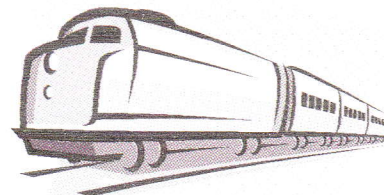


DEMAND FULL AMTRAK FUNDING

SAY "YES" FOR MICHIGAN TRAINS!



Passenger rail service in Michigan is seriously/threatened!

The Michigan Senate on June 11th approved dramatically slashing Fiscal Year 2010 AMTRAK funds to the extent that two of the state's three train routes will cease to operate before this time next year. Please contact your Michigan state representative and ask them to restore AMTRAK funding to 2009 (\$7.1 million) levels in this year's transportation budget.

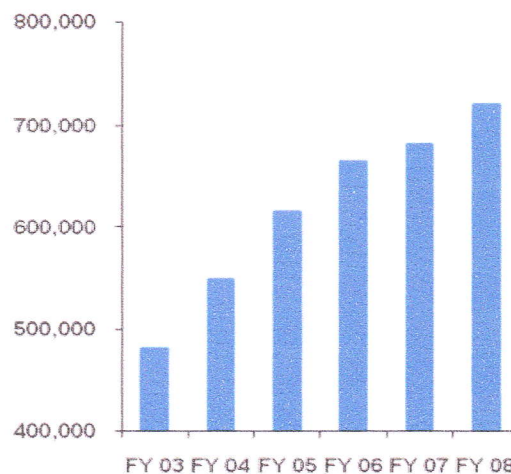
Michigan rail ridership has been steadily increasing at double-digit percentages over the past five years. (See chart) The state of Michigan supports passenger rail service with funding for the *Pere Marquette* and *Blue Water* trains, but these trains will end by May, 2010 due to budget cuts made by the senate and proposed by the Governor.

Contact your elected officials and let them know that you support continued funding of Michigan passenger rail. Include a personal story about why Amtrak is important to you, if possible. See contact information below.

Michigan Rail Passengers

Source: MDOT

Prepared by Michigan Assn of Railroad Passengers



TALKING POINTS ON THE BACK OF THIS FLYER

Call, fax or email your elected officials. Include your state Senator, Representative, the Governor and your local mayor and/ or councilpersons in your correspondence.

The Governor: (517) 373.3400, or go to www.michigan.gov/gov/
Michigan Senate: (517) 373.2400, or go to senate.mi.gov
Michigan House: (517) 373.0135, or go to house.mi.gov

TALKING POINTS

FOR YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS:

- **INVEST IN A COMPLETE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM:** *There is no transportation system in the world that doesn't receive government assistance. Amtrak requires a \$7.1 million state investment, which comes out of a \$ 3.2 BILLION state transportation budget. This amounts to less than ½ percent of the transportation budget to keep two very successful passenger rail routes running for a full year.*
- **POLLUTION REDUCTION:** *Trains emit considerably less harmful Green House Gasses - which contribute to global warming - per passenger mile than private vehicles.*
- **ENERGY EFFICIENCY:** *Trains are much more energy efficient per passenger mile than planes or private vehicles.*
- **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** *In 2008, Amtrak employed 116 Michigan residents with total wages of \$7.5 million. Amtrak also spent \$13.6 million for goods and services in Michigan during this period, and transported tens of thousands of tourists to Michigan destinations.*
- **SOCIAL BENEFITS:** *Amtrak connects many Midwest cities without the stress of driving or flying.*
- **TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT:** *Intercity rail with central city stations can enhance urban public transit and help curb sprawl by fostering public and private investments in Michigan towns and cities. Birmingham/Troy, Detroit, Dearborn, and Grand Rapids all have plans for new intermodal transit stations with Amtrak service as an anchor. The Kalamazoo historic railroad station, restored in 2006, is a gateway to the city and conveniently accessible to walkers, cyclists, and bus riders both within the city and from other destinations. In May 2005 the City of Bangor opened its refurbished station on the Pere Marquette line, which hosts a very popular cafe in the station. With consistent state investments in Amtrak, more Michigan municipalities could capture this type of development.*

Contact: John DeLora, MARP: jdelora@wowway.com; (313) 575-6608