



Why We Support Fast, Frequent Passenger Rail for Ohio And Why You Should, Too.

March 5, 2022

The Ohio Legislature, 134th General Assembly
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Member of the General Assembly,

Ohio and our Great Lakes neighbors will soon see the investment of literally BILLIONS of Federal dollars from the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act.

A major share is allocated to the **"Amtrak Connects US"** service expansion plan that includes significant upgrades to Ohio cities already on Amtrak routes and the revival of service to:

- The Cleveland-Columbus-Dayton-Cincinnati Corridor (3C&D)
- The Toledo-Detroit-Ann Arbor Corridor (TD&A)

As our new All Aboard Ohio logo says, we are **"For A Connected Midwest"**. Amtrak's investment will create a whole new level of connectivity for all Ohioans needing to link with jobs, education, health care and more. It will also benefit our economy.

Amtrak's economic impact estimates for 3C&D Corridor alone is \$130 million annually + \$2.6 billion in economic activity from the one-time capital investment. And that's just to start.

Enclosed with this letter is a list of reasons why we support Amtrak's plans for Ohio and why you should, too.

The State of Ohio MUST raise its hand and tell the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) that the 3C&D, TDA and existing Amtrak corridors need to be included on the FRA's map of Priority Rail Corridors.

As an elected official within the State of Ohio, we urge you to take action to move this issue forward within the Ohio General Assembly, culminating with formally asking the Federal Railroad Administration to include Ohio in their funding program.

We must act quickly, however, as the FRA is already reviewing proposals from other states. In order to secure funding for **Ohio** projects, we need to have our own commitment in their hands by the end of April 2022.

Please reach out to me so we can explore and address any concerns you or your constituents may have.

Stu Nicholson
Executive Director
614-439-8546
footestu@gmail.com

With support from:

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen
(BLET)

Cincinnati City Council

Cleveland City Council

Clevelanders for Public Transit

Columbus City Council

Dayton City Council

Lima City Council

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)

MOVEOhio Coalition

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
(NOACA)

Ohio Mayors Alliance

Railroad Workers Union (RWU)

Representative Adam Miller

Representative Michael Sheehy

Sandusky City Council

Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers
(SMART)

Toledo City Council

Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments
(TMACOG)

Toledo Port Authority

Transit Columbus