THE VIEW FROM Northern New England

September 17, 2019  Council on Rail Transportation Annual Meeting
OUR MISSION
To develop and manage a quality passenger rail system that meets the transportation needs of our customers, delivers value and enhances economic development within the region we serve.

PARTNERSHIPS – PROMOTION - PERFORMANCE
About the Amtrak Downeaster

5 round trips each day between Brunswick-Boston over 143 route miles using 3 Amtrak train sets operating up to 79 mph over 3 Host Railroads serving 12 Station Communities in 3 states and carries more than half a million riders each year.

*On weekends, 4 of 5 round trips serve Freeport and Brunswick. Schedule expected to change in summer 2019.
NNEPRA holds an operating agreement with Amtrak to provide Trains Sets and on board Crews (Engineers & Conductors) as well as Ticket Agents and Reservation Services for the operation of the Downeaster.
The Downeaster operates over three different host railroads. NNEPRA works with host railroads to provide maintenance to improve or expand service and maintain SOGR.
STATION COMMUNITIES

With the exception of Portland, Maine and NH stations are operated by local communities.

NNEPRA works with Station communities to Support Economic Growth & Development
Who Rides the Downeaster?

The Downeaster is established as a Brunswick-Boston connection.
FY2019 Performance Summary

547,293 Riders

- Second highest ridership in Downeaster history.
  - 355 trains impacted by construction September/October
  - 5 R/T Freeport & Brunswick October 2018.
- Broke records in 7 of 12 months.
- 87% increase over 2006
FY2019 Performance Summary

$10,276,204

Ticket Revenue

- Highest Revenue in Downeaster history.
- Broke records in 9 of 12 months.
- 136% increase over 2006
• The Downeaster can be the spine of an interconnected, multimodal, regional transportation network, increasing ridership, reducing our subsidy and improving mobility within Northern New England.
OBJECTIVES

✔ Improve Reliability & Schedule Flexibility
✔ Improve Connectivity
✔ Encourage workforce development
✔ Add Service

The Wells Siding Project adds 6 miles of double track to a 2-miles siding in an 18 mile stretch of single track. The second platform will enable trains in opposing directions to meet and receive/discharge passengers.

Adds an inbound train from Wells/Saco into Portland, Freeport & Brunswick.
The existing PTC is in need of significant investment to address parking, passenger and infrastructure limitations which constrain the Downeaster and other public transportation initiatives. Efforts are underway to explore alternate locations which will improve mobility in the greater Portland area and support the needs of the future.
OBJECTIVES

- Improve Connectivity
- Serves major employment centers
- Encourage workforce development
- Reduces Congestion
- Supports multi-modal connectivity

A new station off Exit 53 in West Falmouth provides a time-competitive option for travel within the region. The area includes a shopping area, bus service and a Park & Ride lot.
Initiate Downeaster Coastal Connection

OBJECTIVES:
- Maximize equipment utilization
- Increase Ridership & Revenue
- Improve Connectivity
- Support Tourism
- Reduce Congestion

NNEPRA and Amtrak are pursuing weekend seasonal pilot service connecting Bath, Wiscasset, Newcastle and Rockland with the rest of the Downeaster corridor which can be implemented as early as summer 2019.
OBJECTIVES:

✓ Support Core Service
✓ Improve Connectivity
✓ Support Regional Development
✓ Reduce Congestion

In partnership with private developers, NNEPRA is exploring the feasibility of a rail shuttle between Westbrook and Portland. The shuttle seeks to connect Commercial Street in Portland with high density developments at Thompson’s Point, Rock Row and to other transit services, supporting private investments and alleviating congestion in this growing area.
Explore Lewiston/Auburn-Portland Service

OBJECTIVES:
✓ Support Core Service
✓ Improve Connectivity
✓ Reduce Congestion
✓ Support Economic Growth & Development

A service plan outlining potential routes, service levels and investment requirements was completed this year. Next steps are yet to be funded, but include and economic impact analysis of the proposed new service.
Strategic Initiatives

• Remain focused on **Passengers**.
• Nurture and expand **Partnerships**.
• Demand exceptional **Performance**.
• Continue to **Promote**.
• Consider new **Possibilities**.
• Be **Persistent**.
Passion for the Patriots!
It’s Time to Take the Train.

Thank You