Ready to Invest

Partners with a stake in the future of the Northeast Corridor (NEC or the Corridor) are united and ready to reverse decades of deterioration and rebuild the nation’s busiest and most important passenger rail network. The NEC Five-Year Capital Plan is a region-wide action plan that — if fully funded — would begin a modernization and improvement program to enhance mobility and boost economic growth.

A Vital National Asset at Risk

The NEC Five-Year Capital Plan is a joint effort among eight states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), Amtrak, eight commuter rail agencies, and other stakeholders to sustain a national asset that carries 750,000 passengers each day, moves a commuting workforce that contributes $50 billion annually to the gross domestic product, and transports more intercity passengers within the Northeast than all airlines combined. The loss of the NEC for a single day could cost the country $100 million in added congestion, productivity losses, and other transportation impacts.

This scenario becomes more real with each passing day. The NEC is composed of many assets that date back to the period between the Civil War and the New Deal. As infrastructure deteriorates and service levels reach the NEC’s practical capacity, we must choose between declining reliability and limited economic growth or building the next generation of the railroad.
National Benefits

The NEC Five-Year Capital Plan — if fully funded — would provide benefits that reach across the country. The Plan would employ an average of 42,200 workers per year, mostly in manufacturing and construction, in at least 22 states ranging from South Dakota to South Carolina. Another 22,700 jobs per year would be supported across all economic sectors as these workers spend their incomes and return dollars to the economy. Commuter and intercity rail passengers would suffer fewer delays and enjoy better service. Residents of the Northeast would see new or improved station facilities in the hearts of their hometowns and key job centers, supporting the economic vitality of their surrounding communities.

Grow Our Economy

- **Economic Development**: Invest in more than 30 stations in communities housing 7 million jobs, or 1 out of 3 in the Northeast
- **Jobs**: Support 42,200 direct jobs per year in construction, manufacturing, and related industries in as many as 22 states

Modernize Our Infrastructure

- **Reliability**: Reduce malfunctions where single points of failure can delay thousands of riders and cost millions of dollars
- **Efficiency**: Automate outdated manual tasks to maximize the productivity of each operating and maintenance dollar

Prepare For Our Future

- **Resiliency**: Reduce vulnerability to mobility failures and economic disaster in the face of extraordinary events
- **Growth**: Lay a foundation for rail service expansion

Rendering of Portal Bridge North over the Hackensack River in New Jersey. This modern replacement for a century-old, failure-prone movable swing bridge is fully designed and ready for construction, but lacks funding.
Shovel Ready or Funded for Construction, FY16-20

- **Washington, DC:**
  - Baltimore to Washington Section Improvements
  - Washington Union Station Train Storage Facilities

- **Newark:**
  - Newark Regional Transportation Center
  - SEPTA Cynwyd Access Project
  - NJ TRANSITGRID
  - Hunter Flyover

- **New York City:**
  - Hudson Line Signals, Undergrade Bridge, and Station Improvements
  - New Haven Line Stations, Signals, Catenary and Undergrade Bridge Improvements
  - NJT: Elizabeth Station Improvements
  - NJT: New Brunswick Station Improvements
  - SEPTA Station Improvements
  - County Yard

- **Philadelphia:**
  - Delaware Third Track Program
  - Newark Regional Transportation Center
  - Susquehanna River Bridge Replacement
  - MARC Storage Facility Improvements
  - MARC Station Improvements
  - Baltimore & Potomac Tunnels

- **Springfield:**
  - New Haven-Hartford-Springfield Rail Program
  - Springfield Union Station
  - SEPTA Station Improvements

- **Boston:**
  - MBTA Station Improvements
  - MBTA Layover Facility Improvements
  - Kingston Track Improvements
  - Connecticut River Bridge

- **Providence:**
  - River-to-River Rail Resiliency Projects

- **New Haven:**
  - New Haven-Portsmouth Rail Bridge
  - Delco Lead Storage and Re-inspection Facility
  - New Haven Line Stations, Signals, Catenary and Undergrade Bridge Improvements

- **Albany:**
  - Albany-Rensselaer Station Fourth Track
  - Albany-Rensselaer Station
  - Albany-Rensselaer Station Platforms
  - Hudson River Bridge

- **Baltimore:**
  - MARC Station Improvements
  - MARC Storage Facility Improvements
  - Baltimore & Potomac Tunnels
  - BM&O Potomac Yard
  - Baltimore & Potomac Tunnels

- **Portsmouth:**
  - Portsmouth & RIchmond
  - Historic Portsmouth Railroad Bridge
  - Portsmouth & RIchmond Railroad Bridge

- **Harrisburg:**
  - SEPTA Cynwyd Access Project
  - NJ TRANSITGRID
  - Hunter Flyover

- **Harrisburg Line Station Improvements
  - State Interlocking

- **Washington Union Station:**
  - Train Storage Facilities
  - Washington Union Station Master Plan Implementation

- **Projects Funded for Construction, FY16-20:**

- **Shovel Ready Projects that could be Advanced to Construction if Additional Funding were Available, FY16-20:**
A Comprehensive Plan

The NEC Five-Year Capital Plan integrates all categories of capital investment from all owners of and operators on NEC infrastructure, from the routine swapping of old rail ties for new, to the replacement of generations-old major bridges and tunnels. The Plan is a consolidated statement of proposed action over the next five years if adequate funding were available. However, it does not represent a funding commitment or an agreement among agencies regarding how individual projects will advance. The Plan is an assessment of how much funding is available and how much additional funding is needed to implement key state-of-good-repair, system modernization, resiliency, and chokepoint mitigation projects to relieve today’s most unreliable and overcrowded trains. The Plan will require far higher levels of investment than traditional funding sources have provided.

A Path Forward

The NEC Five-Year Capital Plan is a first-of-its-kind region-wide effort to chart a common course for feasibly ramping up capital investment. In December 2014, the Commission approved the NEC Commuter and Intercity Cost Allocation Policy (the Policy) which establishes a new framework for regional collaboration. The Policy includes consistent, transparent, and equitable methods for sharing operating and baseline capital costs according to each railroad’s relative use. However, this agreement alone will not fully fund the NEC Five-Year Capital Plan. It has been the long-standing position of NEC stakeholders that the federal government has primary responsibility for eliminating the backlog of deferred maintenance and restoring the infrastructure to a state-of-good-repair. The Policy proposes that the federal government use the NEC Five-Year Capital Plan to steer its investment in the Corridor.