

May 1, 2015

RE: Surface Transportation Subcommittee Field Hearing - Monday May 4th in Newark

Dear Mayor:

I wanted to let you about a hearing hosted by Senator Booker in Newark on Monday, May 4 at 9:30 A.M. The topic of the hearing is specific to Amtrak and Passenger Rail and issues, and may be of interest to many of you.

What

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a field hearing in its Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security entitled, “Passenger Rail Reauthorization: The Future of the Northeast Corridor”

When

Monday, May 4th, 2015
9:30am – 11am

Where

NJTPA Board Room, One Newark Center, 17th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

Who

Representatives from Amtrak, Regional Plan Association, NEC Commission, and the Federal Rail Administration will testify before the Subcommittee’s Ranking Member Senator Booker

Scope

The hearing will focus on the current state and use of passenger rail on the Northeast Corridor, recent proposals and activities to enhance rail service in the region, and implications for future legislative action. The discussion will be broadly surrounding the to the importance of substantial funding for Amtrak, the growth of good paying jobs that investment in infrastructure provides, and the need to continue upgrading the NEC’s passenger rail infrastructure to accommodate a growing population.

Also related to Federal Transportation funding matters, League President, Mayor Brian Wahler of Piscataway, has been invited to testify on Tuesday, in Washington. Mayor Wahler will present New Jersey’s perspective on reauthorization of the Federal Highway Trust Fund, which is set to expire on May 31. Mayor Wahler received that invitation earlier today from Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Chairman, Senator John Thune of South Dakota. He will speak to the members of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, safety, and Security on “Surface Transportation Reauthorization: The Importance of Long Term Reauthorization.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director