate the trip with 3 wagons and a passenger cart.

The recreated train journey will be shown on a large screen in Darlington. Other festivities will include music, a free picnic, and a free outdoor show called "Ghost Train: The Arrival." There will be performances of STEAM, a theatrical work by Southpaw Company which "explores the ingenuity and determination" of the people who designed and built the railway, and music from The Auckland Shanty Singers, Easington Brass Band, Sam Slatcher, and the Railway Institute Singers.

Please email [Joe Aiello](#) if you have any local, state or regional stories/projects that you would like to see get highlighted in the Hotline.

Hotline Links

A curated selection of passenger rail and transportation stories from this week. Check out our social media feeds on [Twitter](#) & [Facebook](#) to read breaking news and join the conversation!

[Bridge work means no trains this Sunday](#), Hasso Hering

Amtrak trains, six Cascades & two Starlight service, will be affected by working being done on the Periwinkle Creek Bridge in Albany, OR

[Senate confirms nomination of Robert Gleason to Amtrak board](#), Trains Pro

The Amtrak Board has a new member

[Metra reaches tentative pact with locomotive engineers](#), Progressive Railroading

While it still needs to be ratified (ballots are due in early October), the deal could mean a 3.5% pay increase for the nearly 100 BLET members who work on Metra's UP lines.

[RTA scales back next rail car order amid tariff concerns, approves six new cars](#), Cleveland.com

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) has scaled back its next rail car order, approving just six new cars instead of the originally planned ten - as the agency navigates potential cost increases tied to federal tariffs.

[2025 Pennsylvania State Rail Plan draft unveiled](#), Altoona Mirror

Along with a second daily Amtrak Pennsylvanian round trip between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, the plan also tackles key issues like freight interference, on-time performance, and long-term service viability. Public comments are open through October 24.

[Getting to the 2025 Ryder Cup on the LIRR](#), MTA

Any golf fans heading to the Ryder Cup (Go USA!) this weekend? The LIRR has you covered.

[NJ Transit expands its new fare card across its bus and light rail networks](#), NorthJersey.com

30 years after New York's MTA launched their first fare card, NJ Transit is joining the modern era

[A growing East Texas city is exploring a new transportation method: light rail](#), Texas Tribune

The City of Tyler, TX, whose metro area is home to nearly 250k people and climbing, has commissioned a feasibility study and is actively seeking community input through surveys and virtual town halls.

[Climate Week: MTA celebrates launch of new, modern rolling engines for Metro-North](#), AMNY

The state-of-the-art, dual-mode engines, built in the US, reduce airborne pollutants by 85% and deliver 1,000 more horsepower than the previous MTA fleet.

[Atlanta Regional Commission seeks feedback on potential site for Amtrak hub](#), 95.5 WSB

The current Brookwood Station, Atlanta's last remaining passenger rail station, built in 1918, faces challenges including limited space, poor transit connections, and ADA non-compliance.

[Public transit is back on track at Union Station Train Festival](#), Daily Trojan

Hosted with Metro Art and Leaving Records, the event featured DJs, giveaways, and even mock boarding passes for future high-speed rail. Plus, Metro's A-Line extension to Pomona officially opened, complete with free rides all weekend.

[This Amtrak Route Takes Riders to the Heart of Vermont's Stunning Fall Foliage](#), Travel + Leisure

No lack of beautiful colors during fall in the Northeast.

[Royal Mail: New stamps celebrate Britain's railway system released](#), BBC

Calling all stamp collectors and fans of international rail...



**WE ARE WORKING ON A DISCORD SERVER.
STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION**

If you aren't following Rail Passengers on social media, you should be! We are covering all the breaking news America's passengers need to stay informed on local, regional, and national issues.

