



TOWN OF WELLS

Wells, Maine

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Amtrak Downeaster passenger train service operating between Brunswick, Maine and Boston, Massachusetts is an important public transportation link for the region as well as residents, visitors, and businesses within the Town of Wells;

WHEREAS there is an important opportunity to reduce the travel time between Boston and Brunswick by relocating the Downeaster station in Portland from its current location along the Mountain Division branch line to a new location along the main line to eliminate the need for time-consuming reverse movements by the train to access the station. Eliminating this movement will save fifteen minutes of travel time in each direction for each train;

WHEREAS the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA) is completing a double track extension and station project in Wells that, in conjunction with a relocated Portland Station, will enable the operation of a new morning train for commuters traveling into the greater Portland Region for work;


WHEREAS NNEPRA, the operator of the Downeaster conducted a thorough Site Alternatives Analysis of potential locations for the Portland Station along the main line, including a robust public process and input from the Maine Department of Transportation and other stakeholders, culminating in a decision by NNEPRA that the most advantageous site for the station is the junction between the main line and the Mountain Division branch line adjacent to St. John's St. in Portland (a/k/a "Site 3"). In reaching this conclusion, NNEPRA determined that "Site 1" was not functional, and that "Site 2" presented significant operational challenges and was located on land that was not available for acquisition;

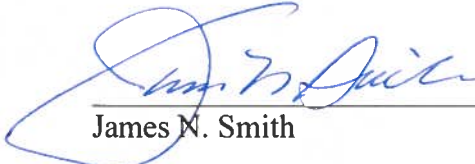
WHEREAS Site 3 is also preferred by the railroad owner and operator CSX, Amtrak, MaineDOT, the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the strong majority of public commenters; is within walking distance to more than 9,000 jobs; will enable a pedestrian link between St. Johns Street and the Fore River Parkway; and will support potential expansion of passenger rail service in the region and to the north;

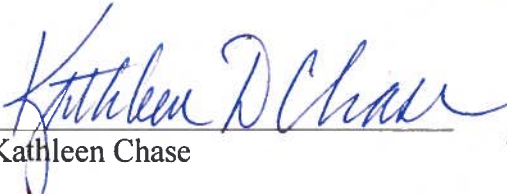
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Town of Wells supports the decision by NNEPRA to relocate the Downeaster's Portland station along the main line at Site 3.

Given under our hands this 5th day of August 2025.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF WELLS:



Timothy Roche

James N. Smith

Kathleen Chase

John K. MacLeod III

Avery Seuter