



Ohio Rail Development Commission

July 14, 2006

Citizen's Initiative

TRAINRIDERS / Northeast

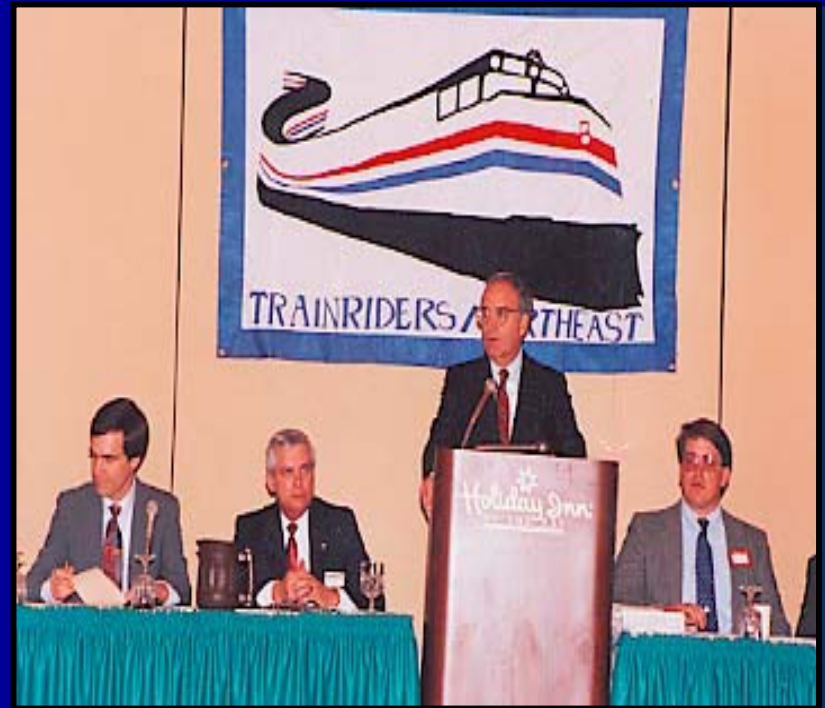
Grassroots Citizens Organization founded
in 1989 with 21 members

15,000 signatures gathered as part of informal public opinion poll in Maine & New Hampshire to explore the feasibility of having Amtrak extend the Northeast Corridor Passenger Trains from Boston through New Hampshire, to Portland as a first step to expanding passenger rail service to other areas of Northern New England.

Current membership over 1300 members

1989 - 1990

- Maine Legislature unanimously orders Passenger Ridership Study and petitions President George H. Bush for support.
- Maine Congressional Delegation requests Amtrak Study to determine cost of service.
 - Estimated cost \$50M
 - Service determined feasible by Amtrak & Urban Mass Transit Administration (FTA)



1998

- Taxpayer Relief Act
 - Funding provides \$23M over two years to fund service through Freeport and Brunswick



About NNEPRA



Railroad Rehabilitation

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

- 78 Miles Rail
- 100,000 Ties
- 37 Public Grade Crossings
- 31 Bridges
- 7 Stations in ME / NH
- 150,000 Tons of Ballast
- \$70 Million



The Amtrak Downeaster



Operations



AMTRAK

- 20 Year Contract
- 3 Train Sets
- Crews
- Portland Ticket Agents
- Reservations

RAILROAD

- Guilford – 78 Mi Portland to Plaistow
- MBTA – 38 Mi to Boston

OTHER SERVICES

- Food Service – Epicurean Feast
- Marketing - NNEPRA
- Train Host Program – TrainRiders
- Maintenance - Drummac

Stations



PORTLAND, ME

- Only fully staffed station
- Ample Paid Parking
- Off I-295
- Public/Private Partnership
- Amtrak Agents & Quik Trak



Stations

OLD ORCHARD BEACH, ME



- Platform Only
- No ticketing
- “Monitored” by Chamber of Commerce
- New Building
- Beach
- Pedestrian Friendly

Stations



SACO, ME

- Platform Only
- No ticketing
- In-Town Location
- University of NE
- Mill Complex
- Taxi only

Stations



WELLS, ME

- Off I-95 / Park & Ride
- Residential/Resort
- Building/Concessions
- Quik-Trak
- Station Host/PT staff
- New Seasonal Trolley Connections
- Bicycles

Stations



DOVER, NH

- In Town
- Managed by Bus Co.
- Quik-Trak
- Station Host
- Logan / Boston Bus
- FlexPass
- Pedestrian Friendly

Dover Feedback:

“As time goes by and the Downeaster, as a transportation asset, becomes more visible, we have seen more and more day trippers to shop in the City’s unique shops and restaurants and enjoy the City’s Cochecho Arts Festival that spans the summer weeks. We are moving forward with our Community Trail (rail to trail) project that has the Dover Transportation Center as its main trail head, and with our City Hybrid Checkpoint Transit Service that uses the Transportation Center as its central hub. Both projects should be underway.”

