

Rothman Secures \$ 2.5 Million for NJ Transit's Northern Branch Line

Congressman

NEWS RELEASE

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ROTHMAN SECURES \$2.5 MILLION FOR NJ TRANSIT'S NORTHERN BRANCH LINE

--Funding Will Help Speed Commuter Rail to Bergen County Communities--

(Washington, DC) - Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) announced that his Appropriations Subcommittee's bill for 2006 awarded \$2.5 million to help establish passenger rail service on the Northern Branch using Diesel Multiple Units (DMUs). The 2006 bill for the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, The Judiciary, and District of Columbia Appropriations passed the House by a vote of 392 - 31. To date, Rothman has secured \$3.6 million for New Jersey Transit to bring passenger rail on the Northern Branch.

"The residents who live along the Northern Branch have been promised commuter rail service since the early 1980's. This federal funding will help us move a step closer to making commuter rail there a reality," said Rothman. "Continuing my commitment to the Northern Line, I was very pleased to have made the case to my colleagues in Congress for robust funding for the Northern Line. By awarding us this \$2.5 million, they clearly agree."

This funding is of considerable importance as it comes at a time when the federal government is cutting back the number of rail projects it is willing to fund.

The Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, The Judiciary, and District of Columbia Appropriations bill is one of the spending bills Congress is required to pass each year. The measure next is expected to easily pass the Senate shortly and then go to the White House where President Bush is expected to sign the bill into law.

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