

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Connecticut Department of Transportation Announces 'Time for CT' Plan for Faster Rail Service

Yesterday, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont and CT DOT unveiled a \$8-10 billion plan to speed up rail service on the New Haven Line, between New Haven and New York City. Upon completion in 2035, the investment program will reduce trip times by as much as 25 minutes for CTrail, Metro-North, and Amtrak. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:

"We applaud CT DOT for producing an actionable plan to modernize Connecticut's mass transit system by 2035. Increasing service frequency and reducing trip times are critical for attracting more riders, relieving road congestion, and cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

"Now is the time to get the most utility out of our infrastructure. Today, commuter rail operations reflect out-of-date biases about where people and jobs are located, and about how people desire to get from one place to another. This underutilization of infrastructure is inherently inequitable because it prioritizes service for the most privileged of our populations: 9-to-5 white collar suburbanites commuting to downtown. However, Covid-19 exposed who absolutely requires transit.

"The region's essential workers stand to benefit the most from the *Time for CT* program, which will enable faster, more flexible, and efficient rail service by 2035. The program marks a significant step in transforming commuter rail into regional rail, with frequent, metro-style service, which is key to expanding access to jobs, schools, and other critical services. The future of transit is flexible and multi-core, and this program prepares Connecticut for that reality."



<u>Tri-State Transportation Campaign</u> is a 27-year old advocacy organization that fights for an equitable, safe, multi-modal transportation network that provides options and supports the economies of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. TSTC works to fix our commutes, meet our climate goals, stop traffic deaths, and make transportation fair.