Upcoming Events

[RailNation: San Antonio](#) - October 3-5

[Build Northwest Economic Forum & Pacific Northwest Rail Summit](#) - October 14-17

[RIARP Annual Elections and Fall Meeting](#) - Monday, October 20

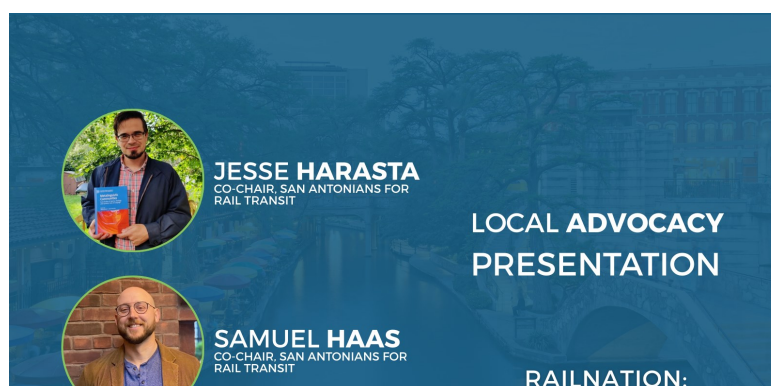
[WisARP Fall 2025 General Membership Meeting](#) - Saturday, October 25

Please contact Joe Aiello (jaiello@narprail.org) to have a local, state or regional meeting added to the Rail Passengers calendar (print and on-line) of upcoming events!

RailNation: San Antonio



[RAILNATION: SAN ANTONIO PRESS RELEASE](#)





[Click Here for the RN:SAS Event Page](#)

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TOM & CHRISTY COMPSON
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GARY MOLINE
ROBERT MUNSON
J.R. PRICE
MICHAEL ROBINSON
MILES SCHULZE

Staff Updates

Your staff is at the table, in the field, having the conversations that make a difference for passengers across the country. Learn what they're up to each week and how you can support your Association's key missions!

- **Jim Mathews, President & CEO**, spent the early part of the week working with staff to finalize planning for our RailNation: San Antonio gathering before taking a few personal days.
- **Sean Jeans-Gail, Vice President of Policy**, continued to work with allied organizations, industry stakeholders, the House, and Senate on [key Rail Passengers surface transportation reauthorization policy proposals](#).
- **Jonsie Stone, Chief of Staff**, met with one of our corporate partners, processed membership dues and donations sent to the DC office, began closing August financials, produced October's fundraising message, worked on final logistics for RailNation and tended to the administrative/operational needs of the Association.
- **Joe Aiello, Director of Community Engagement & Organizing**, continued working on the final touches for next week's RailNation conference in San Antonio and spoke to members of our volunteer leadership about upcoming Association elections.
- **Kimberly Notarianni, Membership Management Consultant**, continues to support our members by answering questions, troubleshooting account concerns, and ensuring they have the resources they need to make the most of their membership experience. As a reminder, if your membership is due for renewal during the month of September and your account is not set up for auto-renewal, please take a moment to log in and renew soon so you don't miss out on any of the valuable benefits our association has to offer.

Keep Your Contact Info & Preferences Up to Date

We want to be sure you never miss important updates, membership news, or your transaction receipts! You can easily update your email address,

phone number, mailing address, and communication preferences anytime through the CharityEngine Constituent Portal:

<https://membership.railpassengers.org/usercenter> (we recommend bookmarking this link for easy access)

Getting Started

1. Visit the Login page and enter the User Name and Password associated with your CharityEngine account.

Log in

User Name

Password

☒ Remember me [Forgot password?](#)

LOG IN

2. Once you're logged in, you'll see your account dashboard. Click "Update Your Info."

Home My Info & Preferences Reports & Tax Statements Events Settings

CONTACT INFO

Name Tom Train YES Receive Email?
Email YES Receive Phone Calls?
Phone YES Receive Mail?
Address 1200 G St Nw Washington, DC 20005-3814 US YES Receive SMS?
[Update Your Info](#)

Welcome To Your Membership Dashboard

Renew Membership Donate Board - Council Directory

Making Updates

On the Edit Contact Info screen, you can:

Update your personal details like email, phone, and address.

Adjust your communication preferences—switch the green "Yes" button to red "No" (or vice versa)

Click **UPDATE** to save your changes.

