

“A CONNECTED AMERICA”



AMTRAK SERVED COMMUNITIES PART OF “A CONNECTED AMERICA”



+ REMEMBER, WHEN IT COMES TO INVESTING IN PASSENGER RAIL, IT'S “NATIONAL OR NOTHING.”

The **National Network of long distance passenger trains** is important to our region's mobility and economic vitality. These trains connect small and medium sized towns and cities to our larger regional cities, and they often provide the only non-highway link to the Amtrak served communities along the train route. All Americans, young or old, rich or poor, school age, retired, or working, benefit from living in a linked and competitive region. And like all Americans, citizens in our region deserve good transportation choices. The long-distance trains that serve our region connect multiple city pairs along the route, allowing one train to serve multiple markets simultaneously. **Remember, everybody likes trains, but we love what trains can do to bring jobs to our home town...it's “Our Town, Our Train.”**

+ OUR TOWNS, OUR TRAINS DEPEND UPON *OUR* SUPPORT FOR:

1. A **commitment** to operate Amtrak's Long-Distance network as **daily, full-service trains**. These trains should provide coach and sleeping class, along with meal service and lounge space and **baggage service at each station served**. These National Network stations should be **safe, welcoming gateways** to the communities they serve. They should be linked to their region with **intermodal** choices that extend the reach of these trains to Americans who depend on a “Connected America.”
2. Continued **investment** in established and emerging **corridors**. These important regional corridors connect major population centers and can serve as **economic growth engines** for the regions they serve. We fully support investment in these important corridors, but **not at the expense** of the daily long-distance network. (Remember, it's “**National or Nothing.**”)
3. **An equipment order** to ensure America's long-distance trains have new, modern trains for **efficient operation** of daily, full-service, long distance trains. These new trains will also allow targeted service expansion in the future. Modern corridor trains on order today combined with an equipment order for enhanced long-distance trains create synergy with “**A Connected America**” **uniting our country today and in the future as part of a comprehensive 21st Century Transportation System.**

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