



RAILPASSENGERS
ASSOCIATION

Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is nearing the conclusion of the Congressionally mandated Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study, which will deliver to Congress a series of recommendations for where and how to introduce 15 new daily passenger train service across the nation.

This document will establish a responsible long-term strategy for long-distance passenger rail service, identify capital projects and funding needed to implement this strategy, and help prioritize routes that are ready to receive federal funding.

Rail Passengers has attended all 18 regional workshops, and we are confident that implementing FRA's preferred enhanced network would be a huge step forward in creating a more connected America. If all 15 proposed routes are added to the National Network:

- **45 million more Americans** would have access to intercity passenger rail service, an 18% increase over the current network; fully realized, this strategy would mean that 89% of Americans would have access to Amtrak.
- **9 million more rural Americans** would have access to passenger rail service, a 51% increase over the current network, connecting almost half of the population of Rural America with no access today, including 5 million rural residents living in areas of persistent poverty; and
- **216 stations would be added to the Amtrak network**, including 102 stations in small and rural communities.

Economic and Social Well-Being of Rural Areas

In the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Congress directed FRA to consider how to improve access for rural and economically disadvantaged communities to essential services and economic opportunity. The FRA's preferred enhanced rail network would:

- **Add 82 more Medical Centers** onto the Amtrak network, a 16% increase;
- **Add 5 million people who today have poor medical access** (DOT's "health-disadvantaged areas") to the network, ensuring that 86% of all U.S. medical centers are served;
- **Bring 600 additional higher education institutions on-network**, a 22% increase, as well as military training centers and historically black colleges and universities;
- **Connect 12 more National Parks, Recreation Areas, and Preserves** to the Amtrak network, a 19% increase.

For more information, please visit RailPassengers.org/Leg.Resources