Home

EDIT CONTACT INFO

First Name Tom
Middle
Last Name Train
DOB MM/DD/YYYY
Email
Phone (703) 555-5555
Address 1200 G St Nw Washington DC 20005
[Enter Unit Number or Other Details](#)

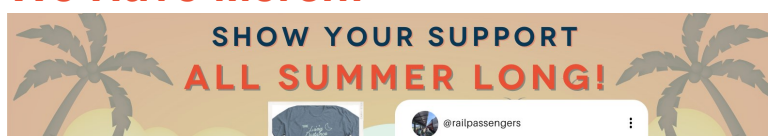
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YES Receive Mail?
YES Receive SMS?

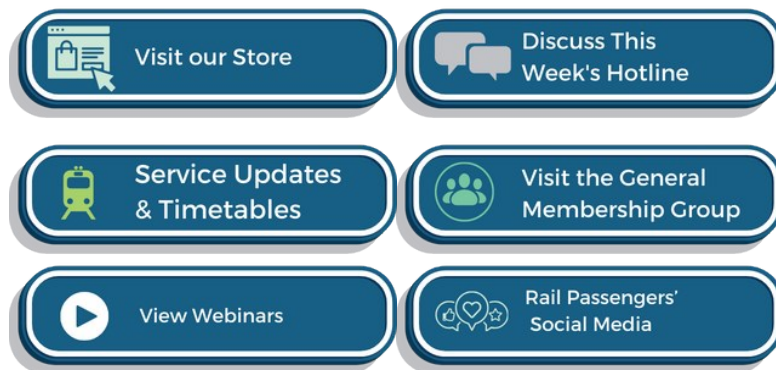
UPDATE CANCEL

A Quick Tip

Since transaction receipts are sent by email, having your current email address on file will ensure you receive everything without delay.

We Have Merch!





Rail Passengers Timetables

Thanks to a collaborative effort between Rail Passengers NYS Council Member Nathanael Nerode & juckins.net's Chris Juckins, we have been able to completely update our timetables resource page.

**WE HAVE A FULL SUMMER UPDATE,
INCLUDING THE NEW *MARDI GRAS* SERVICE**

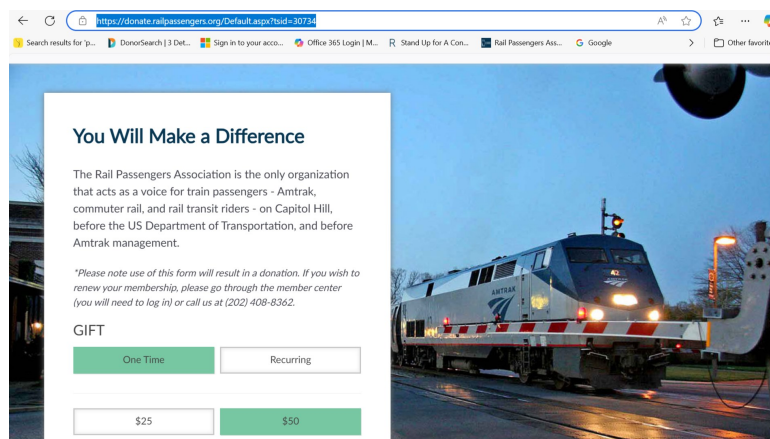
[CLICK HERE](#)

NOTE: Because we do update the links on our website - please bookmark **the main page** and not the individual schedules

Donate Online with Confidence

You can donate to the Rail Passengers Association online with confidence, knowing your credit card information is secure. Charity Engine uses industry-standard SSL technology to keep your information secure. Don't wait for a paper appeal to donate, support the Association today by donating here. When the web browser shows a lock next to the URL, it means that it's an HTTPS, and it's secure:

<https://donate.railpassengers.org/Default.aspx?tsid=30734>



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Do more with your donations. If you have questions about employer match, gifting a membership, or other questions about how to make a bigger impact, let us know! Your staff is here to help with:

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With multiple secure, protected methods of payment, you have more flexibility in the way dues are paid. Skip the hassle and [contact us](#) today for help setting up automatic or online payments.

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- Use a Debit or Credit Card to pay online, or
- Send a check to 1200 G Street NW Suite 520 Washington, DC 20005

Use Your Donor Advised Fund (DAF) to Donate, Renew or Join Online

You can now donate or join/renew your membership, online, through your donor advised fund using DAFpay. All Rail Passengers forms now include a "Donor Advised Fund" button under Payment.