Bruce Woodruff, City of Dover Planning Dept.

Stations



DURHAM-UNH, NH

- On Campus
- Platform Only
- Quik-Trak Nearby
- Recent addition of parking
- Station development underway
- Student Friendly

UNH Feedback:

- *“The Admissions office routinely advertises the access to UNH by train as and has documented increased interest in students from the Boston metro area and northeast states - a prime market. Although UNH must paid approximately \$35,000 in 2005 for insurance and lease costs for the service - it is viewed as an important part of UNH recruiting and student services.”*
- **Stephen Pesci, Special Projects Manager, UNH Planning Dept**

Stations

EXETER, NH

- Platform Only
- Quik-Trak Nearby
- Limited Transit
- Parking addition underway



Stations



HAVERHILL, MA

- In Town Location
- Platform Only
- No Ticketing
- MBTA Commuter Station
- Local Transit
- Parking Challenges

Haverhill Feedback:

“I know that having a train station with regional train service is a huge asset to Haverhill and the surrounding towns and it brings with it a wealth of opportunities by having it located in our community.”

Sally Cerosuolo, Haverhill Chamber of Commerce President

Stations



WOBURN, MA

- Interstate Location
- MBTA Commuter Station
- Logan Express
- Quik-Trak
- Concession
- Late addition

Stations



BOSTON NORTH STATION, MA

- MBTA Commuter Station
- MBTA Subway
- Quik-Trak
- Ticket Agents
- TD Banknorth Garden
- NE Corridor
- Renovation Underway



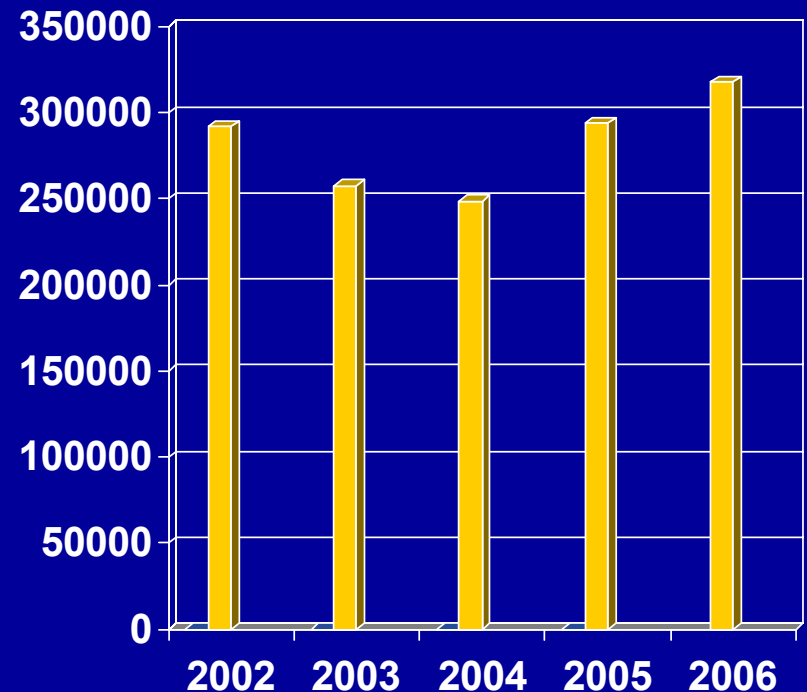
Performance

- 32% Ridership increase
- 34% Revenue increase

RIDER PROFILE

31% Board in Maine
21% Board in NH
43% Travel Portland-Boston
73% destined for Boston
22% Commuters

RIDERSHIP



Performance

BENCHMARKS	FY06	FY05
Ridership	329,265	250,535
Revenue	\$4,353,781	\$3,300,200
Revenue/Pax	\$13.20	\$13.23
Cost /Pax	\$34.52	\$35.64
Subsidy / Pax	\$21.48	\$22.10
Cost Recovery	41%	38%

Challenges

Next Steps

INFRASTRUCTURE & TECHNOLOGY

- Schedule/Frequency

- \$7M Capital Program

- Upgrade Layover Facility

- Proposal to improve

- Passenger information signage

- 511

- Improve Revenue Management Systems

- Amtrak Pilot Program

- Upgrade Stations / Promote Investment

- Communications Plan

- Transit Connections

Challenges

Next Steps

EQUIPMENT

- Capstone –
 - 30 years old
- Non dedicated
- Costly
 - 2 Gallons per mile fuel consumption
 - \$2.5M annual maintenance



Results

INFRASTRUCTURE & TECHNOLOGY

- 48% increase in annual ridership –nearly 500K!
- \$2.5M increase in annual revenues
- Increased economic benefit
- Positive environmental impact
- Increased mobility



Formula for Success

- Create an Identity
- Develop Partnerships
- Be Innovative
- Seek Efficiency
- Don't pretend it doesn't cost money
- Take Risks
- Demand Excellence





All Aboard!