

NEW HAVEN – HARTFORD – SPRINGFIELD RAIL PROGRAM

August 2011 Factsheet

www.nhhsrail.com



Program Benefits

The New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Program will generate significant transportation, economic, community and environmental benefits within the NHHS corridor and the region. The NHHS rail service will:

- ▶ **Improve the high speed and passenger rail system serving the Northeast** resulting in reduced travel time, increased service frequency, increased ridership, and increased operational reliability;
- ▶ **Expand intermodal transportation options**, contributing to reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality and reductions in key emission types, energy cost savings, intermodal connectivity, and improved safety;
- ▶ **Encourage economic development** by expanding access to markets, creating jobs and providing a catalyst for development near stations;
- ▶ **Create more livable and sustainable communities** by integrating compact, mixed-use transit-oriented development (TOD) with pedestrian- and bike-friendly design at station areas to allow people to use their cars less, and walk, bike and use transit more. TOD contributes to a more active, healthy lifestyle and more vibrant communities.

The new service, which is scheduled to begin in 2016, will increase the number of NHHS corridor trains from 6 to 25 daily with 30 minute peak and 60 minute off-peak service. Trains will reach speeds of up to 110 mph, reducing travel time from Hartford to New York Penn Station to 2 hours 23 minutes, a savings of 37 minutes.

The 62-mile NHHS rail corridor at full build-out will include double-tracking of the entire corridor, major upgrades to bridges and infrastructure, four new stations and improvements to nine existing stations, and new trains. Safety improvements to the 38 existing at-grade crossings will enable municipalities to avoid horn blowing and qualify as "Quiet Zones" under federal regulations.

The new NHHS rail service will serve both commuters and long distance travelers. The fare structure will allow a commuter traveling between stations within the NHHS corridor to pay a lower rate, while an Amtrak passenger on the same train will pay the regular fare for travel between Amtrak stations.

The NHHS rail service will provide connections to other transit service, helping to build the region's intermodal transportation system and reduce reliance on automobiles. The NHHS rail service will connect with a bus shuttle to Bradley International Airport at Windsor Locks. The NHHS rail service will also provide direct links at Newington and West Hartford to the New Britain-Hartford Busway, a new bus rapid transit system that will operate on an exclusive right-of-way between New Britain and Newington. Service planning for NHHS rail service will integrate CT Transit bus service as "feeder service" to NHHS stations, further expanding the multi-modal transportation network.



Benefits Summary

TRANSPORTATION

- ▶ Car trips diverted to rail: 1.5 million
- ▶ Increase in passenger miles per year from 52 million to 133 million
- ▶ Ridership: 1.26 million new annual trips by 2030

ENVIRONMENT/SUSTAINABILITY

- ▶ Reduction in number of vehicles: 3.2 million
- ▶ Reduction in vehicle miles driven: 100+ million
- ▶ Fuel saved: 3.5+ million gallons

COMMUNITY

- ▶ Promotes development of active, vibrant communities
- ▶ Percent of population living within 25-mile radius of planned service: 80 percent
- ▶ Serves transit-dependent populations

ECONOMY

- ▶ Construction and related jobs: 13,000
- ▶ Connects regional travelers with local businesses and activities