Donation Form:

Phone Number (not required)
Phone Number

Email Address
*Email Address

☐ Yes, I would like to receive email communications.

PAYMENT

Credit Card Bank Account PayPal

Donor Advised Fund Google Pay

DAF pay | Donor Advised Fund

☐ Dedicate this donation?

Membership Form:

☐ Rail Passengers' Webinar Series

☐ Other

☐ Yes, I prefer communication by email rather than by mail.

PAYMENT

Credit Card Bank Account Donor Advised Fund Google Pay

CAPTCHA

☐ I'm not a robot

DAF pay | Donor Advised Fund

After selecting Donor Advised Fund as your payment preference, you will be taken to a DAFpay screen to select your donor advised fund provider, i.e., Fidelity Charitable, Vanguard Charitable, Daffy, etc.

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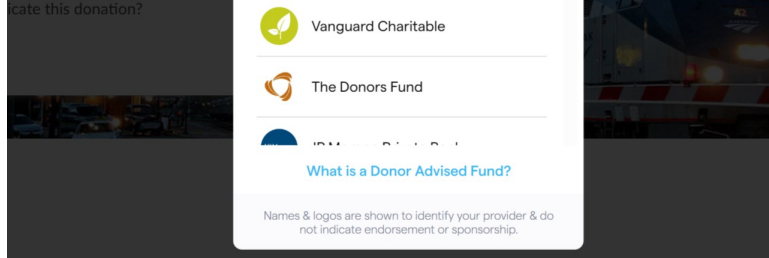
Select your provider

Express checkout with your Donor Advised Fund

Search for thousands of providers

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Select your provider, then follow their prompts. If you need to provide information on Rail Passengers Association, please use the below:

National Association of Railroad Passengers, Inc.
dba Rail Passengers Association
1200 G Street, NW
Suite 520
Washington, DC 20005
Contact: Jonsie Stone, jstone@narprail.org
Tax ID: 36-2615221

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- **The Rail Passengers Association is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 36-2615221**
- **To help facilitate dissemination of electronic thank you receipts,** please make sure your contact information, **specifically your email address**, is up-to-date in your Neon profile.
- **If you need assistance with your membership**, please call the Office at 202-408-8362.
- **While our staff continues to work remotely, we are unable to provide permanent membership cards.** You can print a temporary membership card by creating an account at www.railpassengers.org (select "My Account" on the homepage).
- **Complete all information!** -- Before sealing your envelope, PLEASE double-check the credit card information on the buck slip!
 - Print credit card information clearly.
 - **Include an expiration date, month and year, as well as the CVV number.**
 - Without **COMPLETE** information, your membership renewal or donation can't be processed.
- **If you have your financial institution send a check on your behalf,** without a buckslip, PLEASE instruct them to add:
 - a notation in the memo field if the payment is for membership dues or a donation, AND,
 - your Rail Passengers Association member ID. If we have multiple members with the same name, i.e., John Smith, it can be hard to identify the correct member to attribute the payment, without the member ID.



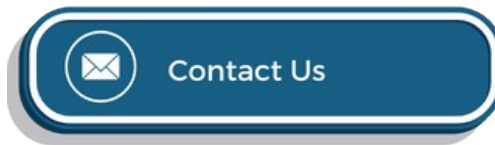
Rail Passengers Association members have access to a full service, nationwide federal credit union with extensive product and service offerings. Signature FCU is the exclusive provider of the [Rail Passengers Association-branded Visa credit card](#) with our logo, which supports our work by giving back to our organization, and gives you 1 point for every \$1 you spend to redeem for travel and merchandise. The card has no annual fee, no balance transfer fees, no foreign transaction fees, and has a very low interest rate.



Rail Passengers Association Earns Coveted 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator

Rail Passengers Association's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Our Charity Navigator profile can be found by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions, feedback, or submissions for next week's hotline, send us your thoughts! Help us spread the word about your local, regional, and national passenger rail wins.



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:



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