



NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND  
PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The NNEPRA team is committed to the sustained growth of the **Amtrak Downeaster** and is exploring innovative ways to improve mobility, advance safety, support a growing economy and provide value for the people of Maine and Northern New England.

« *Initiatives under consideration to support and enhance existing Amtrak Downeaster service*



### Inbound Commuter Service

Capacity improvements to **improve reliability** are underway. The Wells Siding Project will support a new morning inbound Downeaster train between Wells and Brunswick making the Downeaster a **car-free commuter option** for workers in Maine.



### Portland Station Improvements

NNEPRA is exploring mainline station alternatives which will **improve Downeaster connectivity** to and within the greater Portland region by **reducing overall travel time** and decreasing bottlenecks.



### Amtrak Downeaster Coastal Connection

Efforts are currently underway for a 2020 pilot program introducing **seasonal weekend service** to Bath, Wiscasset, Newcastle and Rockland.



### West Falmouth/Exit 53 Station Stop

NNEPRA is exploring an additional Downeaster stop in West Falmouth at exit 53, which **provides improved connectivity** from the I-95 corridor.

« *Planning initiatives that explore the potential for new passenger rail services in Maine*



### Lewiston/Auburn Passenger Rail Service Plan

NNEPRA managed the development of a Service Plan for **commuter rail service between L/A and Portland** which identified ridership potential, outlined corridor options and estimated costs. Next steps, currently unfunded, include an economic evaluation to explore how **investment in rail service could benefit the region**.



### Portland-Westbrook Rail Shuttle Feasibility Study

In partnership with private developers, NNEPRA completed a high-level feasibility study of a rail shuttle between Westbrook and Portland, **connecting high-density developments** with the downtown and local transit options.

*“We’re ready to take passenger rail in Maine to the next level.”*

- John Melrose,  
Chairman of the Board

